

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at the Pavilion, Woodville Road, Overseal on Thursday 5 September 2019.

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr A W Cook, Mr R Cox, Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner, Mrs R O'Brien, Mr D E Patrick, Mr S C Sharpe and Mrs S M Ward.

In attendance: Cllr A Brady and Cllr Mrs A Wheelton (South Derbyshire District Council), Cllr P Murray (Derbyshire County Council) and PC J Saddington.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Elton, Mr M A Knight and Mr D McMillan PCSO.

62 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

63 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PC Saddington introduced herself as the new Police Officer dealing with this area and Area 5, together with two PCSOs.

64 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 August 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record, subject to the last sentence of the first paragraph of minute no 548 (Public questions and answers) being corrected to read: *The Council confirmed that the correct route of the right of way was across the middle of the field.*

65 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

65.1 District Council. Cllr Brady referred to the approval of the planning application at Chilcote, but confirmed that there was nothing to assist Overseal. The District Council was likely to seek S.106 money for average speed cameras through Overseal and they would be contacted with support for this.

A report on all the play areas in the District was being compiled and allotments enhancement was being looked into. It was suggested that the Edward Street allotments needed improving as many were overgrown and there had been parking problems. The possibility of providing an internal car park would be examined.

The new Council houses in Lullington Road were to be officially handed over to the District Council the following day. Stop Notices had been served to prevent unauthorised development of the site at Acresford Road, Netherseal as a large caravan site.

A new Community Fund was to be established in the next financial year.

A Member asked about emptying the litter bin at the play area at Ashwood Park and the service company, Green Bank, would be asked to provide a regular service.

65.2 Police. The list of reported crimes for August showed a small reduction but several ABH crimes caused concern.

- 65.3 County Council.** Cllr Murray apologised for his absence from meetings for some time, due to illness. Members complained that he had also not responded to emails or telephone calls and that this had caused difficulties for the Parish Council.

The planning application for industrial development at Chilcote had been approved by North West Leicestershire District Council the previous evening, despite concerns about traffic and environmental issues raised by opponents. It was reported that already, vehicles were finding alternative routes rather than use A444 because of traffic volumes and the County Council were to undertake traffic surveys affecting Netherseal.

Cllr Murray's assistance with lack of information about the surfacing of Hallcroft Avenue and the programme of replacing street lights with LED lights would be sought.

Cllr Murray reported that a portion of the Community Fund available to each County Councillor remained available if a suitable project could be identified.

66 CLERK'S REPORT

- 66.1 Progress report.** A progress report on various matters previously raised was considered (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).
- 66.2 Forward Planning.** The Council received the report on Forward Planning issues (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes).
- 66.3 Ashwood Park open spaces etc.** At the last meeting, the Residents' Association representatives suggested that the Council could consider acquiring the open spaces, play area etc. and maintaining them, with the residents paying to the council the contributions which they currently made to a third party. As Members were aware, the council did not have the funds to do so and in any event, each conveyance would have to be amended by agreement with the Developers and the third party contractors to allow the contributions to be re-directed. It would appear that this approach was not feasible, though the council would continue to offer moral support.
- 66.4 Churchyard maintenance.** The clerk was asked to seek further information as to the cost of maintaining the churchyard.
- 66.5 Bowling green maintenance.** Now that the organisation which was planning to operate the bowling green had decided not to do so, it was agreed to continue with the present basic standard of maintenance.
- 66.6 Public toilets.** The toilets were transferred to the Parish Council on 1 August and a number of matters had been dealt with since.
- Harvey & Clark Ltd had been asked to carry out the improvement works;
 - Provision of the electric supply had been transferred to the Parish Council, with agreed meter readings.
 - Provision of the water supply had been transferred to the Parish Council.
 - The Council's Insurers had been informed of the new acquisition and asked to confirm cover.
 - A final claim for the caretaking and cleaning costs had been submitted to the District Council and had been paid.

An inspection by the District Council Officers after a serious leak was discovered revealed that the roof needed replacing and a gully dealt with so that future problems did not recur. Two quotations were sought but only one received, from Harvey & Clark, who were the contractors for the main work of refurbishment, totalling £897 plus VAT. There was a possibility that a small extra cost may arise if board replacement was needed, but that would not become evident until the work began.

The District Council were asked to meet the cost as they had undertaken to transfer the premises in a tenable condition, but they said that their liability would extend only to repair, not replacement. Eventually, they offered £450 towards the cost and this had been accepted.

The replacement of the roof had been the first work carried out when the contract began on 4 September.

- 66.7 Allotments, Edward Street.** Following complaints that many of the plots were overgrown, letters had been sent to the tenants of plots 4,5,10,15 and 19. Two tenants had confirmed that they would start to put their plots in order.
- 66.8 Blocked ditch at Green Lane.** This complaint was originally referred to the District Council as a planning enforcement issue, but had now been taken up by the County Council's Environment section.
- 66.9 Insurance renewal.** A renewal invitation had been received from the brokers, Came & Co with effect from 1 October. The renewal premium was £2046.17, compared with £1988.03 last year, an increase of 2.92%. An additional premium would be payable in respect of the public toilets and the brokers had been asked to quantify this. The renewal terms were accepted.
- 66.10 Recycling site.** The District Council had agreed to close the recycling site and remove the bins; they would now give notice to the contractors and to the public. A decision on the lease of the car park would be taken later.
- 66.11 Fence repairs at Hooborough Brook.** The main section was completed some time ago, but the remainder was delayed as the wooden fence could not be made secure over the culvert area. A solution had been arrived at and metal Kee clamp fencing/rails would be erected. The work had been agreed by County Highways and was awaiting completion.
- 66.12 External audit for 2018-2019.** The External Auditor's report had been received and contained the following matters for the Council's attention.
- The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. Please ensure that amendments are corrected in the prior year comparatives when completing next year's AGAR:*
- *Information received from the smaller authority indicates that assets purchased during the year have not been included in Section 2, Box 9. Box 9 should read £936,393.*
 - *Please note that Box 4 should comprise all payments made in relation to the employment of staff including only employment expenses which are benefits (mileage, travel, etc.) but not items of reimbursement of expenses for postage, stationery or other outlays made on behalf of the smaller authority. Information received from the smaller authority suggests that boxes 4 and 6 should read £16,715 and £75831, respectively.*

The assets concerned were the pieces of gym equipment acquired during the year.

Various expenses incurred by the Clerk and reimbursed, totalling £572, should have been included in the 'Other Payments' figure rather than the 'Staff Costs' figure. Also, the Caretaker's hours allocated to the changing rooms, totalling £862, were included twice in the 'Staff Costs' figure and one of these should have been included in the 'Other Payments' figure. The result was that Box 4 (Staff Costs) should read £16715 instead of £17577 and Box 6 (Other Payments) should read £75831 instead of £74969.

A copy of the relevant page with the alterations referred to is attached to the official copy of the minutes.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and publication of the notice of conclusion of audit be authorised.

- 66.13 Proposed industrial development, J11 M42/A42/A444.** A decision on the planning application had been taken on 3 September, when the application was approved by North West Leicestershire's Planning Committee. The recommendation was for approval subject to a S.106 agreement and subject to a lengthy list of conditions.

The report also referred to the Council's representations, which included:

Whilst it is noted that Overseal Parish Council has requested a financial contribution be made towards a bypass for that village, based on the submitted transportation evidence, there does not appear to be identified requirement for such a facility as a result of the impacts arising from the proposed development.

- 66.14 Request for white lines, Woodville Road/Hallcroft Avenue.** The County Council had refused the request on the grounds that there was no injury accident record in the last three years. Members deplored the fact that it appeared that people needed to be injured before accident prevention measures could be adopted.

67 COUNCILLORS' INSPECTION REPORTS

A number of matters were reported. The dwarf wall between the two car parks was being damaged; a contractor had been asked to identify and cost a suitable replacement. The section of the recreation ground near to the car park needed to be strimmed as nettles were overhanging the pavement. The car park was in a poor condition – the District Council would be asked to deal with rubbish and to empty the bins and the County Council would be requested to repair the tarmac surface to the pavement and the entrance to the car park.

68 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications for decision:

0858 Erection of substation, land at Acresford Road. No objection, subject to a condition requiring submission of a landscaping and screening scheme to be agreed with the District Council. The Parish Council would suggest suitable screen planting when advice from a specialist was to hand.

0873 Felling & pruning of various trees protected by TPO 185, 185 Shortheath. No objection.

69 VILLAGE HALL MATTERS

WiFi was now available in the Pavilion as an extension from the Village Hall. The access credentials would be published in the \pavilion and circulated to Members.

70 WEBSITE

Mr Cox had made enquiries of another parish Council, but their website had been designed by a volunteer who now had no connection with the council. It was agreed that, if an attractive site were to be identified, further enquiries could be made of the designer.

71 ACCOUNTS**71.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

Cheque	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
2736	A & J Bartlett Ltd	Electrical repairs to Pavilion	93.75	18.75	112.50
2737	S Ruddle	Caretaker	581.42		581.42
2738	E Evans	Litter	195.10		195.10
2739	Came & Co	Insurance renewal premium	2046.17		2046.17
2740	P Stone	Mowing at Pavilion & maintenance work	292.00		292.00
2741	A & J Bartlett Ltd	Emergency Lights at Pavilion, C2/C3 repairs at Village Hall	1767.11	353.43	2120.54
2742	PKF Littlejohn LLP	External audit fee	400.00	80.00	480.00
2743	S Fern	Internal painting of Village Hall, and window cills	3297.00		3297.00
2744	J E White	Reimburse cost of WiFi connectors for Pavilion	157.47	31.50	188.97
2745	M Veckungs	Install fence at bowling green	87.98		87.98
2746	K H Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Cleaning materials & accident book	70.21	14.05	84.26
2747	Ian Stone Gardening Services	Pitch maintenance, mowing Daisy Lane, Village Hall etc.	480.00		480.00
2748	A W Cook	Reimburse material for gym equipment repair	21.20	4.24	25.44
D/D	SSE	Electricity to Village Hall	212.79	42.55	255.34
D/D	TalkTalk	Internet charges	18.00	3.60	21.60
D/D	NEST	Pension contributions	38.04		38.04
D/D	British Gas	Gas supplied to Village Hall	149.73	7.48	157.21

71.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

Name	Description	Amount
S Ruddle	Village Hall lettings	462.50
South Derbyshire District Council	Use of Village Hall as Polling Station (European elections)	120.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	932.14
L Hardwidge	Pavilion lettings	447.00

Community Cafe	Use of Pavilion	100.00
V Barker	Use of Village Hall	307.50
South Derbyshire District Council	Toilets refund	440.83
South Derbyshire District Council	Contribution towards toilets improvement	8000.00

71.3 Audit. The Council's financial documents were inspected.

72 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

72.1 Overhanging hedge, Burton Road. The County Council would be asked to secure its cutting back as it was overhanging the pavement.

72.2 Rights of way. The right of way at Spring Cottage was completely blocked by vegetation and Leicestershire County Council would be asked to deal with this.

Two areas of the footpath to Netherseal needed stoning and the National Forest would be asked to do so. Volunteers were available to spread the material when delivered.

The hedges adjoining footpath 18 (Moira Road to Daisy Lane) had still not been cut back and some were damaging the fences of properties abutting it. The County Council would be asked to secure an improvement and also to require the landowner to cut back the holly hedge overhanging the pavement in Moira Road.

72.3 Speeding, Moira Road. The Police would be asked to use speed cameras to deter speeding vehicles in Moira Road.

72.4 Junior Football Club. The Club had asked whether a different approach to maintenance could be adopted and this would be discussed with the contractor. The Club would also be asked to remove the large bag of grit from the car park surround, not to move salt containers belonging to the council and to remove grass cuttings from the side of the pitch.

(Mrs J Cunningham-Gardner, left the meeting at 8.25 pm)

73 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.

RESOLVED: That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items in pursuance of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

74 CLERK'S REPORT

The Council considered the report of the Clerk (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes). The contents were noted.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

Chairman