

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 5 April 2007

Present: Mrs G Edwards - Chairman
Mr I W Chester, Mr K Clark, Mrs E Evans, Mr M Hart, Mrs C M Knight,
Mr G S Knight and Mr I A Neal.

In attendance: Mrs M E Hall (South Derbyshire District Council) and Mr D MacMillan (PCSO)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M S Patrick.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Sport Facilities. Representatives of the Youth Club attended the meeting to seek views on a proposal to provide facilities for teenagers. A questionnaire had been circulated and young people's views sought and the project with the most support was a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). This would enable sports such as basketball and football to be played; the football pitches on the Recreation Ground were used regularly by teams and no goals were available. The cost would be around £50,000, which it was hoped would be fully funded through the Youth Capital Fund and grant aid from the District Council. They sought support from the Parish Council together with permission to site the MUGA at the rear of the Village Hall and responsibility for future maintenance. It was recalled that the Council had obtained planning permission for a slightly larger version of this project some time ago.

It was suggested that a Working Party with two representatives of the Parish Council might take the project forward, but it was pointed out that this meeting was the last before the election and that the matter should be discussed further by the new Council. However, the Parish Council had consistently supported the aspirations of young people in the village wherever possible.

Bus services. A resident of Woodville Road stated that service 23 had been withdrawn from Woodville Road, which meant that the people at the lower end of the road had to walk to the church to get a bus to Swadlincote, Ashby or Burton, and those with shopping had to carry it a long way on the return journey. This withdrawal had been proposed at the end of 2006 but delayed pending talks between Derbyshire County Council and Leicestershire County Council. However, no notice had been given before the withdrawal and people had been waiting for a non-existent service.

It was suggested that the service 8 from Overseal to Ashby, which currently visited Netherseal, Donisthorpe, Oakthorpe and Measham en route, could be re-routed in alternate services via Woodville Road, Moira, Donisthorpe, Oakthorpe and Measham.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would make representations to the operators and seek the support of Derbyshire County Council, South Derbyshire District Council, Ashby Woulds Town Council and Mr M Todd MP. Further, information on the costs and methods of operation of the Community Bus Service operated by South Derbyshire CVS would be obtained.

Vandalism and anti-social behaviour. A resident referred to the 'systematic destruction of the village' by young people, many of whom came from other areas. Mr MacMillan pointed out that the Police could only take action if there were witnesses willing to make statements and to appear in court if necessary. However, there had been a reduction in reported incidents during the last two months, coinciding with regular patrols by him and the appointment of the new Beat Officer. This behaviour was, of course, not solely a local problem and joint action by responsible bodies was probably likely to be the most successful approach.

123 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2007, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

124 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

Police. The PCSO referred to the item on the agenda concerning a complaint made by a local resident to the Professional Standards department of the county Police and the copy of the letter sent to the Council was read to the meeting. The PCSO agreed to investigate the background to the apparent failure of the Police to respond in this case and to report back.

A Member reported that traffic was again speeding along Woodville Road and Spring Cottage and that the biggest problem was with HGVs. The Police would be asked to undertake a check on HGVs, both in terms of speed and to find out whether any vehicles were using routes which they should not. Operators would also be asked for information on their approved routes to the M42/A42.

District Council. Councillor Mrs Hall reported that she was not seeking re-election due to pressure of work and that Cllr Shaw was in a similar position. She thanked the Council for their co-operation over the last four years. The Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs Hall for her help during her period of office and wished her well for the future.

125 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Permission had been granted for:

1397 Erection of a steel framed agricultural building at 127 Burton Road.

Application for decision

0258 Extension at 205 Burton Road. Supported as the closing date for comments was prior to the meeting.

126 CORRESPONDENCE

126.1 East Midlands Rural Action Plan. GOEM had published this Plan, which included 7 policy areas relating to rural places. They were:

- Affordable housing
- Green areas
- Enterprise, innovation and employment
- Accessibility to jobs and services
- Active communities
- Land-based rural businesses
- Climate change

The aim was to identify ways in which these could be translated into local actions. Noted.

126.2 Footpath, Edward Street. The County Council had adopted the footpath between the open space and 1 Alexandra Road as a highway maintainable at public expense. The Clerk confirmed that the Footpath through the grounds of 1 Alexandra Road was still a public right of way.

126.3 Subscription. Sharpes Pottery Heritage Trust had invited the Council to continue membership. It was agreed to renew the subscription at £25.00.

127 EMERGENCY PLANNING.

The school had been reviewing its response to civil emergencies and recognised that, if the school premises were to be evacuated, it would be necessary to relocate the pupils to other premises temporarily. They had asked whether the Village Hall could be used for this purpose and whether they could have a key for emergency use only. This was agreed, together with the necessary information about the alarm system and the Playgroup's assistance being sought.

128 ACCOUNTS

128.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

No	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
*1186	J Aylett	Refurbish toilets and repairs at Village Hall	6815.00	1192.62	8007.62
*1187	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to Village Hall	196.26		196.26
*1188	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to old changing rooms	8.64		8.64
1189	A&J Bartlett Ltd	Repair faulty lights at Village Hall	28.50	4.99	33.49
1190	DALC	Subscription 2007/8	384.12		384.12
1191	L Baxter	Caretaker	402.43		402.43
1192	J M Summerfield	Litter	80.25		80.25
1193	T Stewart	Litter	160.50		160.50
1194	J E White	Salary & expenses	1095.46		1095.46
1195	Moira Replan	Printing & stationery	96.19		96.19
1196	KH Packaging	Toilet supplies	45.56	7.98	53.54
1197	BT	Line rental	41.15	7.20	48.35
1198	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NI	295.56		295.56
1199	Paul Topliss Ltd	Replace boiler flue	175.00		175.00
1200	Orion Systems Ltd	Computer hard drive	31.52	5.52	37.04

1201	L Kirby	Deputising for the Caretaker	80.25		80.25
1202	Sharpes Pottery Heritage & Arts Trust	Subscription	25.00		25.00
D/D	Eclipse Networking Ltd	Internet service	24.99	4.37	29.96
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	198.36		198.36

* These accounts were paid between meetings to avoid unnecessary delay.

128.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

L Baxter	Village Hall Lettings	267.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	405.52
South Derbyshire District Council	Lengthsman refund	538.95
South Derbyshire District Council	Interest on deposit	822.54

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

129 ITEMS FOR FREE FOR ALL

Vandalism to the public toilets had resulted in the danger of their being closed.

130 DATES OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED: That the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council be held on Thursday 10 May 2007.

131 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

131.1 Burton Road parking problems. The Chairman referred to the work proposed by the County Council to improve the situation near to the supermarket on Burton Road. This had included yellow lines at the nearby bus stop, but they had been provided in error at the stop near to the Church. The County Council would be asked to rectify this.

131.2 Play equipment. The new play equipment was constantly having screws removed and a more permanent solution was needed. To be referred to the District Council.

131.3 Fence, Valley Road. The Clerk was asked to check whether a fence recently erected at a junction intruded into the visibility splay.

131.4 Broken drain, Woodville Road. The drain in the centre of the road remained wet despite the recent spell of dry weather. To be referred to the County Council.

132 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

133 VILLAGE HALL SECURITY

The Council considered the report of the Clerk (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes). It was agreed to seek grant aid towards certain measures from the Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm

Chairman