

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 4 December 2008

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr J Astle, Mr P Green, Mr A R Hart, Mrs R O'Brien, Mr M S Patrick and Mr S C Sharpe.

In attendance: Cllr J Grant (South Derbyshire District Council) and Mr D MacMillan (PCSO).

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M A Knight.

81 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mrs R O'Brien declared a personal interest in minute no. 85.10, Pre-school Playgroup.

82 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

83 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

84 PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Council had advertised the vacancy and, while no formal expressions of interest had been received, it was known that two residents were interested in being co-opted to the Council. One was present as a member of the public and confirmed his interest. Both names were put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED: That Mr R J Forsyth be co-opted to membership of the Council.

Mr Forsyth signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.

(Mr S C Sharpe requested that his name be recorded as having abstained from voting on this matter).

85 CLERK'S REPORT

85.1 Progress report. A progress report on various matters previously raised was considered (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

85.2 Untidy site, Lullington Road. It was reported that no action to tidy the site had been taken by the owner and the District Council would be asked to pursue this matter.

85.3 Carbon Footprint. Cllr J Grant was advised that the Council was very disappointed with the lack of progress on this matter, despite the change in District Council staff. Promises to contact the school had not been fulfilled and publicity for the workshop in October had been left to the last moment and then only through the good offices of the Chairman.

85.4 Publication of Information. This item had been deferred from the last meeting for further consideration. The Information Commissioner had produced a new model Publication Scheme, which must be adopted by all Councils by 31 December 2008.

RESOLVED: (a) That the draft Publication Scheme be adopted without amendment with effect from 31 December 2008;

(b) That the draft list of the information to be published be approved (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

85.5 Consultation on Codes of Conduct for members and employees of local authorities. The Council considered the report of the Clerk (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). Members considered the proposals to be reasonable.

85.6 Donation towards repairs to the church clock. The Council had previously promised a donation of £100 towards repairs subject to the remainder of the necessary money being raised. This had now been done and the repairs commissioned. Payment of the donation was authorised.

85.7 Donation to the Royal British Legion.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £150.00, including the contributions from other organisations, be made.

85.8 Village Hall. Consideration of the following items had been deferred from the last meeting:

- Provision of a public seat at the rear of the Village Hall – budget price £595 plus installation. To be considered in the draft estimates for 2009/10, and that the promised donation for items to assist the village be borne in mind in this context
- Re-pointing the rear wall. Quotations for the work had been received and it was agreed that the quotation of Mr M Aylett be accepted in the sum of £150. Some additional pointing was also to be included.

85.9 Christmas Tree recycling. Recycling points included Woodville Road car park, Overseal and would be operational from 26 December to 12 January.

85.10 Pre-school Playgroup. The Pre-school had asked whether they may use some blackboard paint on one or two sections of the lower half of wall in the back room, and a plastic cover under the serving hatch to protect that section of wall. This was agreed subject to the items blending in with the decoration of the room.

85.11 Voting age. The Government were consulting on a suggestion that the voting age should be lowered from 18 to 16. Members felt that the voting age should remain at 18.

85.12 Date of elections. It had been agreed that the local elections would now be held on Thursday 4 June 2009 to coincide with the European elections.

85.13 Annual Police evening. The Chief Constable's annual meeting with Parish Councils would be held on 7 January at 7 pm at Police HQ Ripley.

85.14 Summer holiday sports provision. The District Council were again to provide a variety of events. Events involving younger children had been particularly popular last year and it was agreed to reserve a programme consisting of 3 Sportsmobile & Playmobile sessions and one each of the climbing wall (to be held during the day), Laser Storm and Extreme Sports.

85.15 Highways Forum. The next Forum would be held on 11 December at Swadlincote. As it was held during working hours, no Member would be available to attend.

86 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

86.1 District Council. Cllr Grant had received complaints that the caravan site at Park Road had had the hedge and trees removed. Members considered that this was a breach of planning conditions and agreed to ask the District Council to take enforcement action to ensure compliance. The former Co-op shop at Woodville Road remained unoccupied and it was considered to be a health hazard. The District Council would be asked to take action.

The fences and gates to the District Council's land on the southern side of Lullington Road were in urgent need of repair; four trees in the open space at Forest View had died and should be replaced this winter. Cllr Grant agreed to contact the relevant officers at the District Council about these matters. He also confirmed that the District Council were committed to recycling and hoped to introduce kerbside collection of plastics in April, subject to financial constraints.

86.2 Police. Mr MacMillan reported recent crime statistics, which showed a slight increase on recent low levels. The Safer Neighbourhoods meeting would be held on 11 December at Netherseal. A Member reported that there had been a problem with a very large lorry travelling along Lullington Road; it had had to mount the pavement in order to get into the road from A444 and had only just cleared the central reservation in so doing. Had it encountered any other large vehicle, it would have been impossible to pass in this narrow road. Mr MacMillan confirmed that, as the road was not subject to a weight restriction order, only informal advice could be offered.

86.3 County Council. There were no items.

87 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Permission had been granted for:

0945 Conversion of a garage into living accommodation, 47 Valley Road

0960 Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of new house (revised plans) 159 Moira Road

Applications for decision:

0959 Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 4 bedroom detached house with basement and new front wall and railings, 157 Moira Road (amended plans). Supported after consultation.

1105 Improvements to local countryside access and road crossing, Swainspark Wood, Park Road. The Parish Council supported this application. However, there were concerns about road safety at the crossing in Park Road as there had been complaints about speeding vehicles, especially HGVs, in

Park Road recently. The Police had been sufficiently concerned to carry out speed checks from time to time.

The Parish Council strongly urged that traffic calming measures be imposed at this crossing and favoured a chicane, rather than speed cushions or bumps, which tended to have no effect on the speed of lorries.

1126 Conversion of former telephone exchange to a dwelling without vehicular access, land adjoining 70 Burton Road. The Parish Council objected to this application. Notwithstanding that no vehicular access was proposed, it was impossible to prevent the occupiers from having a car, which would be likely to be parked on Burton Road A444. There were already problems with large vehicles parking in the vicinity of the supermarket, a few yards from the site, and any more parked vehicles would exacerbate the problem.

1163 Extensions, 1 Daisy Lane. Supported.

88 ACCOUNTS

88.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

No	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
*1388	e-on	Electricity to Village Hall	389.81	38.11	427.92
1389	L Baxter	Caretaker	401.45		401.45
1390	J M Summerfield	Litter	68.76		68.76
1391	T Stewart	Litter	137.52		137.52
1392	St Matthews LEP	Donation towards repairs to the church clock	100.00		100.00
1393	Linton & District Poppy Appeal	Donation	150.00		150.00
1394	K Goddard	Reimburse registration of website domain	17.78	3.11	20.89
1395	M Guest	Cut hedge, strim track at allotments	100.00		100.00
1396	A&J Bartlett Ltd	Replace lighting unit in the kitchen of the Village Hall	95.00	16.63	111.63
1397	DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd	Gate to Pavilion	200.00	35.00	235.00
1398	K H Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Toilet & cleaning supplies	73.86	12.91	86.77
D/D	Eclipse Networking Ltd	Internet service	24.99	4.37	29.96
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	206.00		206.00

* This account had been paid between meetings to avoid unnecessary delay.

88.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

L Baxter	Village Hall Lettings	377.83
Darby & Joan Club	Poppy Appeal donation	25.00
Gala Committee	Poppy Appeal donation	40.00

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

89 DATES OF MEETINGS

Permission had been given for the school concert on 1 and 2 July 2009, the latter date being the Council's normal meeting date. Also the European elections had now been set for 4 June 2009 and it was probable that the Village Hall would be required for a Polling Station. It was agreed that the July meeting be held on 9 July 2009 and that the date of the June meeting be considered when the election date was confirmed.

90 ITEMS FOR FREE FOR ALL

Possible closure of Moira fire station.

91 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

91.1 Moira fire station. It had been reported that this fire station was facing closure and, as it served Overseal as well, it was agreed to object to the closure and to seek support from Ashby Woulds Town Council, North West Leicestershire District Council and Leicestershire County Council.

91.2 Tree planting. 6 whips had been obtained and it was suggested that these should be planted at Burton Road (3) and Lullington Road (3). This was supported and it was agreed to seek the necessary cultivation licence from Derbyshire County Council.

91.3 Speeding, Moira Road/Bath Lane. There had been recent complaints about speeding vehicles along this stretch of road. Leicestershire County Council and the Police were already monitoring the situation.

91.4 Burton Mail Award. The newspaper was offering awards for people who had made a significant contribution to village life and it was agreed to nominate a named person.

92 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the subject matter.

93 QUOTATIONS

Consideration was given to quotations received for replacement of 2 windows at the Village Hall and for legionella surveys of the Village Hall, changing rooms and Pavilion (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

RESOLVED: (a) That the quotation of Flawless Finish for replacement of the two windows at the front of the Village Hall be accepted subject to confirmation that the glass was laminated on the outside pane and toughened on the inside pane. If this was not the case, the quotation of Swadlincote Windows would be accepted.

(b) That the quotation of Sterilizing Services Ltd for legionella surveys of the Village Hall, changing rooms and Pavilion be accepted.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm

Chairman