

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 5 February 2009

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

In attendance: Mr D MacMillan (PCSO).

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council) Mr J Cunningham-Gardner and Mr S C Sharpe.

104 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

105 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

106 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2009, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

107 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

107.1 District Council. More complaints about dog fouling had been received. In an effort to persuade people to clear up after their dogs, the children of the primary school had produced posters. The District Council would be asked for a supply of bags for general distribution and assistance with printing leaflets to be distributed to every household in the village.

107.2 Police. Mr MacMillan (PCSO) reported that there had been no calls relating to anti-social behaviour during the month; he also reported crime statistics, which continued to be low. There had, however, been one distraction burglary.

107.3 County Council. The surface of the footpath on Moira Road near to the Gatehouse was broken and in need of repair.

108 CLERK'S REPORT

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

Although no update had been received from the Footpaths Officer, several new footpath direction signs had recently been erected. The land at Lullington Road continued to be in a poor state, with the only work carried out recently being the distribution of rubble across the entrance rather than in the footings of the barn as had been promised. The assistance of Cllr J Grant would be sought.

The Chairman enquired whether Mr Cunningham-Gardner was to be the main contact for the emergency plan and the Clerk would make enquiries.

The former Co-op shop on Woodville Road had now been divided into two units, one of which was occupied and another was on offer. This matter was now completed.

108.2 Biodiversity duty of local councils. The Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership, linked to the County Council, had drawn attention to the statutory duty of all councils, including Parish Councils, to 'have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of (their) functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'. They suggested that, among other things, councils could bear this in mind when commenting on planning applications and this had been confirmed by the District Council. For example, it would normally be relevant to consider the effects on wildlife of cutting down trees.

The Chairman reported that the District Council had approved the planning application for felling 9 trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order, to which the Parish Council had unanimously objected. This was difficult to understand and the Clerk was asked to request an explanation from the District Council's Planning Officer.

108.3 Gate and fences, land at Lullington Road. Cllr Grant had been informed that the gate would be repaired and that the open pedestrian access further down Lullington Road would be fenced. The other fence was originally to divide the land into two plots and would be removed. Noted.

108.4 Trees, Forest View. SDDC had confirmed that they would be replacing the dead trees this planting season.

108.5 Summer holiday sports programme. The District Council had confirmed the programme as submitted except that the climbing wall was normally timed for 6-8 pm; they would try to change this to the requested 2-4 pm subject to staff being available.

Thursday 30 July – Inflatable laser games – 2-4 pm

Friday 7 August – Sportsmobile/Playmobile – 2-4pm

Friday 14 August – Climbing Wall – 6-8 pm (daytime requested)

Friday 21 August – Sportsmobile/Playmobile – 2-4 pm

Friday 28 August - Sportsmobile/Playmobile – 2-4 pm

Wednesday 2 September – Mobile skate park – 1-4 pm

108.6 Litter, Park Road. The District Council had asked the Clean Team to clear the road and verges from the A444 to the county boundary. The wooded area was apparently owned by the National Forest and they had been asked to look into the problem.

108.7 Civic Dinner & Dance. The Chairman of the District Council had issued an invitation to attend this event on 14 March. Noted.

108.8 Arriva bus services.

The General Manager of the East Staffordshire branch of Arriva had investigated the specific complaints brought to his attention and had 'taken appropriate action'. He had confirmed that the timing of the no 8 service which resulted in the use of the Gold Card being disallowed was unintentional and had arranged for the service to be delayed by a couple of minutes and therefore the Gold Card would be able to be used. The Council's thanks would be relayed to him.

108.9 Youth Club. The Clerk reported that the Youth Club had ceased operating with effect from 26 January. The organisers had tried to change the group to a younger age range but they had not been attending. Older members would be catered for in the mobile unit which attended on Thursday evenings.

Members were extremely disappointed with this and enquiries would be made of the County Council as to whether the Youth Club's equipment could be used if it were possible to recruit suitable people locally to run an alternative Club. A previously highly successful Club had run for about 25 years with over 200 members.

108.10 Calor Village of the Year Competition. An invitation to enter this competition was noted.

109 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Permission had been granted for:

1082 Conservatory, 229 Burton Road

1105 Improvements to local access and road crossing, Swainspark Wood, Park Road

0959 Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with 4 bedroomed detached house with basement and new front wall and railings, 157 Moira Road.

110 ACCOUNTS

110.1 Accounts for payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

No	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
1410	South Derbyshire District Council	Green refuse sacks for litter disposal	195.20	29.28	224.48
1411	L Baxter	Caretaker	316.23		316.23
1412	J M Summerfield	Litter	68.76		68.76
1413	T Stewart	Litter	137.52		137.52
1414	J Kirby	Caretaker	324.20		324.20
1415	Fire Control UK Ltd	Service fire extinguishers & 2 new ones for Pavilion	153.00	22.95	175.95
1416	MACE	Service intruder alarms	174.67	26.20	200.87
1417	M Aylett	Pointing at Village Hall	160.00		160.00
1418	J E White	Reimburse cost of computer monitor	100.00		100.00
D/D	Eclipse Networking Ltd	Internet service	24.99	3.75	28.74
D/D	e-on	Electricity to Village Hall	380.96	57.14	438.10
D/D	e-on	Gas to Village Hall	1190.87	178.63	1369.50

110.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

L Baxter	Village Hall Lettings	42.00
Pre-school	Use of Village Hall	1590.00
Overseal Brownies	Wreath	20.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	347.19

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

111 ITEMS FOR *FREE FOR ALL*

None.

112 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

112.1 Football Pitches. A Member had been approached with a proposal to establish a new adult team next season, partly comprising Overseal members, and enquired as to availability. The Clerk advised that, while all pitches were currently let, he endeavoured to give priority to local teams and would do so next season.

112.2 Gritting. The County Council would be thanked for the excellent service which they had supplied during the current snowy conditions.

112.3 Gate to Nature Area. The gate between the Nature Area and the school had been broken for some time and the school would be asked to arrange repairs.

The meeting ended at 8.05 pm

Chairman