

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 7 July 2005

Present: Mrs G Edwards - Chairman
Mr I W Chester, Mr J Grice, Mrs C M Knight, Mr G S Knight, Mrs N Lees, Mr I A Neal and Mr M S Patrick.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs E Evans and Mrs M E Hall (South Derbyshire District Council)

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Planning application no 0694, 149 Woodville Road. The applicants attended the meeting and explained that the proposed dog grooming service would deal with only one dog at a time and that, therefore, there would be limited traffic. There was adequate parking on the drive to the property and they asked for the Parish Council's support. Members considered the application and, having regard to the information provided, decided to support the application.

Amended planning application no. 0516, 5 dwellings, land adjacent to 29 Coronation Street. A neighbour had been advised that an amended planning application had been submitted, which showed the proposed dwellings moved about 4m further from the rear boundary. However, the dwellings were still to be three storey town houses, which he considered to be inappropriate to this backland development. Two or three detached two-storey houses could be put onto the site and would have less impact, be more in keeping with surrounding houses and reduce the overlooking. The Parish Council had not yet received the amended plans but had previously objected on the grounds that *the development proposed would be too dense for this small plot and existing traffic problems would be exacerbated. The Parish Council also anticipated that there would be objections from immediate neighbours on the grounds of overlooking.* It was agreed that, when the application was received, provided that it was as described by the neighbour, an objection would be lodged on the above basis and taking into account the views expressed by the neighbour.

Alleged noise nuisance, 165 Woodville Road. The occupiers of this property had received a letter from the District Council saying that a complaint had been received about a cockerel crowing and causing a noise nuisance. Members had not heard the crowing and had not received any complaints about it and therefore agreed to pass on a letter from the people concerned to the District Council.

24 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2005, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record, subject to the addition of the following:

23.5 37 Valley Road. A Member enquired whether a planning application had been received in respect of this address and was advised that none had.

25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 25.1 Hedge, Tollgate Cottage, Slackey Lane.** Leicestershire County Council had contacted the occupier to reinstate the footway to its full width.
- 25.2 Water on A.444.** The County Council had inspected the carriageway outside 52 Burton Road on several occasions but had not seen a problem from water collecting on the road. They would, therefore, not be taking any further action. Members considered that the inspections could not have been at times following heavy rainfall and the County Council would be asked to inspect at such a time.
- 25.3 Recycling centre, Woodville Road.** The District Council had increased the frequency of collections from the paper and plastic banks, though there was evidence of some misuse by a few members of the public.
- 25.4 Community Project – retention.** The Clerk reported that, despite several e-mails and telephone calls, he had been unable to get a response from the contractor and it therefore appeared that the Parish Council would have to carry out the snagging work themselves and finance it from the remaining retention. He had asked an electrical contractor to inspect and report on the changing rooms electrics and was awaiting their report. The Council approved this course of action.

26 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

Police. The Clerk reported crime statistics provided by the Police for June.

Leicestershire County Council. The Clerk was asked to contact Leicestershire County Council as the 30 mph signs at Spring Cottage were again obscured by vegetation and drivers may not realise that there was a speed limit.

27 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**Permission had been granted for:**

0482 Installation of 3 lights on the driveway to Barratt Mill, Shortheath.

0500 Extension, 8 Squirrel Walk.

0535 Erection of a stable block, land r/o 129 Burton Road (conditions limiting use to non-commercial and details of drainage)

Applications for decision

0548 Block of 4 apartments, land r/o 21 Woodville Road (reconsultation). In view of the restricted time for making comments, the following had been sent to the District Council after discussion among Members:

“The revised plans show little change from the original, being only an internal layout revision. Therefore, the Parish Council's original objections to the application stand:

'The Parish Council objects to this application. There seems to be little room for parking of vehicles within the site and this is essential, given the congestion already caused by vehicles parked close to the junction between Woodville Road and Woodlands Road. The access would be very close to that junction and there is considerable traffic along Woodlands Road given the increases from developments in Edward Street and Alexandra Road. The units proposed would also be extremely small – around 9ft X 12 ft as a bed-sit.'

“There are considerable parking problems at the junction of Woodville Road and Woodlands Road, on both roads, and the proposed development in its present form will exacerbate these problems. It should therefore be refused. However, the applicant owns nos 19, 21 and 23 Woodville Road and it would be possible to improve the situation. If the development site were to be widened so that there is vehicular access between 19-23 Woodville road and the new block, the vehicles associated with both the existing properties and the apartments could be parked off the road. The situation would be further improved by siting the new block back into the site i.e. further from Woodlands Road frontage, so that there is more parking on the forecourt.

“The Parish Council urge the present application to be refused for the reasons set out above but that, if the planning authority is minded to grant planning permission, the application be further amended as described.”

0694 Change of use of garage to dog grooming service & elevational alterations to the garage, 149 Woodville Road. In view of the information received in the public question and answer session at the beginning of the meeting, the Council supported the application.

0789 Erection of one dwelling on land r/o 300 Burton Road. Supported.

Planning appeal. An appeal had been lodged against the refusal of permission for the conversion of farm buildings into one dwelling at Brooklands Farm, Shortheath. When the application had been considered in March 2005, the Parish Council's comments were:

The Parish Council point out that the building is isolated and well outside the village envelope where development is normally allowed. However, if this fact does not prevent approval of the application, the Parish Council has no objection to the particular proposal and would support it.

It was agreed to reiterate these comments in the context of the appeal.

28 PLAY AREA

The Parish Council considered the report of the Clerk (copy attached to the official copy of the minutes). It was pointed out that local people had helped considerably in the installation of the Youth Shelter and that as a result there had been savings to the Parish Council. A similar approach could yield similar results, as well as giving the potential users a sense of ownership of the facilities. Possible sources of grant aid were also identified. The Council agreed to confirm to the District Council that they were interested in the proposed scheme and would like to use the services of the District Council's specialists when available in order to produce a specification; this would then be used as the basis of grant applications. Provision would also be made in the draft estimates for next year for the Parish Council's likely contribution.

29 REFUSE DISPOSAL AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall was supplied with two large refuse bins, which were sufficient for most of the time. However, when the auctions and certain other large events occurred, there was more rubbish and food scraps than the bins could accommodate. As the bins were stored inside the Village Hall pending collection, a nuisance could occur. The need to empty the bin at the new Youth Shelter would add to the problems. It had been suggested that some form of secure enclosure for a commercial sized bin be constructed, though this could provide easy access to the roof.

Several suggestions were made but it was generally agreed that the present situation could not continue indefinitely and that a commercial sized bin was needed. Comparisons of cost between the District Council and the private sector would be made. The favoured location was near to the old changing rooms, on the end fronting to the recreation ground, where a fence could be erected to surround the container. The matter would be considered further in the light of costs.

30 CORRESPONDENCE

- 30.1 Lengthsman scheme.** The District Council had confirmed that the allocation for this financial year was £1916. Probable committed expenditure was £1040. Members considered that there was scope for a second collector to deal with the area around Burton Road, Coronation Street, Woodlands Road and Woodlands Crescent, and that collections should be made frequently during the summer months and less so on the winter when the problem was less severe. A local resident had recently expressed an interest in doing this work and would be contacted by the Clerk.
- 30.2 Sites for new waste facilities.** The County Council were looking for sites where waste may be processed and had invited the Council to say where such sites should or should not be located, in the context of the Waste Local Plan. No site was thought to be suitable, though there was a need for Civic Amenities facilities nearby.
- 30.3 Parked van, Bramble Walk.** A resident of Bramble Walk had complained that a van was regularly parked on the drive of no.27, contrary to restrictions in the deeds. He had been advised to consider taking legal advice on this aspect, but the Clerk had also referred the matter to the planning authority to see whether there was a contravention. The District Council had determined that there was no planning contravention and the complainant had been advised that the only possible means of control appeared to be through private legal action to enforce the covenant in his deeds.
- 30.4 South Derbyshire Local Plan.** The District Council had withdrawn the emerging Local Plan. This was because a claim had been lodged in the High Court seeking judicial review of the Council's decision to modify the draft Local Plan following completion of the report by a substitute Inspector. The District Council had taken the view that there would be a significant delay in settling this matter and that the present uncertainty surrounding the Plan must be reduced or removed. Noted.
- 30.5 Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.** The Act contained a number of provisions, including the power for Parish Councils to issue fixed penalty notices for litter, graffiti, fly-posting and dog fouling. It was planned by DEFRA that the provisions would be brought into force in the Spring of 2006 and this would be preceded by consultation on draft guidance and the regulations relating to these matters. Noted.
- 30.6 Local Strategic Partnership – Public Forum.** An invitation had been received to be represented at this event on Thursday 28 July from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm at Mickleover Court Hotel, Mickleover. The main purpose of the event was to launch the South Derbyshire Community Strategy and its associated Action Plan. The Clerk reported that he had received copies of the Strategy and that the District Council were inviting comments by August.

Each member was supplied with a copy and the matter would be included in the agenda for the August meeting. Mr I W Chester and the Clerk would attend the Forum.

30.7 Publications.

emda news.

31 AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS.

The Parish Council considered the Annual Return, together with the Internal Auditor's report (copies attached to the official copy of the minutes). Public notice of the audit had been given.

RESOLVED:

- That the Clerk continue to submit quarterly reconciliations to the Internal Auditor so as to provide evidence of proper accounting;
- That the Chairman be authorised to sign the Annual Return;
- That each of the questions about governance included in the Annual Return be considered in turn at successive meetings of the Council. This would ensure that detailed consideration would be given to each aspect throughout the course of a year.

32 ACCOUNTS

32.1 Accounts for Payment

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

959	Royal British Legion	Donation re. Trafalgar Weekend	£100.00
960	L Baxter	Caretaker	£364.76
961	M Latham	Litter	£100.00
962	J E White	Salary & expenses	£1021.61
963	Inland Revenue	PAYE	£271.51
**964	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to old changing rooms	£10.15
965	St Matthew's PCC	Contribution to churchyard mowing	£200.00
966	I W Chester	Reimburse sundries for Youth Shelter	£12.96
**967	South Staffordshire Water	Supply to Village Hall	£191.23
**968	Mixamate	Concrete for base & path to Youth Shelter	£370.71
**969	K H Packaging & Disposables Ltd	Supplies for toilets	£27.39
970	D P Edwards	Work & supplies for Youth Shelter	£470.00
971	J Aylett	Replace gutters & downpipe at Village Hall	£171.55

972	I E Fraser	Internal Audit fee	£125.00
973	BT	Telephone rental	£48.35
974	Paul Topliss Ltd	Replace ball valve to toilet at Village Hall	£45.00
975	DSK Engineering (Midlands) Ltd	Additional plates for Youth Shelter & steel plate for boiler room door at Village Hall	£340.75
976	L Kirby	Holiday relief for Caretaker	£90.00
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	£176.00
D/D	Eclipse Networking	Internet connection	£23.95

**Payment had been made between meetings to avoid excessive delay

32.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

L Baxter	Village Hall Lettings	£215.00
HM Customs & Excise	VAT refund	£834.89
Stephenson College	Use of IT room	£349.00

32.3 Audit

A check was undertaken of accounts paid, receipts and bank statements.

33 ITEMS FOR *FREE FOR ALL*

An article congratulating the young people of the village for making proper use of the Youth Shelter would be included.

34 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

34.1 Public footpaths. The path from Lullington Road to Bramble Walk required clearance and L B Gardening Services would be asked to do this. A further path near to Swains Park was totally blocked and the County Council would be asked to pursue clearance with the owners.

The Clerk was asked to supply each Member with a copy of the Definitive Plan of rights of way.

34.2 Traffic, Burton Road. Several problems to local residents were reported. The owner of 52 Burton Road was often unable to exit her driveway because of large vehicles parked across the drive entrance while the drivers went to the Supermarket or chip shop on the opposite side. Parking restrictions would help, but had already been rejected by the County Council. It was agreed to press for a central refuge at this point as this would provide a practical solution.

- 34.3 Parking, Main Street.** A vehicle regularly parked in the road caused constant hold-ups to traffic, thereby preventing property occupiers from exiting their drives. Again, parking restrictions were considered a possible solution to this problem. It was agreed to ask Mrs Lauro to invite Traffic Engineers to inspect both sites to advise on the best ways of dealing with these matters.
- 34.4 Overgrown hedge.** The hedge at the junction of Moira Road and Hallcroft Avenue was overgrown and the Clerk would contact the owner to ask that it be cut back.
- 34.5 Fence at Woodville Road.** Members had received favourable comments following the installation of the new fence between the Village Hall and the War Memorial. However, this had led to enquiries as to when the remaining section fronting to Hallcroft Avenue was to be done. The Council agreed to consider this in the context of next year's draft budget.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm

Chairman