

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Monday 2 June 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

In attendance: Cllr J Grant (South Derbyshire District Council), Ms A Osborne (Groundwork), Ms J Liquorish (South Derbyshire District Council) and Mr D MacMillan (PCSO).

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

16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations were made.

17 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

There were no questions from the public.

18 MINUTES

18.1 1 May 2008. The minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

18.2 Annual Parish Meeting. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 1 May 2008 were received.

19 CARBON FOOTPRINT VILLAGE.

Ms Jane Liquorish (South Derbyshire District Council) and Ms Amie Osborne (Groundwork) attended the meeting to discuss the implications of Overseal being chosen as the next Carbon Footprint Village.

The main aims were to enable residents to reduce the carbon footprint of their homes and businesses and their use of transport etc. This would not only benefit the environment but would also make financial savings. This was a joint project but input from the village was needed if it was to be successful.

Information packs were to be sent out in the very near future and these would involve completion of questionnaires by residents, so that the need for improvements and assistance could be assessed. There was considerable financial help available – many residents could have insulation etc at no cost or with assistance towards the cost. Publicity would be widespread. It was essential that the village take ownership of the project and this would be encouraged by using a local group, either existing or newly established. Support would continue to be available after the project was complete.

Members volunteered to distribute most of the packs and contact details would be sent to Groundwork.

20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

20.1 Clerk's report. The Council considered the report of the Clerk (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

- 20.2 Tree planting.** The Council were asked to consider what projects should be carried out. Planting of ornamental trees between the two football pitches and possibly at the village gateways had been suggested. It was agreed to defer consideration to the next meeting.
- 20.3 Village Hall grounds.** The Council considered how best to make permanent improvements to some parts of the Village Hall grounds. The area between the changing rooms and the public toilets was specifically mentioned, as was the stoned area between the main gate and the recreation ground, together with the small boundary wall. It was agreed to arrange strimming and spraying as a temporary measure and to consider more permanent solutions at the next meeting.
- 20.4 Gypsy caravan site extension.** The District Council had given a detailed description of what constituted a 'caravan' in law and had confirmed that they were discussing drainage arrangements with the applicants and the Environment Agency. 'Caravans' could include large mobile homes.
- 20.5 Rights of Way.** The Clerk reported that the Footpaths Officer had secured improvements to the accesses at Valley Road and that a stile was now usable. Overgrown hedges blocking footpaths were reported at Woodville Road/Gorse Lane and Main Street/Daisy Lane and would be referred to the Footpaths Officer for action. The County Council would be pressed to take urgent action in respect of the dangerous tree at Moira Road/footpath 18
- 20.5 Football Clubs.** The Clerk reported that the Junior Football Club would like to relocate their under-16 team to the adult pitch and Members felt that preference should be given to local teams. This request was approved and the application from the Gresley Rovers Under-16 team would be accommodated by using the junior pitch. The application for another adult team from Newhall could therefore not be granted.

21 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

- 21.1 District Council.** Cllr Grant reported that the District Council had made a grant to the Bowls Club to enable provision of facilities for disabled people. Planning permission had been given for erection of a house at the rear of 181/183 Burton Road, which had been supported by the Parish Council.

He was informed that the fence at the car park had not been repaired and he agreed to press for this to be done. Cllr Grant had discussed the land at Lullington Road with the owner, who had agreed to clear it up.

Cllr Grant was asked to press for action in respect of a tree overhanging premises at Woodlands Road and uprooted footpath signs at Hallcroft Avenue and Spring Cottage.

- 21.2 Police.** Mr D MacMillan (PCSO) reported recent crime statistics, which were generally low. He was aware of the damage to the MUGA gates and as yet had insufficient reliable information. Members referred to noise nuisance from motorcycles using Swains Park Wood and Park Road. He anticipated that there should not be a recurrence in the near future but drew attention to the difficulty of catching people when there was a large open area.

21.3 County Council. Mrs Lauro had contacted the Clerk to seek the Parish Council's views on an application to fell two sycamore trees at the Gate House, Moira Road, which were protected by a County Council Tree Preservation Order. Officers had found the trees to be dangerous through rot. Although felling of any mature tree was disappointing, it was agreed to support the action in this case and to request replanting of suitable trees nearby.

A Member referred to a report that a first floor window had fallen at William Allitt School and enquired whether the premises were safe. Mrs Lauro would be asked to make enquiries.

22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Permission had been granted for:

0270 Conservatory, 7 Daisy Lane

0277 Erection of a detached bungalow, r/o 149 Woodville Road

Applications for decision:

0525 Extensions and detached garage, 217 Burton Road. Supported.

0529 Conservatory, 33 Main Street. Supported.

00693(NWLDC) Change of use to caravan site to accommodate 17 chalets (static caravans), Bridge House, Spring Cottage Road.

It was agreed to make representations as follows:

1. The applicant states that there is no public right of way affecting the site. There is in fact a public footpath through the site, and it is noted that the signpost at Spring Cottage was first turned through 90 degrees to point along the Road, and has now been removed entirely.

2. The applicant states that there is no family accommodation in the area. The Youth Hostel at Bath Lane and the very large caravan site both provide such accommodation nearby.

3. The applicant states that he will not be employing anyone. How is the site to be run?

4. The applicant states that he does not propose any alterations to the access. The Parish Council considers that there should be a considerable improvement to the access if the development is permitted, as in its present state it would cause a danger to users of the site and users of Spring Cottage. There is already a speeding problem on Spring Cottage, which is being monitored by Leicestershire County Council and the Police.

5. The applicant states that there will be no refuse collection or recycling bins. These are regarded as essential.

6. The drawings show large numbers of 'trees' to be planted on the site. While the principle of planting is welcomed, it is noted that most of the species to be planted are in fact no more than shrubs.

The Parish Council therefore asked that, if permission were to be granted, these matters be tightened up and monitored closely during the development and operation of the site.

0544 Residential development, land r/o 137-147 Woodville Road. The Parish Council were concerned about the additional traffic using the access on to the already very busy road.

23 CORRESPONDENCE

23.1 Insurance. Zurich Municipal had invited renewal of the Council's insurances at a cost of £2628.37. This represented an increase of 3.9% compared to last year's cost of £2527.98. Cover included buildings (Village Hall, Pavilion, changing rooms), contents belonging to the Council, employers and public liabilities, libel and slander, loss of money, personal accident and assault, fidelity guarantee and legal expenses. It was agreed to renew on these terms.

23.2 Notice Board. It was agreed to accept the quotation of DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd for supplying and installing a public notice-board, bearing the Council's name, at a cost of £780.00 plus VAT. The notice-board would be installed immediately inside the Village Hall fence facing the road.

23.3 Chairs. The Clerk was asked to order 81 Postura stacking chairs and 30 heavy duty padded stacking chairs from ESPO at a total cost of £2004.75.

24 ACCOUNTS**24.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

No	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
*1330	T Stewart	Litter	165.60		165.60
1332	J M Summerfield	Litter	82.80		82.80
1333	J E White	Reimburse expenses – paint & materials for Village Hall fence	218.75	38.16	256.91
1334	Zurich Municipal	Insurance	2628.37		2628.37
1335	S Fern	Paint exterior of Village Hall	406.00		406.00
1336	I M Plumbing & Heating Ltd	Repair leaking water supply to bowling green	200.00	35.00	235.00
1337	Paul Topliss Ltd	Repairs to changing rooms boiler	70.00		70.00
1338	J Astle	Reimburse travelling costs	57.53		57.53
1339	L Baxter	Caretaker	382.47		382.47
D/D	Eclipse Networking Ltd	Internet service	24.99	4.37	29.96
D/D	South Derbyshire District Council	Rates	202.00		202.00

* This account had been paid early because of holiday commitments.

24.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

L Baxter	Village Hall Lettings	280.83
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24.3 Audit. The Council's financial documents were inspected.

25 ITEMS FOR FREE FOR ALL

Support for the Carbon Footprint initiative.

26 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

26.1 Village Hall Railings. Members commented that the Community Service people had done a good job in painting the railings and a letter of thanks would be sent.

26.2 Play area. There were several loose nuts and bolts on equipment at the Pay Area. This would be referred to the District Council for action.

26.3 Bus stop. A request had been received that an additional bus stop be sited in Hallcroft Avenue close to the junction with Moira Road, to serve people living in the Shortheath area.

26.4 Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). The Clerk was asked to press for remedial work to be carried out as soon as possible, especially the pitch markings, the grassed area adjoining the MUGA and provision of a litter bin.

26.5 Youth Shelter. The Youth Service would be asked to progress the painting of the Shelter.

The meeting ended at 8.45 pm

Chairman