

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, Overseal on Thursday 6 November 2008

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

In attendance: Mrs K Lauro (Derbyshire County Council) and Mr D McMillan (PCSO)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Cunningham-Gardner and Cllr J Grant (South Derbyshire District Council).

MRS G EDWARDS MBE

Mrs Edwards attended the meeting and was asked about the presentation of the MBE to her by Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace recently. It had been a memorable and enjoyable occasion and Members congratulated Mrs Edwards on her well-deserved award.

67 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations were made.

68 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

69 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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

69.2 Meeting with Arriva. Mr Knight and Mr Patrick submitted a written report on the meeting (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). Several service failures had been brought to the Company's attention, but responses had been disappointing and had often been simply the suggestion that failures or queries should be reported to the Company using a telephone number printed on the back of each ticket.

Members referred to other more recent service failures, including missing part of the route and services which did not turn up or were very late, causing inconvenience to potential users. It was agreed that notices would be erected at bus stops and on the Council's notice board giving details of how to complain.

Concessionary fares had also been discussed, and Arriva had said that, while neighbouring counties met the full cost of the concessions, Derbyshire made a fixed sum available, which met only about 60% of the actual cost. Members pointed out that several former bus stops were still sited in the village and should be removed. The County Council would be asked to do so.

69.2 Multi Use Games Area. The facility had been officially handed over to the Parish Council on 31 October and had been well attended. The District Council had put on a number of sports events, which had been very popular; the Clerk was asked to pass on Members' thanks.

69.3 Affordable housing. The Clerk reported that no further action could take place until the Local Development Framework had been finalised, which would delay progress for about two years. It was possible that a further survey would then be needed.

70 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

70.1 District Council. Members commented that recycling arrangements were better than in some neighbouring authorities; however, when the containers at the recycling site had been painted, a lot of paint had been spread on to the car park surface. Instances of bins being missed during refuse collections were mentioned – these should be reported to the District Council at the time, when arrangements would be made for them to be collected. Also, bins were often returned to places opposite the middle of drives, causing returning householders to have to move them before they could get into their properties. The attention of the District Council would be drawn to these problems.

70.2 Police. Mr McMillan reported crime statistics for the month, which continued to be low.

70.3 County Council. A street light which was not working had been reported to the County Council but no action had been taken until Post Office security was mentioned.

There had been flooding problems at the bottom of Woodville Road, which had been attributed to a blocked land drain. Mrs Lauro gave contact details for the officers of the County Council and District Council who were dealing with this.

Mrs Lauro reported that no further action would be taken on the request for repairs to the verge in Hallcroft Avenue. She was asked to seek information on the Council's request for assistance in installing the milepost in Burton Road.

A number of redundant signs relating to previous road works were still in the area, especially on Burton Road. A list would be prepared and the County Council would be asked to collect them.

71 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

Members considered that further steps should now be taken to fill the remaining vacancy. Notices would be placed on the two notice boards inviting expressions of interest and the Clerk would contact Miss C Howes to inform her of the action being taken. The matter would be considered at the next meeting.

72 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Permission had been granted for:

0525 Extensions at 217 Burton Road

1196 Modification of planning obligation to allow a planning application to be made, New Albion Landfill Site, Occupation Road, Albert Village.

0841 Conservatory, 15 Acresford Road

Application for decision:

1082 Erection of conservatory and demolition of existing extension, 229 Burton Road. No objection, but the District Council would be asked to check the adequacy of parking.

73 CORRESPONDENCE

73.1 Publication of Information. The Information Commissioner had produced a new model Publication Scheme, which must be adopted by all Councils by 31 December 2008. The new scheme was not significantly different from the previous one, except that it set out the descriptions of information which must be routinely published. A copy of the model scheme and a draft list of the information to be published were enclosed with the agenda (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

Consideration was deferred to the next meeting.

73.2 Forest walks. The District Council would be organising the National Forest Walking Festival in 2009 and asked whether the Parish Council would like to provide a leader for a walk between 17 and 26 May. Mrs C M Knight and Mr M Knight would do so and other Members would consider doing so nearer the time.

73.3 Local Development Framework. The District Council as planning authority was consulting on a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and Appropriate Assessment. Briefly, this was to ensure that the principles of sustainability were fully taken into account when preparing the Local Development Framework. Noted, but the considerable number of acronyms was considered to be confusing.

73.4 Bowls Club. The Club had asked that the Council reconsider requiring reimbursement of the cost of re-siting the alarm system when the new changing and toilet facilities had been installed; this was refused. The club also asked for permission to install a gate to allow direct access from the public footpath to the Pavilion.

It was agreed to grant approval subject to the design being appropriate and to make a contribution of 50% towards the cost.

73.5 DALC Training Courses. The Clerk gave details of two training courses, one of which was to take place that weekend. No action.

74 PUBLICATION OF MEMBERS' CONTACT DETAILS

It was agreed that Members' contact details would be published on the notice boards and in the website when available.

75 BUDGET FOR 2009/2010

The following items were suggested for consideration for inclusion in next year's budget:

Planters (10) at various locations in the village;

Screens near to the MUGA gates;

Surfacing the stoned area of the Village Hall car park and the small area near to the public toilets;

Installation and completion of the milepost.

76 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

76.1 Training course. The Chairman and the Clerk had attended a DALC training course on law and administration and had found it to be very useful. As a result, it was agreed to make certain procedural alterations to the agenda and to introduce Members' attendance sheets.

76.2 Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership. Mr J Astle gave details of a recent meeting. In another Parish, there had been problems with under age drinking in public areas and the Police had used new powers to adopt a zero tolerance approach, which had begun to work.

77 ACCOUNTS

77.1 Quarterly accounts. The Council considered the Receipts & Payments Account as at 30 September 2008, together with notes to the accounts (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes). The Clerk reported that he had been asked by HM Revenue & Customs to provide details of the Council's activities relating to the Village Hall and recreation provision and, after discussing VAT with an Officer of the District Council, he had now been able to do so.

75.2 Accounts for payment. Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

No	Supplier	Description	Net	VAT	Total
*1382	M Aylett	Repairs to Village Hall roof	90.00		90.00
1383	L Baxter	Caretaker	455.49		455.49
1384	J M Summerfield	Litter	85.95		85.95
1385	T Stewart	Litter	171.90		171.90
1386	e-on	Gas supply to Village Hall	119.43	5.97	125.40
1387	T Pickering & Sons	Plants	11.00		11.00
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.

75.3 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

L Baxter	Village Hall Lettings	242.00
South Derbyshire District Council	Interest on deposit	526.20
NatWest Bank	Bank interest	118.20
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT refund	868.10

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

- 75.5 Bank account.** An account which had been established to help with the provision of play equipment was now redundant and the signatories wished to close it. It was suggested that the small amount involved could be donated to the Council and kept separately for a similar purpose. This was agreed subject to approval by the signatories to the account.
- 75.6 Electricity costs.** The Council's contract with the supplier was due to expire shortly and new prices for 1 and 3 years had been offered. Comparison with other suppliers showed that this was the cheapest available and it was agreed to accept a 1 year contract.
- 76 ITEMS FOR FREE FOR ALL**
- The telephone number for complaints to Arriva about service failures would be published;
- Availability of the Village Hall for private functions.
- 77 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**
- 77.1 Bonfire Night celebrations.** The Gala Committee had thanked the Council for use of the Recreation Ground etc for the celebrations.
- 77.2 Recreation Ground drainage.** It was reported that the part of the recreation ground which had recently been drained was still soggy; this would be monitored.
- 77.3 Donation towards repair of the church clock.** The Council had previously promised a donation of £100 subject to the rest of the necessary money being raised. It was reported that adequate money had been raised and the work commissioned and payment of the Council's donation was requested. This would be considered at the next meeting.
- 77.4 Village Hall.** A request had been received that a public seat be situated at the rear of the Village Hall. It was also reported that part of the rear wall of the Hall required pointing. Both items would be considered at the next meeting.
- 77.5 Strimmer.** In response to a question, the Clerk reported that the strimmer had been stolen about 2 years ago from the outbuildings owned by the person who had previously undertaken footpath maintenance work for the Council. Replacement would be considered for inclusion in next year's budget.
- 78 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 the matter is confidential and that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.
- 79 Clerks' salary award.** It was agreed to implement the nationally agreed salary award.

The meeting ended at 9.25 pm

Chairman