

OVERSEAL PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Mrs C M Knight - Chairman
Mr J Cunningham-Gardner, 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), Cllr J Grant (South Derbyshire District Council and Miss C Howes.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Astle.

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations were made.

48 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

None.

49 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.

50 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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

50.2 Maintenance of public rights of way. The Council received a report on the legal position as regards maintenance of public footpaths and bridleways (copy attached to the official copy of the Minutes).

It was reported that garden waste and other materials had been tipped on Footpath 18 near to its junction with Moira Road. The Clean Team would be asked to clear this and to speak to the persons believed to be dumping the waste.

50.2 New Albion Liaison Committee. Veolia now administered the operation of this Committee and had confirmed that Mr M A Knight would be invited to attend meetings.

50.3 Arriva bus services. Mr Knight had been in correspondence with a senior person at Arriva and had been informed that changes to the timetables had been made with the approval of the Traffic Commissioners. However, because the Parish Council was not a consultee for such changes, there had been no information to advise local residents. The representative was prepared to discuss details with the Council in closed session. Mrs Lauro reported that the County Council had agreed to make a payment to Arriva to enable the school service to Ashby to be rescheduled to enable pupils to get to school on time, though there was a possibility that this would not be implemented immediately because the Traffic Commissioners' approval was needed.

It was agreed to seek a meeting with the representative of Arriva to which several Members would be invited.

- 50.4 Overhanging tree, Woodlands Crescent.** A Member reported that some branches had been removed from the tree; however, as it was a large lime tree, enquiries would be made to see whether the tree was safe, in order to reassure the neighbour.
- 50.5 Untidy site, Lullington Road.** The District Council had been informed by the landowner that the materials on site were to be used as infill for the flooring of the barn and had requested an indication of when this was to happen.
- 50.6 Carbon Footprint.** The District Council would be asked for a progress report.
- 50.7. Grass verge, Hallcroft Avenue.** The County Council considered that the verge had been gradually turned into a layby and that there were no notable defects causing concern to them. Members pointed out that the damage to the verge had been caused by contractors' vehicles when building works had been carried out at Overseal Manor a few years ago. As cars were parked there regularly, there was a potential danger, particularly to children crossing the road en route to the Recreation Ground from the nearby houses. The County Council would be asked to reconsider the matter.
- 50.8 Alcohol-free zone.** Responses from the Police and the Anti-social Behaviour Team indicated that this measure was inappropriate to deal with under-age drinking, but that the Police had adequate powers to combat it. The current problems of youths gathering on the Recreation Ground in Hallcroft Avenue had ended and local residents had cleared the site of debris. The situation in other parts of the village was being kept under review.

51 COUNTY, DISTRICT AND POLICE MATTERS

- 51.1 District Council.** Cllr Grant was asked whether the District Council could help determine whether the tree overhanging 17 Woodlands Crescent was safe, but he thought that this was unlikely but would make enquiries. .
- 51.2 Police.** No matters were raised.
- 51.3 County Council.** Mrs Lauro was asked to pass on thanks for the widening of the footpath between the Village Hall and the school.
- She informed the Council that a new fund, the Community Enrichment Fund, had been established and that small amounts of money were available for local projects designed to counter deprivation or otherwise enrich the locality.

52 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Permission had been granted for:

0529 Conservatory, 33 Main Street

Application for decision

0841 Conservatory, 15 Acresford Road. Supported.

53 CORRESPONDENCE

53.1 DALC Annual Report 2007/8

- 53.2 Requests for donations.** Victim Support Derbyshire had asked for a donation towards their work, which was being expanded to help victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour. It was agreed to donate £50.00.

A request had also been received from The Sherwood Foresters Western Front Memorial Committee for a donation towards the cost of a memorial to be erected at Passchendaele in Belgium recognising men of the regiment who had lost their lives in the First World War and they supplied a list of names of Overseal residents who had been killed. It was agreed to make a donation of £50 subject to the Clerk confirming that S.137 powers extended to this donation.

(Afternote: DALC confirmed that this was within the scope of S.137 provided that there were known to be persons from the Parish who had been affected).

- 53.3 National Forest meeting.** A representative was invited to attend a meeting to discuss 'Setting a Vision and Action Plan for the Heart of the National Forest'. The meeting would take place on Friday 12 September at 2 pm at the NFC boardroom. The Chairman agreed to attend.
- 53.4 Training course.** Attendance by the Chairman and the Clerk at a training course on Law and Good Practice for Parish Councils on 27 October at a cost of £15 per delegate was confirmed.
- 53.5 Safer Neighbourhoods meeting.** The next meeting would be held on Thursday 11 September at 6.30 pm at Walton on Trent Village Hall; the Police suggested attendance to expand on problems of under-age drinking.
- 53.6 Village Hall lettings.** The Clerk reported that the Caretaker had arranged a regular weekly letting to the Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness Club from January 2009.
- 53.7 Bowls Club.** The Club had asked whether their rent could be remitted on this occasion because of high financial commitments. This was refused; also the Club would be asked to reimburse the Council for the cost of repairs to the electrical supply to the alarms, or to obtain recompense from the contractor which had caused the damage.
- 53.8 Public toilets – opening hours.** Reports had been received that the toilets had not been open at certain times when they should have been and the opening times were reviewed. It was agreed that the toilets would be opened from 8.30 am to 6.30 pm or dusk, whichever is the later. Improvements to the cleaning by the District Council were also required.
- 53.9 Football pitches.** The Clerk reported that he had received a request from Gresley Rovers under-9 team for use of a pitch for the 2008/9 season. As Overseal Junior FC were only fielding one team this season, it was agreed that Overseal Junior FC and Gresley Rovers under – 9 team share the lower pitch; Overseal Junior FC had agreed to share their nets and other equipment if their rent was cancelled and this was agreed. The charge to Gresley Rovers Under – 9 team would be £250 to reflect that arrangement. Gresley Rovers under – 16 Team would be transferred to the upper pitch as previously requested and all teams would be reminded (a) that the pitches would not be available during bonfire night weekend and (b) that tapes should be removed from the goals after use.

54 ACCOUNTS**54.1 Accounts for payment**

Payment of the following accounts was authorised:

| No | Supplier | Description | Net | VAT | Total |
|-----------|---|---|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1363 | L Baxter | Caretaker | 382.47 | | 382.47 |
| 1364 | J M Summerfield | Litter | 66.24 | | 66.24 |
| 1365 | T Stewart | Litter | 132.48 | | 132.48 |
| 1366 | Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living | Donation | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 1367 | Audit Commission | Audit fee, 2007/8 accounts | 400.00 | 70.00 | 470.00 |
| 1368 | DALC | Training course fee | 30.00 | | 30.00 |
| 1369 | MACE Security & Electrical (Midlands) Ltd | Repairs to electrical cable to security alarm | 160.63 | 28.11 | 188.74 |
| 1370 | Victim Support Derbyshire | Donation | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| 1371 | RHQ Mercian | Donation | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| D/D | Eclipse Networking Ltd | Internet service | 24.99 | 4.37 | 29.96 |
| D/D | South Derbyshire District Council | Rates | 206.00 | | 206.00 |

54.2 Receipts

The following amounts had been received since the last meeting:

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| L Baxter | Village Hall Lettings | 377.83 |
| Derbyshire County Council | Youth Club | 360.00 |

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

55 ITEMS FOR FREE FOR ALL

Tree planting at the Recreation Ground – volunteers needed.

56 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

56.1 Wild flower meadows. Members suggested that two areas of land could be improved by turning them into wild flower meadows, namely the District Council's land at Lullington Road and the meadow at Daisy Lane. The latter was originally intended to be a wild flower meadow but had been cut at the wrong time of year on a previous occasion and there were no flowers left. Voluntary help would be required to maintain the meadows after planting. Enquiries would be made of the District Council on both of these areas.

56.2 Tipping, Spring Cottage. It was reported that waste was being burned regularly and that tipping was taking place on land at Spring Cottage. The assistance of Ashby Woulds Town Council would be sought.

56.3 Public toilets. Part of the area around the toilets was overgrown and needed a permanent surface; this would be reconsidered at estimates time.

56.4 Recreation Ground access. The District Council had been unable to gain access to the Recreation Ground for mowing on a recent occasion because the combination to the lock was not available to them. The gates were not being closed regularly at other times and both matters would be rectified.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm

Chairman