

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The 2013 Annual Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 14th May 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, J. Dobson, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, M.P. Herbert, Mrs J. Reade, A. Sharp, District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin, R. Young (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from R. Darch and R.J. Raymond.

1. Election of Chairman

Mr A. Sharp was proposed by Mr Herbert, seconded by Mrs Galloway and elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2013/14.

The Chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr M.P. Herbert was proposed by Mr Chidgey, seconded by Mrs Galloway and elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2013/14.

3. Declarations of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey disclosed interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway, Mr Sharp disclosed an interest in matters relating to BAE Systems due to a pension and Mr Galloway disclosed an interest in matters relating to the village hall as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 6th and 28th March and 10th April 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

5. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Mrs Hamlin was requested to advise the District Council that the Parish Council was not happy at the frequency of amenity grass cutting in Woolavington. It was agreed to again remind the County/District Councillor to submit a written report if he was unable to attend a Meeting.

6. Affordable Housing Site, Higher Road

Members referred to the informative site meeting held on 30th April 2013. The work to provide the footpath link was scheduled to take place from 20th to 31st May 2013.

7. Development Issues

It was noted that the Development Issues Working Group had not met since the last Meeting.

8. Big Local Funding

It was noted that a Working Group had been formed comprising 6 residents of Woolavington and 6 from Puriton. The two Parish Councils would be observers. A Meeting of the Working Group would take place on 22nd May 2013.

9. Maintenance Issues

It was agreed to request Mr D. Aggett, Sedgemoor District Council to inspect the conifers in the Lower Playing Field and to give a quotation for any necessary safety work and for topping the trees and also for work to the Utteridge

memorial tree in the Cemetery which had died. It was agreed to arrange for the shrubs in the millennium garden to be pruned, it being noted that the agreed budget might be exceeded. It was hoped that completion of the memorial bench might take place in the near future. Complaints had been received regarding the frequency of amenity grass cutting by the District Council. It was agreed to inform the relevant corporate director of the Council's concerns. The condition of the cemetery paths would be monitored and it was noted that work on the cemetery wall had been completed.

10. Highways Issues

A number of road defects had been repaired since the last Meeting and it was agreed to report further specified defects. The one-way street signs at Church Street would be rectified by the Highways Authority. A site meeting had taken place with highway officers to investigate provision of a dropped kerb at the Causeway but such a scheme was unlikely to take place due to pavement width and restricted visibility. The School was willing to be involved with the enhancement of the bus shelter at Lockswell. The legal position regarding stones on verges was noted and it was agreed to check if certain stones had been moved back from the carriageway edge. Complaints of HGVs breaching the weight restriction along the B3141 were received and, after discussion, it was agreed to request the police to enforce the Order. It was also agreed to report a vehicle being regularly parked on a pavement at Windmill Crescent to the police.

11. 2012/13 Accounts

The Parish Accounts for 2012/13, Financial Statement and Annual Governance Statement required by the external auditors were formally approved. The Internal Auditor had no issues to draw to the attention of the Parish Council. The Council also reviewed their insurance cover.

12. Accounts for Payment

The following payments were made since the last Meeting:-

000827 A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£169.99
000828 G. Bickers	grass cutting	£465.00
000829 Greenslades	grass cutting	£299.00
000830 GB Sport & Leisure	play equipment	£1,459.20
000831 S. Banham	gardening	£248.50
000832 N.A. Haggett	cemetery wall & sports field gully	£9,643.20

The following payments were authorised:-

000833 G. Bickers	grass cutting	£574.00
000834 Greenslades	grass cutting	£299.00
000835 Zurich Municipal	insurance premium	£1,513.92
000836 J. Wall	honorarium	£125.00

13. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:-

006 & 007LB Erection of extension, 9 Lower Road – J. Earl – recommend permission.

Issues relating to the proposed Energy Park were discussed and matters relating to youth facilities, sports facilities and highways would be raised at a Forum Meeting on 15th May 2013.

14. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon the work to the back room, roof and planned improvements to the front entrance of the Village Hall. It was agreed to purchase tables on behalf of the Hall Committee in lieu of part of their annual grant.

Helen Baker submitted a report on the work of WRAP, now known as Flare.

The Chairman reported upon a Meeting upon the role of the recently appointed Village Agent.

15. Item for Next Agenda

It was agreed to consider play equipment and enforcement issues at Reeds Drive at the next Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Chairman

Matter discussed during public question time included HGVs, grass cutting and an overgrown hedge.

