

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 11th March 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- M.P. Herbert (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, J. Dobson, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, R.J. Raymond, R. Young (Clerk) and 28 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from R. Darch, Mrs J. Reade, A. Sharp, County/District Councillor M. Healey and District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin.

83. Disclosures of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey disclosed interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway and in planning application 003 as adjoining landowners. Mr Galloway disclosed an interest in matters relating to the village hall as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

84. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 28th January 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Presiding Chairman as a correct record, it being noted that the PCSO had also been requested to provide information on the number of HGV drivers fined for breaching the B3141 weight restriction.

85. Proposed Neighbourhood Agreement, Woolavington Estate

Dawn Lang, Chief Executive, Homes in Sedgemoor together with Paul Coates, Director of Operations, Alistair Matthews, Housing Manager, SHAL and Paula Barber, Sedgemoor District Council made a presentation on a proposed Neighbourhood Agreement for Woolavington Estate. Details of the first public meeting had been circulated to Members and further Meetings were planned for 20th March and 3rd April with a view to forming an action plan. It was hoped that appropriate agencies and local residents would be able to sign up to the Agreement with a view to improving the neighbourhood and residents' satisfaction levels.

86. Report of the Police

PCSO Lora Bray was unable to be present to follow up the three issues discussed at the last Meeting.

With regard to enforcement of the weight restriction along the B3141, it was agreed to contact Helen Vittery, Somerset County Council to request that misleading information given by a County Council officer to a local haulage contractor be rectified.

It was understood that the PCSO was investigating various sources for funding for a youth shelter. The site of any shelter would need to be carefully considered.

The problem of parking in Higher Road at School times was again discussed. Local residents living opposite the School had been consulted on the suggestion of extending the yellow zig-zag markings and the suggestion had been supported. It was agreed to request County Highways to install the appropriate new road markings as soon as possible.

87. Reports of the County and District Councillors

Neither Member was present. It was agreed to remind the County/District Councillors to provide written reports if they were unable to attend Meetings.

88. Big Local Funding

It was noted that an update had been circulated electronically to Members on 6th March 2014. A web-site had been established www.villagestogether.org.uk which outlined progress.

89. Maintenance Issues

A suggestion of extending the pavilion to possibly include space for recreational/sporting activities was supported as a long term ambition. It was agreed to draw up plans to replace the play equipment in the Lower Playing Field to enable grants to be sought, in association with Flare and the Playing Field Association. A quotation was awaited for the provision of a dog waste bin at Ham Lane.

90. Highways Issues

Numerous highway defects had been reported since the last Meeting. The one-way street signs at Church Street would be rectified by the Highways Authority during 2014/15, subject to availability of finance. The School was willing to be involved with the enhancement of the bus shelter at Lockswell and a quotation was being obtained for appropriate fixings. The County Council had agreed to fix a bus stop sign on the lamp column outside 19 Higher Road. A request had recently been received for an additional lamp column at the Crancombe Lane/Horton Way footpath link but the cost might be too prohibitive to be carried out within the 2014/15 Budget.

91. Finance

The following payments were authorised:-

000866 S. Banham	gardening	£219.25
000867 Greenslades	grass cutting	£479.00
000868 Parish Clerk	expenses	£240.50

92. Community Right to Bid

A comprehensive discussion took place on this matter. Information had been circulated to Members prior to the Meeting and advice was received from officers of CAMRA. It was agreed that an urgent application be made to the District Council for the Prince of Wales to be listed as an asset of community value and an application be also made for the building to be spot listed as a building of historic value. It was also agreed to advise the local MP of the Council's actions regarding this matter and to seek his support.

93. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:-

001 Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed change of use from drinking establishment (use class A4) to convenience store (use class A1) Prince of Wales, 42 Woolavington Hill – Box Property Group – request that the application be refused.

002 Erection of single storey extensions, 30 Meadway – Mrs J. Froud – confirm recommendation of permission

003 Erection of one additional stable, Reeds Drive – S. Marsh – recommend conditional permission.

22/13/011 Erection of a wind turbine at Brookhayes Farm, Bell Lane, Cossington – M. Bell (neighbouring parish consultation) – recommend refusal.

It was also agreed to seek a progress report from the Practice Manager on the Surgery development for the next Meeting.

94. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon a review of hire charges and Mr Mundell reported that the local PCSO wished to have a base in the village hall to complete paperwork and have refreshments. The untimely death of Tom Green was reported and it was agreed that a message of sympathy be sent on behalf of the Parish Council to Mrs V. Green.

Helen Baker presented a report upon the work of Flare and the Job Club.

Matters discussed during public question time included the B3141, Prince of Wales and a pre –application planning consultation.

The Meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Chairman

