

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 15th September 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A. Sharp (Chairman) A.J. Chidgey, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, R. Preece, R.J. Raymond, R. Young (Clerk), District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin and 2 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Darch, J. Dobson, M.P. Herbert and County/District Councillor M. Healey.

39. Declarations of Interest

Mr Chidgey disclosed an interest in matters relating to the B3141 as a resident of Causeway and in planning application 018 as applicant – leaving the room during consideration thereof. Mr Sharp disclosed an interest in matters relating to BAE Systems due to a pension and Mr and Mrs Galloway disclosed interests in matters relating to the village hall as members of the Village Hall Committee.

40. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 4th August 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

41. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon a forthcoming Big Local Event for the over 60s. She was asked to investigate the withdrawal of funding for the Woolavington Toddlers' Group and to lobby for its reinstatement.

42. Big Local Funding

Robert Hemms submitted an update on the position regarding the Big Local/Villages Together scheme including a reappraisal of the proposed use of funds for youth issues, possible ideas for a community hub and the provision of two defibrillators for Woolavington.

43. Maintenance Issues

The official opening of the refurbished play area in the Lower Playing Field took place on 1st September and the play area was awarded the June Wood Cup as the best play area in Somerset for 2015 by the Somerset Playing Fields' Association. It was agreed that a robust litter bin be purchased for inside the play area and the provision of a cctv system be investigated to cover the play area and village hall surrounds. The Women's Institute had requested a grant towards the cost of materials in connection with their project to paint a bus shelter(s) to mark their national centenary. It was agreed to defer consideration of the grant pending receipt of details of sponsorship received and proposed colour schemes. No further instances of fly tipping had occurred. It was agreed to accept a quotation in the sum of £203 + VAT from GB Sport & Leisure UK Ltd to carry out repairs to a wobble bridge in the sports field. It was also agreed to request Mr Bickers to cut back an elder bush overhanging a street lamp at Broadlawn.

44. Highways Issues

It was noted that a number of highway defects had been marked for repair. Information was awaited from Councillor Healey regarding a meeting with East Huntspill Parish Council to discuss the B3141 weight restriction and arrangements for Councillor David Fothergill, the County Portfolio Holder for Highways to visit Woolavington to view issues of concern relating to highway maintenance. Feedback was still awaited from the County Council following the site meeting with County Officers to consider problems experienced by buses in negotiating junctions on Woolavington Estate.

45. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

DD	Total Gas & Power	pavilion electricity	£44.38
000947	GWB Services	grass cutting & maintenance	£421.00
000948	Greenslades	grass cutting	£595.99
000949	A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£169.99
000950	S. Banham	gardening	£166.00
000951	Parish Clerk	expenses & sundry payments	£428.46
000952	Grant Thornton	audit fee	£360.00

It was noted that the External Auditors had completed the audit for 2014/15 and had concluded on the basis of their review, in their opinion the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters has come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. The Internal Auditor also had no issues to raise with Members.

46. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:-

- 014 Change of use from touring caravan site to touring and static caravan holiday park, Novamere, Causeway – S. Cox – recommend permission;
- 015 Erection of conservatory, 8 Causeway – G. Vellacott – confirm recommendation of permission;
- 016 Erection of two storey extension, 5 Cossington Lane – G. Mitchell – recommend refusal;
- 017 Change of use and conversion of former surgery to fish and chip shop, Windmill Crescent – Bozurt Company Ltd – recommend permission;
- 018 Removal of 290m of hedgerow, north of 28 Causeway – Lynham & Chidgey – recommend permission.
- 019 Formation of disabled parking space, 56 Sedgemoor Way – Mrs T. McPheat - recommend permission.

47. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon the external redecoration of the Village Hall, the success of the 2015 Show and the library project. Work would start on the repairs to the gully at the rear of the building in the near future.

Helen Baker submitted a report on the work of Flare, plans for the Belcher Room and proposed initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour by youths in the village. It was agreed to consider these initiatives further at the next Meeting with possible sources of funding.

It was agreed not to support an application from Shapwick and Polden Cricket Club for an RLT 3 grant in the sum of £40,000 towards phase 1 of the replacement of their pavilion at the next Polden Hills Cluster Meeting in view of the large amount of grant already received from this grant scheme by the Club during the past 5 years.

48. Confidential Report

It was agreed to exclude the press and public during consideration of the following item on the grounds that it would involve the disclosure of information defined as exempt by para 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

49. Consultation Document

Members received and considered a confidential Planning Policy Consultation Document from the District Council. It was agreed to advise of the need for certain amendments as specified to the Clerk.

The Meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Chairman