

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The 2017 Annual Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 16th May 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Darch, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, M.P. Herbert, R.J. Raymond, A. Sharp, District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin, District/County Councillor M. Healey, R. Young (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

Apology for absence received from J. Dobson and R.Preece.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mr A. Sharp was proposed by Mr Herbert, seconded by Mr Chidgey and elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2017/18. The Chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office. Mr M.P. Herbert was proposed by Mr Raymond, seconded by Mr Galloway and elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2017/18.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey disclosed interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway, Mr Sharp and Mr Raymond 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. Mr Herbert left the meeting during consideration of planning matters as a member of the District Council's Planning Committee.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 7th March and 18th April 2017 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

4. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District/County Councillor Healey reported upon the new County Council Leader and Highways Portfolio Holder, a planning issue at Cossington Lane together with updates on Hinkley C, the Energy Park and "Heart of the South West" devolution plans. District Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon various maintenance issues.

5. Parish Plan

It was agreed to adopt an updated Parish Council Plan for 2017/18, a copy of which had been circulated.

6. Maintenance Issues

It was agreed to purchase two replacement benches for the Lower Play Area. It was also agreed to arrange for patch repairs to the roof on the northern side of the pavilion to overcome a leak. An abandoned van at Polden Walk had been removed and an abandoned vehicle at Bitham Walk would be reported. It was agreed to request a resident to remove non-sports related equipment currently stored in the container in the Sports Field.

7. Highways Issues

All highway defects previously reported had been rectified and instances of fly-tipping had been cleared. It was agreed to monitor pedestrian and highway safety in the vicinity of the new Co-op Store when it opens with a view to compiling evidence for a perceived need for improvements.

8. Big Local Funding

The Chairman submitted an update on the latest position regarding the Big Local/Villages Together scheme.

9. 2016/17 Accounting Statements

The financial statement for 2016/17 and 2016/17 Accounting Statements required by the external auditors were formally approved.

10. Review of Insurance Cover

The Council reviewed their insurance cover for 2017/18. The existing long term agreement with Zurich Municipal had expired and it was agreed to enter into a new 5-year agreement with an initial premium of £1,241.62.

11. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

001019	GWB Services	grass cutting	£588.00
001020	A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£205.20

12. Planning Issues

The following planning applications were considered:-

54/16/015 Change of use, conversion and extension of outbuilding to form dwelling, 24 Vicarage Road – G. Watts – recommend refusal.

22/17/006 Variation of conditions on planning permission 22/11/014 to allow for 5 pitches, each with a mobile home, touring caravan and day room at Henshirl Paddocks, Cossington Lane – M. Isaacs – recommend refusal.

13. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the Village Hall, a recent jumble sale which raised £330, a donation from the Co-op Community Fund and plans to upgrade the kitchen area for the lounge. The Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner would be contacted regarding the continuous anti-social behaviour issues.

The Chairman reported that arrangements would be put in place to recruit a further assistant youth worker for approximately 14 hours per month to enable an additional session to be run from the pavilion.

Mr Darch reported upon proceedings at a meeting of the Residents Association which he attended in April.

The Meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Chairman