

## **WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

The 2014 Annual Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, M.P. Herbert, R.J. Raymond, Mrs J. Reade, A. Sharp, District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin, R. Young (Clerk) and 7 members of the public.

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

### **1. Election of Chairman**

Mr A. Sharp was proposed by Mr Chidgey, seconded by Mr Raymond and elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2014/15.

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 Chidgey and elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2014/15.

### **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 11<sup>th</sup> March and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

### **5. Reports of the County and District Councillors**

District Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon issues regarding a vehicle at Cossington Lane and the European Elections. Issues regarding dredging were discussed. The Chairman agreed to again remind the County/District Councillor to submit a written report if he was unable to attend a Meeting.

### **6. Community Right to Bid**

The District Council had listed the Prince of Wales as an asset of community value but as Punch Taverns had exchanged contracts with Box Property Group prior to completion of the process, the Community Right to Bid would only occur if the property was placed for sale in the future. A comprehensive discussion took place on this matter.

### **7. Proposed Neighbourhood Agreement, Woolavington Estate**

It was understood that a further Meeting was planned with a view to forming an action plan. It was agreed to seek further information on this matter and also to ensure that replacement tree(s) were planted on the green at Sedgemoor Way in the autumn to compensate for the loss of the poplar tree and to request County Highways to fill deep holes in verges caused by vehicle erosion on certain junctions.

### **8. Big Local Funding**

Members received an update from Helen Baker. It was noted that the small grants would be determined at an event on 23<sup>rd</sup> May but Members had serious concerns about the decision making process as currently proposed.

## **9. Maintenance Issues**

A suggestion of extending the pavilion to possibly include space for recreational/sporting activities was supported as a long term ambition. Plans were being drawn up 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. An order had been placed for the provision of a dog waste bin at Ham Lane. A Village Clean-up Day would be organised on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> July and Somerset Waste Partnership would be approached regarding items being dropped by recycling operatives. It was agreed that signs be purchased to request owners to keep their dogs on leads when in the cemetery.

## **10. Highways Issues**

It was agreed to report highway defects at Reeds Drive. 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 the appropriate notice boards had now been delivered. The County Council had agreed to fix a bus stop sign on the lamp column outside 19 Higher Road and would extend the yellow road makings in the vicinity of the School. It was agreed to request that a representative of County Highways be requested to attend the next appropriate Cluster Meeting to explain why numerous reinstatements quickly crumble and the slow response to other highway issues. Reference was made to continuous breaches of the weight restriction by HGVs and it was agreed to log details of offenders for forwarding to the police whenever possible. It was also agreed to request that the Police Commissioner be invited to attend the next appropriate Cluster Meeting.

## **11. Financial Matters and Parish Plan**

The Council reviewed their insurance cover for 2014/15 and deemed that no alterations were necessary. It was also agreed to adopt revised model Financial Regulations supplied by the Somerset Association of Local Councils and an updated version of the Parish Plan for 2014/15.

The following payments were authorised:-

000872 Zurich Municipal	insurance premium	£1,550.84
000873 Greenslades	grass cutting	£672.98
000874 G. Bickers	grass cutting	£1,025.30
000875 J. Wall	honorary	£125.00

## **12. Planning Applications**

The following planning applications were considered:-

006 Erection of extension, 22 Higher Road – Mr & Mrs D. Mitchell – recommend permission.

007 Change of use, conversion and extension of former public house to village convenience store, Prince of Wales, 42 Woolavington Hill – Box Property Group – recommend refusal, the District Council to be requested to clarify specified issues regarding the application and delegated authority be granted to the Clerk in consultation with the Planning Group to compile an appropriate response to the local planning authority.

The Chairman outlined recent work by the Planning Group and it was agreed to seek an update on an enforcement issue at East Priory.

## **13. Reports from Voluntary Organisations**

Mr Galloway reported upon forthcoming fundraising events at the Village Hall.

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

The Meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Chairman

Matters discussed during public question time included trees and the Prince of Wales.