

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 28th June 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A. Sharp (Chairman), A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, R. Preece, R.J. Raymond, R. Young (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

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

17. 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 and Mrs Galloway disclosed interests in matters relating to the village hall as members of the Village Hall Committee.

18. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17th May 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

19. Co-op Store/Post Office

It was noted that there had been no update since the last meeting regarding the plans to relocate the Co-op shop from Windmill Crescent to the former Prince of Wales building. A number of rumours had been circulating in recent weeks regarding the future of Woolavington Post Office. Detailed information had been received that day which would form part of a public consultation on the “modernisation” of the branch. The information would be placed on the web-site and it was agreed to consider the matter further at the next meeting.

20. Reports of the County and District Councillors

Neither Member was present.

21. Big Local Funding

Heather Strawbridge reported that Robert Hemms had decided to stand down as Chairman of the Big Local/Villages Together Partnership. It was agreed to record appreciate of his valuable work in connection with the scheme. Heather provided an update on the latest position regarding the work of the Partnership and it was agreed that a meeting be held between representatives of the Partnership and Playing Fields Working Group to discuss the spending plans for the development of sporting, social and recreational facilities at the sports field.

22. Sports Field

Members received an update on the current position regarding the development of sporting, social and recreational facilities at the sports field. Villages Together had agreed to provide matched funding of up to £210,000 towards the cost of the project. A meeting of the Sub Group would be held within the next week to firm up proposals and identify a project management company to take the project forward.

23. Plans

It was agreed to monitor the progress of items contained in sections of the Parish Council’s Plan for 2016/17 at each Meeting. As Puriton Parish Council had decided not to sign up to the proposed Woolavington and Puriton Neighbourhood Improvement Agreement and no consultation had taken place with this Council, it was agreed to take no further action regarding the document.

24. Maintenance Issues

It was understood that the County Council's Flood Risk Officer had visited Crancombe Lane to view the section of ditch in question and was contacting riparian owners with a view to rectifying blockages. The legality of removal of sections of the hedgerow at this location would be checked. There were no new instances of fly-tipping to report. It was agreed to request GB Sport & Leisure to carry out essential maintenance work to the swings in the sports field.

25. Highways Issues

It was agreed to report highway defects at the far end of the adopted highway in the vicinity of East Priory. The Chairman was in contact with the County Councillor regarding evidence of the poor standard of highway maintenance to pass to the County Portfolio Holder. The possible replacement of a road narrows sign at Causeway was being investigated by the County Council. It was also agreed to report various specified defective signs and nameplates, further problems of vehicles travelling the wrong way along Church Street and to clarify the status of Sedgemoor Road. An issue regarding the numbering of new properties fronting Higher Road would also be taken up with the District Council.

26. Police Issues

Reference was made to recent issues regarding response times by the police in dealing with matters in the village. It was agreed to invite the local beat officer to the next Meeting.

27. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments had been made since the last Meeting:-

000982 GB Sport & Leisure	youth shelter	£6,186.00
000983 A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£184.80
DD Total Gas & Power	pavilion electricity	£163.75

The following payments were authorised:-

000984 GWB Services	grass cutting	£674.50
000985 Greenslades	grass cutting	£313.99
000986 Parish Clerk	expenses & sundry payments	£1,193.69

28. Planning Issues

There were currently no planning applications to be considered. One new application was anticipated and it was agreed that this be considered by the Planning Sub Group in the first instance.

29. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon completion of the redecoration of the interior of the building, plans for the Village Show, the success of the recent jumble sale, installation of a new cooker and a possible need to adjust the CCTV cameras. The Chairman thanked Mrs Chidgey and Mrs Galloway in helping Helen Baker to draw up the Youth Development Plan. It was hoped to expand Flare with an additional group based in the pavilion in the near future.

The Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman