

## WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A. Sharp (Chairman) A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, J. Dobson, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, M.P. Herbert, R. Preece, R.J. Raymond, R. Young (Clerk), District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin and 8 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from R. Darch and County/District Councillor M. Healey.

### **29. 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. Mr Herbert took no part in discussions relating to planning applications as a Member of the District Council's Development Control Committee.

### **30. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **31. Youth Development Issues**

Helen Baker and Kirstie Brown, Youth & Community Officer, Somerset Youth, outlined the benefits of obtaining the Safe & Wellbeing benchmark for Flare. The benchmark involved putting governance issues and procedures in place and the Club could then access funding. Flare could then progress to achieving Quality Youth Club status. Kirstie agreed to work with Helen and the Parish Council in forming a Youth Development Plan for Woolavington and plans to develop youth friendly accommodation were discussed. Helen was congratulated on achieving her Level 3 qualification.

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

County/District Councillor Healey had submitted a written report relating to the B3141 weight restriction and issues relating to HGVs accessing the Water Park. It was agreed that the Chairman respond appropriately to Councillor Healey and also seek information regarding arrangements for Councillor David Fothergill, the County Portfolio Holder for Highways to visit Woolavington to view issues of concern relating to highway maintenance. District Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon matters relating to electoral registration and disabled access.

### **33. Big Local Funding**

Robert Hemms submitted an update on the position regarding the Big Local/Villages Together scheme a copy of which was displayed on the parish web-site. The Council also received a list of suggested village improvements submitted by the Village Improvement Group and raised no objections thereto, subject to inclusion of the notice board at Edgebury as requiring replacement.

Heather Strawbridge reported that SW Ambulance Trust were prepared to donate 1 or 2 defibrillators for Woolavington and Big Local were prepared to fund the cost of the cabinet(s) to be fitted to the exterior of community buildings. An electricity supply was required. The porches at the Village Hall and/or Communal Hall were felt to be suitable locations. A daily visual inspection was required together with an annual public awareness session. It was agreed to accept the offer of defibrillator(s) in principle.

### **34. Maintenance Issues**

Work had been completed on provision of new play equipment in the play area in the Lower Playing Field. An official opening was planned for 1<sup>st</sup> September to coincide with the Somerset Playing Fields' Association AGM/Presentation Evening in the Village Hall. The Women's Institute had offered to paint a bus shelter(s) to mark their national centenary. It was agreed to accept their kind offer. No further instances of fly tipping had occurred. Repairs to an area

of wet pour surfacing in the sports field had been completed and repairs were to be carried out to a clutter bridge. Visibility problems caused by vegetation at Church Street and at Higher Road would be dealt with.

### **35. Highways Issues**

Reference was again made to the poor quality of highway reinstatements. It was noted that requests for dropped kerbs had been placed on the County Council's waiting list. The police had carried out checks but had not caught any HGVs breaching the weight limit. 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. First bus had investigated the issue regarding the status of the bus stop adjacent to the surgery with First Bus.

### **36. Authorisation for Payment**

The following payments were authorised:-

DD	Total Gas & Power	pavilion electricity	£100.03
000940	GWB Services	grass cutting	£511.00
000941	Greenslades	grass cutting	£627.98
000942	A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£169.99
000943	GB Sport & Leisure	wet pour repairs	£180.00
000944	SDC	uncontested election fee & lease payment	£340.00
000945	J. Wall	honarium	£125.00
000946	Sutcliffe Play	play equipment	£81,714.00

A Bank Reconciliation for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 was checked with the original bank statements and signed by the Members who did not sign cheques as part of the Council's financial controls.

### **37. Planning Applications**

The following planning application was considered:-

013 Erection of extension, raising of roof and conversion of loft to living accommodation, 51 Sedgemoor Way – Mrs G. Doughty – confirm recommendation of permission;

The Chairman was arranging a site visit for members to the Newland Homes development.

### **38. Reports from Voluntary Organisations**

Mr Galloway reported upon the external redecoration of the Village Hall, upgrading of the speakers and the success of the library project. There would be a need to replace the gully at the rear of the building in the near future.

Mr Hardwidge reported upon plans for an extension to the pavilion and to improve drainage in the sports field. It was agreed that the Planning Sub-Committee give detailed consideration to these plans to work up costs and identify possible funding sources.

Reference was also made to possible plans for a community heating system. It was likely that the Parish Council would be consulted on these plans in the near future.

The Meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Chairman