

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 31st January 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey(Chairman), Mrs S. Chidgey (from 8.45 p.m.), B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, M.P. Herbert, R.J. Raymond, A. Sharp, District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin, R. Young (Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from R. Darch, J. Dobson and Mrs J. Reade.

91. Declarations of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey declared personal interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway and Mr Galloway declared a personal interest in matters relating to the village hall as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

92. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 20th December 2011 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

93. Reports of the County and District Councillors

Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon attendance at a meeting of a drainage board and a twinning committee. It was suggested that the County and District Councillors provide written reports if unable to attend parish council meetings.

94. Affordable Housing Site, Higher Road

It was noted that the Section 106 Agreement had been signed and that finance was in place to enable a start to be made on site. An event would be held to mark commencement of the construction work.

95. Cemetery Extension

It was noted that the landscaping work had been delayed until March. The wooden seat had been repaired. A new register had been received from Shaws and the records had been transferred.

96. Woolavington Postal Sorting Office

It was noted that no further information had been received from Royal Mail regarding making a reimbursement of the expenditure incurred by the Village Hall Committee.

97. Woolavington Rural Activity Project

The Chairman, Mr Herbert and Mr Darch were appointed to meet with other members of the WRAP Committee to discuss the various issues identified at the last Meeting in detail and John Addicott from SRYP undertook to attend to offer advice and support.

98. Maintenance Issues

It was agreed that arrangements would be made to obtain quotations for work to wet pour at Sedgemoor Way and Higher Road and for a fence to be repaired. Work to the Village Hall hedge had been completed. Eugene Green would undertake remedial work to the pavilion roof flashings when weather conditions allowed. The District Council was negotiating with the adjoining landowner regarding a possible way leave to lay a water supply along the southern and western boundary of the Sportsfield. Concern was also expressed at a marked increase in flytipping throughout the area and it was agreed to request the County Council to reconsider opening hours at the local Civic Amenity Sites.

99. Highways Issues

The Council considered a letter dated 20th January 2012 from G. Frecknall, Somerset County Council, suggesting an 18 tonne weight restriction from Lockswell to Middlemoor Drove as the best way forward. Members had alternative suggestions and required clarification of various matters and it was agreed to defer the matter pending a meeting between the Chairman, the County Councillor and Mr Frecknall. A number of road defects had been reported since the last Meeting and had been repaired. The Joint Meeting with representatives of Puriton Parish Council took place on 3rd January 2012 to consider issues of mutual interest in the area. Mr Raymond and Mr Sharp were appointed to represent this Council at future Meetings with Mr Herbert acting as Deputy. The Highway Engineer had visited Lockswell to see if safety improvements could be made. A crossroads sign would be provided near 5 Lockswell and road markings would be reinstated. No public interest had been forthcoming to date in reforming a community speedwatch scheme. A letter from Mrs Edney regarding problems caused by inconsiderate parking would be sent to the police, highways authority and Homes in Sedgemoor for their observations and it was agreed that the subject of problems caused by parked vehicles be placed on the next Agenda.

100. HM the Queen – Diamond Jubilee 2012

It was agreed that a commemorative bench be purchased from Glasdon UK for fixing to the existing plinth at the corner of Higher Road and Woolavington Hill at a cost of approximately £450 plus VAT. It had also been suggested that a further commemorative bench be considered for the southern part of the village, possibly to be located near the Co-op store but this had met with some opposition from the public. Mr Herbert, Mr Darch and Mr Pole were considering the possible enhancement of the old milk stage at Reeds Drive. A tree planting project promoted by the Woodland Trust was supported. The trees could be grown on by members of the public with a view to being planted throughout the village when larger and the school could be involved with the project. An idea for a community event in the Sportsfield was supported. It was suggested that the interested parties form a committee to take the matter forward and organise it and that the Council could consider making the pavilion available and providing some financial “pump priming” support.

101. Accounts for Payment

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

000760 SDC	work to Sportsfield hedge	£2,088.00
------------	---------------------------	-----------

The following payments were authorised:-

000761 S.J. Pople	work to Village Hall hedge	£350.00
000762 W. Stone	hedge trimming	£660.00
000763 Shaw & Sons	register	£210.60
000764 SDC	lease	£190.00
000765 Greenslades	grass cutting	£299.00
000766 Village Hall Committee	grant	£1,500.00

It was further agreed to accept a quotation from Greenslades in the sum of £2,990 for grass cutting and strimming in the playing fields and various verges during 2012.

A budget monitoring statement and bank reconciliation as at 31st December 2011 was approved and confirmed and the original bank statements were inspected.

102. Planning Applications

The following planning application was considered:-

001 Erection of replacement conservatory, 4 Mountview – M Shingfield – recommend permission.

An independent report on undergrounding cables had been published in connection with National Grid’s proposals for a new power line. A report was submitted on proceedings at the BAE Systems Consultation Workshop on 25th January 2012 and it was agreed to request only Parish Councillors be invited to future Meetings. Mr Herbert and Mr Raymond were appointed to represent the Parish Council at forthcoming public meetings in connection with the proposed Wind Farms.

103. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon a problem with an emersion heater at the Village Hall which had now been rectified and Mr Raymond reported upon proceedings at the recent Parish Cluster Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman

Matters discussed during public question time included events for the Queen’s Jubilee, parking problems, planning issues and the B3141.

