

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 1st August 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A. Sharp (Chairman), A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Preece, R.J. Raymond, District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin, R. Young (Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from R. Darch, J. Dobson, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway and M.P. Herbert.

25. Declarations of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey disclosed interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway and also in planning applications 010 and 011 as clients of the applicant and left the room. Mr Sharp and Mr Raymond disclosed an interest in matters relating to BAE Systems due to a pension.

26. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 20th June 2017 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

27. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon the Bridgwater Tidal Barrage Scheme, Independent Living Day and a forthcoming Villages Together Event.

28. Woolavington Post Office

It was understood that Stuart Taylor, Post Offices Head of External Relations, was investigating the possibility of the public being able to collect undeliverable post from Woolavington Post Office. It was also agreed to request that an issue of limited cash availability and a lack of a post box be investigated.

29. Maintenance Issues

An application had been made to Villages Together for a grant towards the cost of three benches for the Lower Play Area/Higher Road bus stop. Mr Bickers had repaired the fence alongside Woolavington Hill. Arrangements were being made for repairs to the roof on the northern side of the pavilion to overcome a leak and the pavilion drains had been cleared. It was agreed that any essential work be undertaken to the play equipment at Sedgemoor Way to correct safety issues identified in the recent annual inspection.

30. Highways Issues

There were no new highway defects to report and all instances of fly-tipping had been cleared. A new street lamp had been installed at Windmill Crescent and a further defective street lamp at Polden Walk had been reported. The verge at the Old Mill Road/Windmill Crescent junction had been refurbished with soil but had quickly been spread onto the road by overriding vehicles. It was felt that a realignment of the kerb would have been more advantageous and it was agreed to take the matter up with the County Councillor. Pedestrian and highway safety in the vicinity of the new Co-op Store was again discussed. It was noted that, despite a reminder, the work to extend the barrier had not taken place. It was agreed to request the County Councillor to investigate a pedestrian crossing outside the Co-op store which would also result in enforceable parking restrictions within the white zig-zag markings.

31. Big Local Funding

The Chairman reported that he was unable to attend the recent Big Local/Villages Together meeting.

32. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

DD	Total Gas & Power	pavilion electricity	£45.86
001028	GWB Services	grass cutting	£967.00
001029	A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£223.20
001030	Greenslades	grass cutting	£313.99
001031	SALC	affiliation fee	£564.06
001032	Parish Clerk	sundry payments	£433.65
001033	Groves Xtreme Clean	drain clearance	£456.00

A Bank Reconciliation for the period 1st April to 30th June 2017 was checked with the original bank statements and signed by the Members who do not sign cheques as part of the Council's financial controls.

33. Planning Issues

The following planning applications were considered:-

- 008 Erection of extension and loft conversion, 6 Southfield Close – Mrs S. Cripps – recommend permission;
- 010 Erection of replacement agricultural building for the housing of pigs, The Yards, Higher Road – C. Stone – recommend refusal;
- 011 Change of use of agricultural storage building to allow the housing of sheep and cattle only, The Yards, Higher Road – C & W Stone – recommend permission.
- 012 Crown lift to 3.5m, Walnut tree, 6 The Drive – M. Dunn – recommend permission.

34. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Helen Baker reported that arrangements were being discussed to recruit a further assistant youth worker to enable an additional session to be run from the pavilion. Training issues were also discussed and a Young Leaders project was being explored. It was agreed to invited the Little Nippers organiser to the next Meeting.

Kim Wrixon was in attendance to introduce herself as the new PCSO covering the area. Issues relating to anti-social behaviour were discussed and she undertook to include Helen Baker in future multi-agency meetings to discuss these issues. She also undertook to ensure PC Murray provided feedback on a long outstanding issue.

Kirsten Rushby was also in attendance to introduce herself as the new Village Agent.

The Meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Chairman

Items discussed during public question time included plans for a possible new heating system for Woolavington Estate