

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 21st August 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Darch, J. Dobson, M.P. Herbert, R.J. Raymond, Mrs J. Reade, A. Sharp, R. Young (Clerk), District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin and 6 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway and County/District Councillor M. Healey.

29. Declarations of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey declared personal interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway and Mr Sharp declared a personal interest in matters relating to BAE Systems due to a pension.

30. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10th July 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

31. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Hamlin reported upon anti- social behaviour and information relating to Hinkley Point.

32. Members Code of Conduct

The Council adopted a Members' Code of Conduct based on the Model supplied by the National Association of Local Councils and the Somerset Association of Local Councils dated July 2012.

33. Standing Orders

The Council agreed revision to Standing Order nos. 7 and 25 to reflect the new Members Code of Conduct and the new General Power of Competence respectively.

34. Development Issues

The Council received a report on the work of the Development Issues Working Group since the last Meeting. The opinion of the Monitoring Officer as to whether a representative of the Woolavington Neighbourhood Forum could join the Group was still awaited.

35. Maintenance Issues

GB Sport and Leisure would be requested to inspect the skateboard ramp and carry out any urgent work. Eugene Green had been reminded of the need to undertake remedial work to the pavilion roof. The issue of poor quality of grass cutting had been taken up with the County/District Councils. The problem resulted in rapid growth during the damp conditions combined with less frequent cuts. Recent poor standard of highway verge cutting along the B3141 would be reported to the County Council. Fly tipping continued to be a problem and instances were regularly reported. Community Payback personnel had carried out a litter pick in the Sportsfield and surrounding area during early July. No further problems of smoke had been reported. It was agreed to explore enhancement of the Lockswell bus shelter, possibly by way of a children's art project.

36. Highways Issues

The B3141 18 tonne weight restriction order had been confirmed by the County Council and would be implemented when signs had been changed. The County Councillor had requested an indication of the timescale from Mr Frecknall. A number of road defects had been reported since the last Meeting and had been repaired. Parking problems were occurring in various locations and it was agreed to request the local Beat Manager and/or PCSO to attend the next Meeting to discuss the issues. Homes in Sedgemoor had taken action to overcome the problem of parking on the

amenity areas at Polden Walk in association with the police. The Highway Authority were investigating introduction of road markings to improve highway safety in Crockers Hill and would jet a culvert in Combe Lane. The need to cut certain hedges and overhanging vegetation would be reported.

37. Milk Stage, Reeds Drive

It was reported that arrangements were being made to provide a commemorative plaque for the old milk stage at Reeds Drive. It was agreed to write to Mr J. Pole to thank him for his assistance regarding the project.

38. Accounts for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

000791 D. Manley	grass cutting	£255.00
000792 G. Bickers	grass cutting etc	£675.00
000793 Greenslades	grass cutting	£598.00
000794 Moore Stephens	audit fee	£480.00
000795 Parish Clerk	expenses	£342.82
000796 J. Wall	honourarium	£125.00

It was noted that the audit of the 2011/12 Accounts had been completed and the external auditors had reported that on the basis of their review, in their opinion the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

A bank reconciliation for the period 1st April to 30th June 2012 was checked with the original bank statements and signed by the Members who did not sign cheques as part of the Council's internal financial controls.

39. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to consider.

40. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

There were no reports from voluntary organisations.

41. Items for Next Agenda

- a) Anti-social behaviour – police representatives to be invited to be in attendance;
- b) To resolve that the Parish Council meets the criteria for the General Power of Competence

The Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman

Items discussed in public question time included grass cutting, disabled access at the Sports Field and drainage issues.