

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 14th September 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A. Sharp (Chairman), A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Darch, A. Edney, N. Frith, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, Mrs J. Knight, E. Marsh, R. Young (Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from District Councillor B. Crow and County/District Councillor M. Healey.

31. Declarations of Interest

Members had no interests to disclose.

32. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 3rd August 2021 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

33. Reports of the County and District Councillors

Neither Member was present.

34. Anti-Social Behaviour

PCSO Georgia Coles had submitted a written report relating to sessions for young people at Kilve and Dreamscheme events. Reference was made to neighbourhood issues and people were encouraged to report them to the police on each occasion so that they are aware of the extent of the problems. They had been made aware of incidents in the Sports field and it was agreed to forward copies of recent reports of anti-social behaviour by young people in the Lower Playing Field and in the vicinity of the container in the Sports field to the police. It was agreed to consult nearby residents on the possibility of crown lifting the row of conifer trees in the Lower Playing Field to deter young people from congregating there.

35. Maintenance and Highway issues

Members considered a report on maintenance and highway issues.

The Gravity Village Enhancement Scheme was scheduled to commence six months after completion of the new link road in accordance with the provisions of the Section 106 Agreement.

The County Council's Land Drainage Officers were still investigating the long outstanding drainage issue in Crancombe Lane. An inspection cover in the road was dislodged during heavy rainfall. Councillor Healey had agreed to raise the matter with the Leader of the County Council but no update was available.

Several maintenance items had been identified in the Sports field. The Playing Fields Association had requested that three wooden kissing gates and posts be replaced with metal items at a cost of approximately £500 each. This was agreed. Mr Bickers would be renewing the wooden steps near the Highcroft entrance in the autumn and there had also been requests for benches along the southern perimeter path in durable recycled materials. Work was underway on a 28-year extension to the Sports field lease. There would be legal costs to be met by this Council. Remedial work would also take place to the pedestrian entrance to the play area in the Lower Playing Field

Mr Bickers had agreed to source some replacement glass for the bus shelter outside of the Surgery. The wording for a plaque to be fitted to the mural on the Higher Road bus shelter was agreed.

With regard to the Newlands Estate, work had taken place to cut back the hedge alongside a parking area. Work needed to take place to the embankment slide in the play area at an early date and G.B. Sport and Leisure were investigating a possible improvement scheme. The area might need to be closed for the duration of the work.

36. Villages Together

Members received reports on Meetings of the Under 5s Play Equipment Task and Finish Group and the Community Buildings Task and Finish Group. It was also reported that small grants had been allocated to the Woolavington Allotments Association and Woolavington Runners.

37. Authorisation for Payment

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

001220 Clarke Willmott Ltd	legal fees	£1,200.00
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The following payments were authorised:-

001221 Greenslades	grass cutting	£313.99
001222 GWB Services	grass cutting	£1,233.75
001223 A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£204.00
001224 PKF Littlejohn	audit fee	£480.00
001225 Young Somerset	youth club support	£1,320.77
001226 K. Jackson	honourarium	£100.00
001227 Parish Clerk	expenses & reimbursement of sundry payments	£880.94

38. 2020/21 Audit of Accounts

The External Auditors had completed their work on the 2020/21 accounts and had reported that on the basis of their review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in their opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR was in accordance with proper practices and no other matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

39. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered

013 Erection of conservatory, link roof, porch and extension to garage, 54 Old Mill Road – Mr & Mrs R. Macauley – confirm recommendation of permission;

014 Variation of condition to amend external finish, barn conversion at 24 Vicarage Road – G. Watts - recommend permission.

40. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Marsh reported that the Village Hall was now in full use and bookings were strong. Arrangements were being made to carry out various checks and maintenance work which had been delayed during the pandemic.

Helen Baker gave an update on recent work and future plans for the Flare Youth Group and Dreamscheme. It was agreed to continue to seek further support for the Dreamscheme from Puriton Parish Council.

The Meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Chairman

Issues during Public Question Time included a discussion on anti-social behaviour in the Lower Playing Field and incidents in the southern part of the village.