

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 13th November 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey (Chairman), Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Darch, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, R.J. Raymond, R. Young (Clerk), District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin and 19 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from J. Dobson, M.P. Herbert, Mrs J. Reade and A. Sharp.

54. Disclosures of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey disclosed interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway and National Grid as owners of land likely to be crossed by the new power line.

55. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 2nd October 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

56. Economic and Infrastructure Issues, Sedgemoor Area

County Councillor D. Hall, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Infrastructure and Innovation addressed the Meeting on economic development and infrastructure issues in the Sedgemoor area and answered questions raised by those present.

57. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Hamlin reported upon a new cafe recently opened at the Bridgwater Bus Station.

58. National Grid

The Council considered information received from National Grid regarding the draft route for their new electricity connection. Nearly 5 miles of the connection would be placed underground through the Mendip Hills AONB but for the rest a new 400,000 volt overhead line was proposed. The line locally was generally to the west of the existing Western Power line, which would be removed. It was agreed to request consideration be given to use of T-Pylons for the new overhead line with "balls" on the cables at strategic places to deter bird strike.

59. Development Issues

The Council received a report on other 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 despite a further reminder.

60. Maintenance Issues

Minor repairs had recently been carried out to the suspension bridge in the Lower Playing Field. Eugene Green was unable to undertake remedial work to the pavilion roof and alternative arrangements were being made. Fly tipping had ceased to be a major problem. It was agreed to explore enhancement of the Lockswell bus shelter, possibly by way of a children's art project.

61. Highways Issues

The B3141 18 tonne weight restriction order had now been implemented. The overnight parking of a HGV in Vicarage Road had ceased and the police had been requested to deal with other parking problems in the village. The Highway Authority were investigating introduction of road markings to improve highway safety in Crocker's Hill and it was agreed that enquiry be made to ascertain the current position. The need to cut certain hedges and overhanging vegetation had been reported and the majority had been cut back. The owners of the land on which the bus stop sign

near Chertsey Close was located had given the Parish Council notice to remove it. It was agreed to arrange for it to be removed and to investigate a possible alternative location in which to site it.

62. Review of Cemetery Charges

The Council reviewed their Cemetery charges. It was agreed that the following charges be implemented from 1st January 2013:- Exclusive Right – full burial £100, Garden of Rest £50; Interment fee £50; Headstone £60; Tablet £30; Additional inscription £15.

63. Accounts for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

000801 A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£169.99
000802 G. Bickers	grass cutting	£870.00
000803 Greenslades	grass cutting	£299.00
000804 G.B. Sport & Leisure	maintenance work	£90.00
000805 J. Wall	honorary	£125.00
000806 Village Hall Committee	grant	£4,500.00

A bank reconciliation for the period 1st April to 30th September 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 controls.

Preliminary consideration was given to the budget for 2013/14 and it was agreed to seek a dispensation to enable the precept for 2013/14 to be determined at the next Meeting.

64. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:-

014 Change of use of existing stable and arena from domestic to business use and formation of new driveway and access to Middlemoor Drove, north of Reeds Drive – Middlemoor Equestrian – confirm recommendation of conditional permission;

016 Outline permission for development and associated landscaping, infrastructure and access off Woolavington Hill – Sycamore Property Development Fund and Mrs C.K. Hudson – defer until next Meeting;

018 Minor works to improve angling lake to the east of ROF – BAE Systems Ltd – recommend permission;

019 Fell walnut tree, Chapel House, Causeway – T. Howes – recommend permission.

65. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon the forthcoming AGM of the Village Hall Committee.

66. Confidential Information

It was agreed to request the press and public to leave the Meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that it would involve the disclosure of information defined as exempt by para 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

67. WRAP Activities

The Council met two people willing to operate WRAP activities following the departure of Christine Gale. Appropriate arrangements were made, such arrangements to be reviewed in March 2013.

The Meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Chairman

Items discussed in public question time included planning and procedural issues and mud on the carriageway.

