

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 10th December 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A. Sharp (Chairman), A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, J. Dobson, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, M.P. Herbert, R.J. Raymond, R. Young (Clerk) District/County Councillor M Healey and 3 members of the public.

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

60. Disclosures of Interest

Mr & Mrs Chidgey disclosed interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway and in planning application 021 as near neighbours. Mr Sharp disclosed an interest in matters relating to BAE Systems due to a pension and Mr Galloway disclosed an interest in matters relating to the village hall as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

61. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 29th October 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

62. Reports of the County and District Councillors

County/District Councillor Healey reported upon issues relating to Hinkley C, Huntspill Energy Park and budgets.

63. Big Local Funding

It was noted that a web-site had been established www.villagestogether.org.uk which outlined progress. A presentation had been made by Paul Canham at the recent Polden Hills Cluster Meeting.

64. Maintenance Issues

The District Council had completed work to the various trees in the village. The Jubilee Tree Planting Project was nearing completion. Information was awaited from the County Council on the health of the willow trees at Reeds Drive. It was hoped that the memorial bench might be completed by April 2014. It was agreed to draw up plans to replace the play equipment in the Lower Playing Field in early 2014 to enable grants to be sought, in association with Flare and the Playing Field Association. It was noted that there was considerable support for a dog waste bin at Ham Lane. It could be sited away from houses and there was no known owner of the land. It was agreed to proceed early in 2014. It was noted that an Estate Walk had taken place with representatives of the District Council and Housing Associations to discuss parking and estate management issues around Woolavington Estate. Some action had already been taken and a further Meeting was scheduled in the New Year. Finance had been included in the 2014/15 budget for a youth shelter in the Sports Field. Sources of grant aid would also be sought and the site of any shelter would need to be carefully considered. It was noted that Mr Bickers had been requested to carry out various minor maintenance tasks.

65. Highways Issues

It was agreed to report road defects at Old Mill Road, defective 30 mph signs at the Causeway and to query lack of notification regarding road works at Causeway. The Highway Authority had agreed to carry out work to Higher Road between Martland Farm and East Approach together with defects in the pavement at Lower Road and a blocked drain at Causeway. The one-way street signs at Church Street had yet to be rectified by the Highways Authority. The School was willing to be involved with the enhancement of the bus shelter at Lockswell and it was agreed to obtain appropriate Perspex sheets. The highway police officers had been tasked to enforce the weight restriction along the B3141 but HGVs breaching the Order was still an issue. The matter had been raised at the recent Polden Hills Cluster Meeting. Problems caused by inconsiderate parking in Higher Road during School times were discussed and it was agreed to invite representatives of the Police and highway officers to the next Meeting to discuss possible extensions to or additional road markings or other solutions at the next meeting together with enforcement of the weight restriction.

66. Accounts for Payment

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

000857 J. Wall	honarium	£125.00
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The following payments were authorised:-

000856 Parish Clerk	expenses	£1,029.82
000858 Greenslades	grass cutting	£299.00

67. Estimates for 2014/15

The Council considered the draft budget for 2014/15. It was unanimously agreed that the budget be approved, the Clerk's salary be fixed at £3,200 p.a. and a precept of £38,970 be levied less any grant.

68. Planning Applications

The following planning application was considered:-

021 Change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian and erection of stables, Causeway – D. Allen – recommend permission.

Members received an update on issues regarding planning application 42/13/010 - Huntspill Energy Park.

69. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon the recent AGM of the Village Hall Committee and fund raising events. Appreciation of the work of the Village Hall Committee was recorded.

Suzy Kinsman submitted a report upon the work of Woolavington Speedwatch since their formation in March 2012 and their success in helping to reduce the number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit in the village. They had been using Bawdrip's speed gun but this was now required for use in Bawdrip again. It was agreed to purchase two speed guns at a cost of approximately £320 for use by Woolavington Speedwatch.

70. Items for Next Agenda

Community Right to Bid
Update from Edington Surgery

The Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Chairman