

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 20th December 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey(Chairman), Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Darch, J. Dobson, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, R.J. Raymond, A. Sharp, District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin, R. Young (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

Apology for absence received from M.P. Herbert and Mrs J. Reade.

78. Declarations of Interest

Mr and Mrs Chidgey declared personal interests in matters relating to the B3141 and planning application 10/023 as residents of Causeway and adjoining landowners respectively and Mr Galloway declared a personal interest in matters relating to the village hall as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

79. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 8th November 2011 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

80. Reports of the County and District Councillors

Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon the river wall in Bridgwater.

81. Affordable Housing Site, Higher Road

It was noted that information regarding applying for accommodation had been publicised on the web-site and a supply of forms was available.

82. Cemetery Extension

It was noted that the landscaping work had been delayed. The memorial seat had been installed and the wooden seat was being repaired. It was agreed to purchase a bound register from Shaws.

83. Woolavington Postal Sorting Office

It was noted that Royal Mail would consider making a reimbursement of the expenditure incurred by the Village Hall Committee in January.

84. Maintenance Issues

The new web-site was now being populated. Grant applications had been submitted to replace the old climbing frame at Sedgemoor Way with a modern climber. Work to the Sportsfield hedge had been completed and that to the Village Hall hedge was awaited. The internal painting in the pavilion had been completed and Eugene Green would undertake remedial work to the pavilion roof flashings when weather conditions allowed. The District Council had received a request from an adjoining landowner for permission to lay a water supply along the southern and western boundary of the Sportsfield. Wessex Water would carry out the work. It was agreed to raise no objection subject to a compensation payment being received by the Parish Council and to a reinstatement clause.

85. Highways Issues

A number of road defects had been reported since the last Meeting and had been repaired. East Huntspill Parish Council had now identified businesses which would need exemptions from the Weight Restriction Order and a Joint Meeting would be held with Highway Officers with a view to expediting a new Order,

once the views of the police had been obtained on the matter. The grit bin had not been filled by the Highways Authority and a further reminder would be issued. The Joint Meeting with representatives of Bawdrip and Puriton Parish Councils would take place on 3rd January 2012 to consider highway issues in the area. A number of traffic accidents had taken place in the Lockswell area in the last six months. Driver error was understood to be the cause in most cases but it was agreed to request the Highway Engineer to see if any improvements can be made. Numerous cases of fly-tipping along the Causeway had been reported. It was agreed to ascertain public interest in reforming a community speedwatch scheme.

86. HM the Queen – Diamond Jubilee 2012

It was noted that it had been suggested that a commemorative bench be purchased for the corner of Higher Road and Woolavington Hill together with possible enhancement of the old milk stage at Reeds Drive. It was also suggested that a further commemorative bench be considered for the southern part of the village, possibly to be located near the Co-op store.

85. Accounts for Payment

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

000751 BWBSL	allotment water bill	£229.19
000752 N.A. Haggett	Cemetery extension	£11,829.60
000753 S. Collard	pavilion painting	£687.00

The following payments were authorised:-

000754 Greenslades	grass cutting	£299.00
000755 D. Manley	grass cutting	£160.00
000756 SDC	dog waste bin	£176.68
000757 Parish Clerk	expenses	£404.35
000758 Sedgemoor CAB	grant	£100.00
000759 J. Wall	honarium	£125.00

86. Estimates 2012/13

The Council considered the draft estimates for 2012/13. It was agreed, unanimously, that the estimates be approved and the precept for 2012/13 be £38,970. It was further agreed to accept a quotation from D. Manley in the sum of £85 per cut for grass cutting and strimming in the Churchyard and Cemetery during 2012.

87. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered:-

10/023 Infilling of part of existing lake, construction of running/cycle track, installation of mechanical water skiing device, formation of earth bund and formation of 2 fishing ponds – Middlemoor Water Park – recommend conditional permission;

11/020 Erection of single storey side extension, 36 Meadway – Miss V. Heft – recommend permission.

It was noted that the Henshirl application had been approved by the District Council's Development Control Committee on 13th December 2011. There was no substantive new information regarding National Grid's proposals for a new power line. Mr Raymond and Mr Sharp undertook to represent the Parish Council at a BAE Systems Consultation Workshop on 25th January 2012.

88. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

The Council received an end of year WRAP report.

Mr Galloway reported that the Women's Institute had raised £1,000 for the Village Hall roof fund.

89. 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)

90. WRAP Activities

The Council considered various issues relating to the operation of WRAP. A grant application had been made to run a youth work training programme which, if successful, would impact upon the hours worked by the Development Officer.

A problem of attracting adult volunteers to assist with WRAP activities was discussed. It was that there was a lack of enthusiasm for volunteering generally in the village. Possible liaison with the School was put forward and it was felt that WRAP should focus on younger children to divert them away from anti-social behaviour rather than trying to work with more difficult teenagers.

The Somerset Rural Youth Project was again discussed and it was noted that there was still a lack of liaison with WRAP and a lack of assistance towards meaningful youth work. It was felt that the income of SRYP merited scrutiny.

It was felt that a Sub Committee of the Parish Council should be formed at the next Meeting to work with WRAP and investigate the various issues in more detail

The Meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Chairman