

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The 2018 Annual Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 8th May 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, R. Preece, R.J. Raymond, A. Sharp, District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin, R. Young (Clerk) and 17 members of the public.

Apology for absence received from R. Darch, J. Dobson and M.P. Herbert.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mr A. Sharp was proposed by Mr Galloway, seconded by Mr Chidgey and elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2018/19. The Chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office. Mr M.P. Herbert was proposed by Mr Raymond, seconded by Mrs Galloway and elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2018/19.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr and Mrs Galloway disclosed interests in matters relating to the village hall as members of the Village Hall Committee.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 27th February and 10th April 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

4. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Mrs Hamlin had no report to make.

5. Proposed Woolavington Pharmacy

The Chairman reported that the District Council had now granted a lease of the former Co-op premises at Windmill Crescent to Magna Healthcare to operate a pharmacy. Regarding the proposal for a Community Hub, following this decision, a letter had been sent to the District Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services raising questions surrounding the way the community proposal had been handled.

In summary, the questions covered:

- a) Were the District Council serious about giving the community an opportunity to submit a proposal?
- b) How can the District Council ensure they had value from awarding the lease to Magna Healthcare when there was no apparent competition?
- c) What evidence was there to support the District Council's continued insistence that there was an urgent need for a pharmacy in this location, contrary to widely expressed public opinion?

The letter had been submitted in conjunction with Bawdrip and Cossington Parish Councils and the Patients Participation Group. A response from the District Council was awaited.

6. Anti-Social Behaviour

PC Claire Allan was in attendance with PCSO Kim Wrixon gave an update on work being undertaken to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour in the Village. PC Allan advised that following a quiet period there had recently been some calls relating to activities in garages at Knowle End. The garages had now been boarded up. Work being undertaken included changes to patrols, drop in sessions, beat surgeries, preventative action in schools and Multi Agency Meetings PC Allan was thanked for her work in connection with this issue which had shown a marked reduction in incidents.

7. Maintenance Issues

Members considered a report containing an update on maintenance issues. It was agreed to accept a quotation from N.A. Haggatt (Builders) of Chilton Trinity to hardsurface the entrance to the Lower Play Area nearest the Village Hall.

8. Highways Issues

Members considered a report containing an update on highway issues at Woolavington Hill, Higher Road, Church Street and Old Mill Road.

9. Big Local Funding

The Chairman reported that there had not been a meeting of the Big Local/Villages Together Group since the last Parish Council Meeting.

10. 2017/18 Accounting Statements

The financial statement for 2017/18 and the 2017/18 Accounting Statement required by the external auditors were formally approved.

11. Review of Insurance Cover

The Council reviewed their insurance cover for 2018/19. No amendments were required.

12. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

DD SDC	dog and litter bin servicing	£181.28
001062 Greenslades	grass cutting	£313.99
001063 GWB Services	grass cutting	£641.00
001064 A1 Gardening	grass cutting	£334.80
001065 Zurich Insurance	premium	£1,268.91
001066 Intouch CRM	web-site	£346.76

13. Planning Issues

The following planning applications were considered:-

- 003 Erection of single storey extension, 6 Ash Tree Farm Court – B. Couglan – recommend permission.
- 004 Erection of extension to the Village Hall – Woolavington Village Hall Committee – no observations.

Reference was made to an application recently submitted for a screening opinion to ascertain if it was necessary to provide an Environmental Impact Assessment if 125 dwellings and associated works were built on land to the north of Cossington Lane. The Parish Council were unable to make any comment to avoid pre-determination of any planning application which might be submitted in the future.

The Chairman reported upon a meeting held with Salamanca, the owners of the Huntspill Energy Park site to discuss their current work and future plans. It was intended to meet quarterly to discuss progress.

14. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon installation of the upgraded cctv system which had resulted in a reduction of anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the Village Hall. The recent jumble sale raised £340. The PCSO would be using the library as an occasional hub. Wildflower seeds had been sown in a corner adjacent to Crancombe Lane. Reference was also made to an incident in the Belcher Room.

The Clerk read a report provided by Helen Baker in respect of the work of the Flare Youth Club. It was noted that arrangements had been made to turn off the cctv system during Youth Club sessions in the Village Hall to overcome safeguarding issues.

The Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman

Matters discussed during public question time included litter, the proposed pharmacy and land off Cossington Lane

