

WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 1st March 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- A. Sharp (Chairman), B.J. Galloway, Mrs C. Galloway, M.P. Herbert, R. Preece, R. Young (Clerk), County/District Councillor M. Healey and 1 member of the public.

Apology for absence received from A.J. Chidgey, Mrs S. Chidgey, R. Darch, J. Dobson and R.J. Raymond.

69. Declarations of Interest

Mr Sharp disclosed an interest in matters relating to BAE Systems due to a pension, Mr and Mrs Galloway disclosed interests in matters relating to the village hall as members of the Village Hall Committee and Mr Herbert took no part in discussions relating to planning applications as a Member of the District Council's Development Control Committee.

70. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 19th January 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

71. Youth Shelter

PCSO Lora Bray and Helen Baker outlined recent work carried out to engage with certain young people in an attempt to reduce problems of anti social behaviour. One of the main requests from these young people was a for a youth shelter where they could meet and the most suitable site was thought to be the Sports field car park. Quotations had been received from G.B. Sport & Leisure UK Ltd for 3 or 4 segment heavy duty youth shelters including installation. It was agreed to place an order for a 4 segment shelter in the sum of £5,155.00 and to seek financial contributions from other stakeholders.

72. Reports of the County and District Councillors

County/District Councillor Healey reported upon budgetary issues, forthcoming temporary road closures at the Junction 23 M5 Interchange, an issue recently discussed by the District Council's Corporate Scrutiny Committee, the current situation regarding Hinkley Point C and the Huntspill Energy Park and possible devolution of powers to the South West.

73. Big Local Funding

Robert Hemms had submitted a written update on the Big Local/Villages Together scheme. It was noted that Woolavington was outside the area which could apply for Hinkley C Mitigation funds and that an order had been placed for the new village nameplates.

74. HM the Queen – 90th Birthday Celebrations

It was agreed that the Sports Facilities Sub Group explore the idea of organising an event to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday in the Sports field, involving other village groups and possibly including a beacon.

75. Maintenance Issues

It was noted that information had been received from the District Council's Land Drainage Officer that responsibility for keeping the road side ditch in Crancombe Lane clear rested with the riparian owner which was the landowner who abutted the watercourse. It was agreed, in the first instance, to write to the appropriate property owners in Highcroft and Horton Way to remind them of their responsibilities in maintaining their side of the ditch and boundary. It was also agreed to report fly-tipping at Crancombe Lane.

It was further agreed to organise a Woolavington Clean-up Day on the morning of Saturday, 7th May and to provide refreshments for the volunteers afterwards.

76. Highways Issues

It was agreed to write to Councillor David Fothergill, County Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport and invite him to visit Woolavington to discuss issues regarding highway repairs and defects.

77. Financial Matters

The following payments were authorised:-

000968 Greenslades	grass cutting	£313.99
000969 GWB Services	grass cutting & maintenance work	£519.00
000970 J & C Wylde	cctv system	£1,394 40
000971 S. Banham	gardening	£256.25

The Council considered and approved a Statement of Internal Control for 2015/16.

78. Planning Applications

The following planning application was considered:-

001 Erection of 6 affordable dwellings, east of 8 Elm Lane – T. Haggett – confirm recommendation of refusal;

Mr Herbert reported that the Development Control Committee had granted permission for reserved matters in connection with the Gateway Site at North Petherton.

79. Reports from Voluntary Organisations

Mr Galloway reported upon forthcoming events at the Village Hall, interior decoration work, installation of the cctv system and reupholstering of seats. Mr and Mrs Galloway were thanked for their work in connection with the Hall.

Helen Baker submitted a report on the work of Flare. The Safe and Welcoming Pack was nearing completion with a Village Hall Electrical Test Certificate being required. The detached youth work would soon recommence and investigations were taking place into establishing a youth club facility in the southern part of the village. It was agreed that a mobile phone be purchased for Helen. Helen was thanked for her work in connection with Flare.

Homes in Sedgemoor had made enquiries regarding sessions in connection with assisting people with Universal Credit applications and wished the computers in the Village Hall on a similar basis as the former Job Club. It was agreed to assist subject to the organisation agreeing to upgrade the equipment.

80. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting, the Annual Parish Meeting, be held on Tuesday, 12th April 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

The Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Chairman