

# WOOLAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The 2011 Annual Meeting of Woolavington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

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

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

## **1. Election of Chairman**

Mr A.J. Chidgey was proposed by Mrs Galloway, seconded by Mr Raymond and elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2011/12.

The Chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

## **2. Election of Vice-Chairman**

Mr A. Sharp was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr Galloway and elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2011/12.

## **3. Co-option**

Mrs S. Chidgey was co-opted to serve on the Parish Council to fill a vacancy of parish councillor (North Ward). Mrs Chidgey signed a declaration of acceptance of office and joined the Council.

## **4. Declarations of Interest**

Mr and Mrs Chidgey declared personal interests in matters relating to the B3141 as residents of Causeway and Mr and Mrs Galloway declared personal interests in matters relating to the village hall as members of the Village Hall Committee.

## **5. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2011 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

## **6. Appointments**

The following appointments were made:-

Polden Hills Cluster Group – A.J. Chidgey and Mrs C. Galloway.

Woolavington Playing Fields Association – A.J. Chidgey, R.J. Raymond and A. Sharp

Woolavington Village Hall Management Committee – B.J. Galloway

Woolavington Rural Activities Project – A.J. Chidgey and M.P. Herbert

## **7. Woolavington Postal Sorting Office**

Mr Galloway reported that Royal Mail had delivered a letter to each household stating that "...We have tried to find alternative suitable premises in the village and have investigated the use of the Village Hall. For a time it seemed that the hall might be a likely option but assessments for health and safety and fire precautions mean this is not a viable solution" It was agreed to write to Royal Mail in support of the Village Hall Committee to raise strong objection to the tone of the letter which implied that the Hall constituted a health and safety risk and to request a letter clarifying the situation and containing an apology be sent to each household and furthermore reimbursement of the sum of £1,261.74 spent by the Village Hall Committee in direct works to accommodate the needs of Royal Mail be sought.

## **8. Maintenance Issues**

In Touch with Communities were currently building the new web-site. It was noted that a new meter box cover had been fitted at the Pavilion. It was agreed to seek a quotation to cut back the Village Hall hedge during the autumn and to request Mr Bickers to trim cow parsley on the Higher Road bank as soon as possible.

## **9. Highways Issues**

A number of road defects had been reported since the last Meeting and the majority had been repaired. The B3141 had been surfaced dressed and the pavements would be swept to remove loose grit in the near future. There was no further information regarding the Weight Restriction Order. A site had been approved for the proposed grit bin along the side wall of 11 Church Street in Reeds Drive. It was agreed to reimburse Mr Zobel the cost of petrol used in a brush cutter when clearing the parish footpaths and to invite his attention to issues along the Martland Farm path. It was also agreed to request the Highway Authority to cut the verge along the B3141 between Cossington Lane and the A39 in the interest of pedestrian safety.

## **10. Parish Cemetery**

There was no new information since the last Meeting.

## **11. 2010/11 Accounts**

The Parish Accounts for 2010/11, Financial Statement and Annual Governance Statement required by the external auditors were formally approved. The Internal Auditor had no issues to draw to the attention of the Parish Council.

## **12. Accounts for Payment**

The following payments were authorised:-

000715 G. Bickers	grass cutting	£378.00
000716 Greenslades	grass cutting	£299.00
000717 S. Banham	gardening	£132.00
000718 Post Office Ltd	electricity account, pavilion	£191.58

## **13. Planning Applications**

The following planning application was considered:-

013 Fell one Corsican pine tree, 10A Higher Road – Mrs C. Moss – recommend permission subject to replacement being planted.

Mr Herbert would attend the examination in public of the Sedgemoor Core Strategy at Burnham on Sea which would commence on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

## **14. Reports from Voluntary Organisations**

Mr Galloway on behalf of the Village Hall Committee reported upon the need for some new tables. It was agreed to place an order for some new tables on behalf of the Village Hall Committee the cost to be met from the budget allocated for their 2011/12 revenue grant.

## **15. Items for Next Agenda**

It was agreed to consider a Parish Plan for 2011/12 at the next Meeting and to include “Reports of the County and District Councillors” as a standard item on future Agenda.

The Meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Chairman

