

**Minutes of the Woolaston Parish Council Planning &  
Development Control Committee.**  
**Held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 8.00pm at the  
Woolaston Memorial Hall**

- 1 Apologies for Absence:**  
Andy Lord and Roger Southee
- 2 Declarations of interest:**  
None
- 3 To receive representations from the previous meeting:**  
None
- 4 To approve minutes for the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016**  
Proposed MF seconded DH
- 5 To consider the following applications submitted by the Local  
Planning Authority:** none
- 6 Correspondence**
- 7 Any other business**  
None.
- 8 Closure and date for next meeting:** Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Minutes of the Woolaston Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 8.00pm  
at the Woolaston Memorial Hall

**Present:** Councillors – Chairman, Mick Fairless, David Storrar, Mary Greenslade, David Harris, and Steve Reece

1. Apologies for absence – none
2. To receive declarations of interest: none
3. Public Open Forum – Parishioners Colin Ball, John Anderson, Mark Lightbound, David Reith, Yvonne Thompson, Mark Harris and Henry Harris. Were in attendance. John Anderson offered thanks and appreciation to Councillor David Harris and Councillor David Storrar for their dedication, hard work and commitment to the Village Hall, (attached is a copy of John Anderson's speech).
4. To confirm the minutes David Harris proposed and Steve Reece seconded.
5. To consider matters arising - Skate Park – cost of labour and materials comes to an estimated £1200, with the money already in the skate park fund (approximately £1400) the council can afford this repair. It has to be noted that though this is currently affordable the council have to take into consideration the ongoing cost and state of repair of the remaining ramps and park and proposed that we pursue the fund raising route alongside the council's support. Agenda for February that we discuss this as an option. Put a poster up at the skate park and in the village stating that this will be discussed at the February meeting and that the council will be discussing the long term options for the skate park and though the current problem has been fixed there will have to be funds raised to support the future. DH proposed that we spend the initial amount to fix the current problem and DS seconded.
6. To consider the following matters:
  - 6.1 Policing issues – the recent spate of burglaries was discussed.
  - 6.2 Highways and Footpaths – Birchwood to Ring Fence has been cleared without Amey's input. They also stated that if they are happy with it as a public footpath, they said that there is no responsibility on the land owner to do anything with the surface. The Chair did suggest that the Wednesday's Walkers ask permission of the landowner to lay down some chippings. Highways also stated that they will be writing to Mr Dowler to ensure that the hedges are cut back regularly. The Amey representatives were Geoff Wheeler and Mike Barton, they were both helpful and approachable. There may be the possibility of funding from Amey to supply 'responsible volunteers' with equipment. A Councillor asked about the access across Mr Weeks' land, in reference to style and gates.
  - 6.3 Maintenance - i) The Chair offered to draw up a tender to send out to contractors for quotes. To be put on the agenda for February. Clearing the power lanes (DH) Western Power are going to clear the overgrown hedges from the powerlines. ii) Having received a quote for over £540 the council got a second quote for £180 and the work was carried out by Martin Rose. Off the back of this the

Chair wanted to raise the possibility of setting an amount that can be used in case of emergencies such as this. DH proposed £250, MG suggested up to £400 DS and SR also proposed £250. The Chair proposed the amount of £250 and this was seconded by David Harris. Off the back of this the issue of graffiti in the bus shelter was raised and this was to be put on the agenda for February

- 6.4 Churchyard and Cemetery i) Cemetery costs to be discussed in finance. A meeting was held with Philip Blatchley who informed the council that the current cemetery was limited by a wedge of estate fencing which the Chair proposes we replace (see finance). ii) The solicitor acting on behalf of the WPC reported that he had had a conversation with Mr Mayo who was happy with the Council acquiring the land for the cemetery extension as long as he retained his yard wide strip. iii) John Anderson's map plan for the new cemetery was circulated and discussed. MG suggested that we circulate the new rules to all local undertakers including the removal of spoil. In reference to the current pile of spoil DH proposed that there would be cost implications and that these needed to be approved, which they duly were. SR suggested that surely this is the responsibility of the people digging the graves. The Chair confirmed this is the case but that this pile of spoil was an historic problem not a current one. The Chair circulated a new list of persons buried and interned in the cemetery that he suggested it be used as a point of reference for the public. It was confirmed that the owners of Sheep House had written to the solicitors saying that they had no claim over the land and had no intention of claiming it in the future. The Chair proposed that the council offer Mike Lewis permanent write of access. DH asked that once the current bills are paid are there any planned further costs? The Chair confirmed that apart from the hedging that there was nothing else planned. DH suggested that we could wait a while on this, MG suggested that it would be better to get on with it and get to establish the boundaries.
- 6.5 Finance - i) Balance accepted without questions, ii) Online banking iii) Expenses for Councilors – courses for councilors, RS, MG and MF have attended a few training courses. The Chair tallied up the mileage costs, car parking, Severn Bridge which were enough to warrant approval of expenses. So as of this meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016 DH proposed and SR seconded.
- 6.6 To approve accounts for payment i) Merlin waste £27.12 ii) David Harris Christmas Tree erection costs £103.94 MF proposed and seconded MG iii) £2000 proposed estimate costs for cemetery SR proposed and seconded DH. Repair of the 'estate fencing' £475+VAT approved. Proposed by DH and seconded by SR iv) Martin Rose invoice for cleaning the bus shelter £150 proposed MF seconded DH.
- 6.7 Other matters DH agenda for February meeting – future of the website. The hall is now being registered with a postcode so that a phone line can be allocated and WI-FI connected. ii) Feedback from the Chairmanship Course – Standing Orders are now out of

date so these should be reviewed – agenda for February meeting. It was also reported that on matters where a vote is cast there must be a show of hands, the council agreed to adopt this procedure with immediate effect. iii) The Parish Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from the LA requesting that the WPC consider taking ownership of the public toilets and picnic area at St Peter's Cross. A Councillor mentioned that this had been proposed before and that the WPC had not wanted to add to their property responsibility with this and voted not to. The Council agreed as a whole that this remained the opinion of the WPC and that the PC would feed this back to the LA. iv) It was reported that the Fish and Chip trailer at St Peter's Cross was coning off a large area of parking even when it was not present, it was also reported that there was a definite increase in litter and that there were still a lot of banners up the Chair and another Councillor agreed to visit the site.

7. To consider any other items deemed by the Chairman as urgent:
8. Date of the next meeting Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017