

Minutes of the Woolaston Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 12th July 2018 at 8.00pm in the Memorial Hall

Present: Councillors; Mick Fairless, Mary Greenslade, David Harris, Andy Lord, Roger Southee, David Storrar

In attendance: Ashley Rees (Clerk)
2 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

There were none.

2. To receive Councillors declarations of interest

There were none.

3. Public open forum

No matters were raised.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st June 2018

The minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

5. To consider any matters arising from the minutes other than on the agenda

It was queried whether a response had been received from District Council concerning waste collection, in particular the manner in which recycling containers were being handled. The Clerk confirmed a response had been received and any specific examples should be reported to the Recycling and Waste Team on 01594 810000

6. To consider the following

6.1 Policing Matters

It was reported that PCSO Jayne would be attending the meeting on the 13th September 2018

6.2 Highways and Footpaths Issues

- The large pothole on Netherend by the school needs reporting.
- The brambles by the dog waste bin on Birchwood need cutting back, the Clerk will contact Severn Trent, who are responsible for the area, to report it.

6.3 Maintenance

a) To consider maintenance responsibilities for the community orchard

It was agreed that the Parish Council was responsible for the maintenance of the Community Orchard. The Clerk will obtain the quote to clear it, as previously

requested, and instruct the contractor if the works are to be less than £200. If the quote is more than that it will be tabled at the next meeting. It was also agreed to discuss a plaque or sign to be placed in the orchard, at the meeting in September.

b) To further consider the grass to the side of the telephone box

It was reported to the meeting, that AM Services had agreed to cut the patch of grass in question.

c) To receive and consider the quotation for the removal of grass from headstones in the cemetery

A quotation in the sum of £150 per visit had been received to clear the headstones of any grass that might stick to them during cutting. It was felt that this was a high cost for the Parish Council to incur, advice is to be sought from GAPTC.

6.4 Churchyard and cemetery

It was reported that lots of the recently planted hedging had died during the hot weather. The hedging and holly will be rechecked after it has rained and replanted in the autumn if necessary.

The purchase of new gate posts is still ongoing.

6.5 Finance

a) Account balance

This was accepted without question

6.6 To approve the following accounts for payment

- Merlin Waste – Dog waste bin services- £30.00
- Carol Southee – Litter picking- £260.00
- Alex van der Heijden – Website maintenance- £15.00

These were all approved for payment, it was resolved that regular monthly payments need not be approved each month, but will be noted when they are paid.

6.7 To confirm the following payments made since the last meeting

- Clerk salary – June payment- £438.12
- AM Services Ltd – Grass cut June 18- £1,002.57

7. Other matters

7.1 To progress with filling the current Parish Councillor vacancy

It was reported that the vacancy notice period did not expire until 17th July, after which the Parish Council would be able to co-opt, provided that there were no more than 10

electors who had called for a by-election. There was a member of the public present who had expressed an interest in being co-opted on to the Parish Council, she explained why she wanted to do so.

7.2 To further consider the purchase of new Christmas lights

M Fairless will progress the matter, and it will be added to the agenda in September for a final decision to be made. The Clerk will contact Forest of Dean District Council to see if lights can be attached to the street lights.

7.3 To consider the Gloucestershire Local Minerals Plan

It was reported that there was nothing within this directly affecting the Parish and that the new draft is far more concerned with environmental protection than the previous one. In summary it was very interesting and reassuring.

7.4 Woolaston carnival

It was felt that the carnival was very well organised, well attended and had succeeded in once again creating a wonderful sense of community spirit. The Clerk will write to the organisers to thank them for their efforts.

8. To consider any other matters as deemed by the Chairman as urgent

- M Greenslade informed the meeting that the local Freemasons were unable to contribute towards a second defibrillator.
- M Greenslade presented the meeting with the final poster designs from the Woolaston Primary School road safety poster campaign, two winners were chosen, one from KS1 and one from KS2. Each child will receive a £10.00 book token and a donation of £50.00 will be given to the school to purchase new books. The Chairman will attend the school assembly on 20th July to present the tokens to the winners. It was agreed to add the poster competition to the agenda in May 2019 to decide on the next topic.

9. Date of the next meeting

Thursday 13th September 2018 at 8.00pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____