**Minutes of Appleton with Eaton Parish Council at the Village Hall,**

**Monday 10th July 2017 at 7.15pm**

Susan Blomerus – Parish Clerk – 27.07.17

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mr John Adams,Mrs Susan Blomerus (Parish Clerk), Mrs Mary Carey, Cllr Fitzgerald- O’Connor, Mrs Liz Gilkes, Mr James Mansfield (Chairman), Dr Mark Richards, Mr Tony Sibthorp, Mrs Anna Yalci

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Hayward
2. **Declarations of interest:** Mrs Mary Carey declared at interest in agenda number 17/88 Comet bus service as she is a member of the group.
3. **Public questions and statements:** Lock Action Group (LAG): The group members did not see the agenda until Friday and wanted to clarify that the report from LAG is not connected in any way to the item on ‘consideration of TOE 2 Funding.’ The group has no wish to jeopardise their current negotiations with AH Cornish (AHC) and are only at this meeting to report on the progress so far. LAG has no comment to make on TOE2 funding or the article in the July Advertiser. This article has no relevance to LAG.

The progress so far:

The lock has been open during camping weekends from Friday to Sunday. The road was due to close and the gate locked at lunchtime on Sundays but LAG negotiated a later gate locking time of 6pm. LAG have taken on advertising the road opening times/dates with notices on the post and gate at the top of the hill and outside the shop. Along with this LAG have put up notices in The Advertiser to keep people informed.

Residents can take the opportunity to join the lock road email group which allows the group to update parishioners of any developments. This has been a very useful means of communication.

People who purchased permits last November had them extended beyond the April date through to September without extra charge.

LAG continues to have dialogue with AHC and is at a critical stage of discussions at present, hence LAG plan to give another update at the next parish council meeting in September.

These may seem like small steps to the parish council however LAG feel as a group they now have a better understanding of the difficulties AHC have faced in the past and hope to continue to find solutions that work both for AHC and the whole community. As a group they have always held the view that considered negotiations is the way forward for both parties.

1. **Reports from District and County Councillors:** Report from Cllr Fitzgerald-O’Connor:

New Household Waste Recycling Centre Contract Announced: Oxfordshire County Council has confirmed that it will keep its entire network of seven household waste recycling centres open in the medium term with no change to opening hours or days they are open. This is due to a new management contract that has been awarded to W&S Recycling.

County Trading Standards Save £250 000 for Vulnerable Victims: OCC’s Trading Standard Service, working in partnership with Thames Valley Police, banks and other agencies have saved over £250,000 for the victims of rogue traders in the last 12 months. The team targets rogue traders who prey on the vulnerable and elderly and claim to be legitimate companies. The Doorstep crime team in OCC’s Trading Standard Services includes three Trading Standards Officers and a seconded police officer from Thames Valley Police. Those who are concerned they know someone who might have been targeted by a rogue trader should report it to Trading Standards via 03454 05 06

Communities Fund: A small amount of money has been allocated to each County Division. All the details can be found on OCC’s website. The parish council may be eligible to access this funding for a special project.

Access to the A420 via Oaksmere: Cllr Fitzgerald has spoken to Mrs Laura Hutchins-Payne (Oxfordshire County Council - OCC) and she was told to get in touch with Mr Lee Turner (OCC) to arrange a site meeting. The parish council emphasized that safe access to the A420 bus stop is a top priority. Cllr Fitzgerald said that she will make further enquiries and report back.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the 12th June 2017 parish council meeting was signed as a true record.
2. **Matters arising from the previous meeting and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:**
3. **Clerks report:** Access to the A420: The clerk was asked to contact Mr Lee Turner (OCC) to request a site visit by the 1st August 2017.Copy to Chris Hulme (Thames Valley Policy), Cllr Fitzgerald -O'Connor and Mrs Laura Hutchins-Payne (OCC)
4. **Lock Access Group (LAG):** Read agenda number 17/83 for update. This will be added to September’s agenda for a further update. LAG was thanked for all their hard work.
5. **Comet bus service:** The Monday bus service serving Abingdon is very popular. The average donation per week has increased. A budget was presented to the parish council with both services have been added together. There is a shortfall and the group will need a £500 donation to keep the service going for another 6 months. The Appleton with Eaton Parish Council was asked to consider giving a donation of £300 to the Comet Bus Service to help keep the service going. To be added to the September agenda.
6. **Neighbourhood Plan:** Mrs Liz Gilkes, Mrs Annewen Rowe and Mrs Susan Blomerus met with Mrs Fiona Mullins (Community First Oxfordshire) to discuss the process of completing the village character assessment. Mrs Liz Gilkes mentioned that this will be a very time consuming task and will need the help of the rest of the steering group. This will be discussed further at the next Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting.
7. **Village signpost:** No decision has been made
8. **LED 30mph sign:** Feedback was received from only 2 parishioners, one for and one against speed indicator signs. The parish councillors were asked to engage with parishioners and ask for their opinion regarding installing the signs in the village. Mr Sibthorp will investigate the costs of the fixed and mobile speed indicator signs. This will be revisited in September.
9. **First Aid Kit:** The parish council has been asked to purchase a first aid kit for parish council events. It was agreed that as a qualified first aider, Mrs Richards can purchase a first aid kit to the value of no more than £100, which will be refunded by the parish council.
10. **Guideposts Charity:** The parish council agreed not to donate to Guideposts Charity.
11. **The Plough Inn:** It was resolved to form a working group of the parish council to investigate how a community pub could run. Mr Sibthorp and Mrs Carey volunteered to be part of this group.
12. **Dog fouling:** The parish council has received a complaint about the amount of dog mess along Park Lane. The parish council agreed not to sign up for Dog Control Orders at this point as they are very restrictive. The clerk was asked to write a note in The Advertiser reminding dog owners to be mindful about keeping their dogs on a lead around livestock and on the road and also be mindful when walking with dogs along and particularly at the end of Park Lane where horses and donkeys are kept.
13. **Planning**

**Decisions:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(i)** | **P17/V1075/HH** | 8 Netherton Road Appleton ABINGDON OX13 5JX | Proposed two storey side extension.  **Planning permission granted** |

1. **Finance**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Invoices** | | |
| **395** | **Clerks Salary and expenses:** June 2017 | **Approved** |
| **396** | **Ady Podbery**: Gang mow the sportsfield | £234.00 **Approved** |
| **397** | **Gillian Woodley:** Cleaning the sportsfield pavilion | £30.00 **Approved** |
| **398** | **Nick Withers:** Printing costs for the Neighbourhood Plan | £50.44 **Approved** |
| **399** | **MP Security Installations:** Annual intruder alarm system maintenance | £107.35 **Approved** |
| **400** | **Yew Tree Contractors**: Grass and hedge cutting at Jubilee Playground | £960.00 **Approved** |
| **401** | **Clerks salary and expenses**: July 2017 | **Approved** |
| **Direct Debits** | | |
| **Southern Electric:** Sportsfield electricity | | £64.94 |
| **Castle Water:** Sportsfield water | | £29.57 |

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| --- | --- |
| **Income received** | |
| Donation from Appleton 250 club for Appleton Sportsfield | £200.00 |
| Donation from Appleton 250 club for Jubilee Playground | £150.00 |
| VAT repayment | £2543.38 |

1. **Publications and correspondence**

* Letter from Lloyds bank confirming the cancellation of a cheque
* Email of thanks from Appleton Village Hall for the parish council’s support

1. **Matters for report:** None
2. **Date of the next meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 11th September 2017 at 7:15 in the village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9:21pm