

APPLETON WITH EATON PARISH COUNCIL

c/o Tamarix, Netherton Road, Appleton, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 5QW
E-mail: parishclerk.appletonwitheaton@gmail.com www.appleton-eaton.org

Minutes of Appleton with Eaton Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall, Monday 13th November 2017 at 7.15pm

Susan Blomerus – Parish Clerk – 27.11.17

MINUTES

Present: Mr John Adams, Mrs Susan Blomerus (Parish Clerk), Mrs Liz Gilkes, Mrs Mary Carey, Mr Tony Sibthorp, Dr Mark Richards, Mrs Anna Yalci

17/145 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Fitzgerald-O'Connor

17/146 Declarations of interest: None

17/147 Appointment of new Chairman: Mrs Liz Gilkes nominated Dr Mark Richards as chairman and Mr Tony Sibthorp seconded the nomination. Dr Mark Richards accepted the position as chairman. Mrs Liz Gilkes will remain as vice chairman. Dr Mark Richards completed the declaration of acceptance of office form.

17/148 Public questions and statements: Mr Phil Neale reported to the parish council that the village has become a rat run in the morning. Mr Neale said that trying to get out the village in the morning is a real chore and he asked if this issue has been raised to the parish council. Mr Neale is concerned that the situation will only get worse with the Southmoor developments.

The parish council informed Mr Neale that the issue of the village being used as a rat run has not been raised by other parishioners but comments have been received regarding speeding in the village.

17/149 Reports from District and County Councillors: No reports received

17/150 Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the 9th October 2017 parish council were signed as a true record subject to amendments to 17/135 Bench Stop.

17/151 Matters arising from the previous meeting and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda

17/135 LED 30mph speed signs: The plan is to fund the speed signs by applying for a grant from the Oxfordshire County Council Community Fund Grant Scheme. This has not been actioned yet.

17/152 Clerks report:

Dog fouling in Town Furlong: The parish council agreed to put a note in The Advertiser regarding a report received that a dog is fouling in the gardens in Town Furlong; and to also mention the problem of dog poo on the sportsfield.

17/153 Deep Clean of Appleton and Eaton: The parish council has been asked to identify any particular areas (restricted to pavements and litter picking) that the parish would like cleaned by The Vale of White Horse District Council. The parish council agreed that the pavement along the Plough Inn would benefit from cleaning.

17/154 Procedure to fill current vacancy on the parish council if there is no election:

The parish council agreed to advertise the vacancy by sending a 'shout out', adding a note in the December edition of The Advertiser and putting posters on the Noticeboard and around the village. The parish council would like all candidates to email a brief summary of their experience and reasons for wanting to be considered to the clerk by the 5th January 2018. The parish council will decide who to co-opt at the January parish council meeting. The clerk was asked to send a reminder 'shout out' late December. The clerk was asked to send the poster to all parish councillors before publishing.

17/155 Comet Bus Service: The 3 Villages Bus Group has asked for a £300 donation to keep the Comet Bus Service operating. The parish council resolved to donate £300. The parish council donated £300 in September however only budgeted for a £500 donation this financial year. Therefore it was agreed to move £100 from the parish council contingency money to meet the full £600. The parish council agreed that the Comet Bus Service is a well-used and important facility in the village.

17/156 Update on Hawthorne Leisure: The parish council received an update from Mrs Mary Carey and it was agreed that Mrs Carey will seek further advice regarding the proposed development.

17/157 Oaksmere safety concern: Mrs Liz Gilkes gave a brief update regarding the meeting with Mr Lee Turner, Principal Officer of traffic schemes (Oxfordshire County Council). Mr Turner confirmed that Oxfordshire County Council has no safety budget. If the community would like to make any improvements it will need to be funded by other sources. Mr Turner said that people need to take responsibility for their own safety. His advice for walkers is to carry a decent torch, wear a Hi-Vis jacket and walk towards oncoming traffic, except when approaching bends as visibility is poor for oncoming traffic. In the event that a car is not slowing down or moving to the side, step onto the verge, as the driver may not have seen you. The parish council agreed to put a note in the Advertiser and website with this information.

Mrs Liz Gilkes found information regarding road markings called painted pavements. These are white lines painted along the road providing a pavement for pedestrians. Concerns mentioned were that painted pavements will be costly, ineffective at night and there are two major blind bends along Oaksmere. It was suggested to have a box of hi-vis sashes for pedestrians to use when walking along Oaksmere.

The flooding at the top of Oaksmere near the A420 was mentioned as when it is cold the water freezes and cars have skidded out onto the A420. This will be reported to Fix My Street.

17/158 Access to the Thames Path: It was agreed to form a working group that can look into the rights of way legislation and look into ways that parishioners can access the other side of the river. Mrs Ros Uren and Mrs Anna Yalci are attending the Rights of Way Workshop on the 19th November. The Thames Path is a major asset therefore it is important to exhaust all possibilities.

17/159 Footpath maintenance:

Green Lane: Mrs Anna Yalci will recruit a group of volunteers to spread the bark chippings.

Besselsleigh footpath to the woods: The clerk has emailed Mr Arthur McEwan-James to ask for an update on rolling and harrowing the footpath, no response has been received to date therefore the clerk was asked to ring Mr McEwan-James.

17/160 Boundary commission review: The parish council discussed the proposal that Appleton and Eaton be moved to the Wantage constituency: The parish council agreed that the community should respond individually as it's a political issue which is personal.

17/161 Local Plan Part 2: Mrs Liz Gilkes and Mrs Mary Carey attended the public meeting on the 6th November. The parish council agreed that it will support the Park and Ride near Cumnor but they are concerned that the development in Southmoor might increase traffic through the village. Dr Mark Richards will look at the comment form and formulate a response and send it to the Vale of White Horse District Council before the 22nd November.

17/162 Planning

Planning applications			
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(i)	P17/V2768/HH	Orchard House 12 Badswell Lane Appleton ABINGDON OX13 5JN	Erection of single storey, two bay oak framed garage with log store to side. No objections
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17/163 Finance

1) **Budget 2018/19:** Deferred to Decembers meeting

2) **Internet banking:** It was agreed that all parish councillors who are signatories for the bank account will sign up for internet banking so payments can be made online. The clerk will email all the information.

3) **Payments and receipts**

Invoices		
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423	Clerks Salary and expenses: October 2017	See attachment
424	Ady Podbery: Gang mow the sportsfield	£412.80 approved
425	James Mansfield: No parking signs for the sportsfield	£5.80 approved
426	Playground services: Zip wire maintenance	£264.00 approved
427	Open Spaces Society: Annual membership	£45.00 approved
428	AH Cornish: Annual rent for the playground	£788.57 approved
429	Gill Woodley: Cleaning of the sportsfield pavilion	£10.00 approved

Invoices previously approved	
422 Rigby and Taylor: Whiteliner for the sportsfield	£185.70
Direct Debits	
Castle Water: Monthly charge for water at the sportsfield pavilion	£29.57
Income received	
Appleton Cricket Club: Ground hire for the sportsfield	£250.00
Southern Electric: Refund of electricity charges	£64.04
Cumnor Minors Football Club: Hiring of the sportsfield	£200.00

17/164 Publications and correspondence

- Letter from Be Free YC Charity (formerly South and Vale Carers) thanking the parish council for the donation.

17/165 Matters for report:

- **Community first Oxfordshire** are doing a transport survey but there is no link to complete the survey. The clerk will email them and request a link.

17/166 Date of the next meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 11th December 2017 at 7:15 in the village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9:19pm