**Minutes of Appleton with Eaton Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall, Monday 8th February 2016 at 7.15pm**.

Susan Blomerus – Parish Clerk –23/02/2016

**Minutes**

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

**Also present:** Mr Simon Bailey, Mrs Mary Blake, Mr Mark Blake, Mr Ben Connolly, Mr Bruce Gow, Mr Daniel Little, Mrs Claire Salmon, Ms Sue Sternberg, Mrs Laura Wetherall, Mr Stuart Wetherall, Mrs Rebekah White, Mrs Sarah-Jane Williams, Mr Mark Winks

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Cllr Melinda Tilley
2. **Declarations of interest:** None
3. **Public questions and statements:**

Mr and Mrs Wetherall presented their proposal for Hills Nursery. Mr and Mrs Wetherall have decided to not demolish the existing buildings but convert them into two family homes.

15/209 Ms Sue Sternberg mentioned that dog walkers feel restricted and feeling ‘got at.’ She feels that it is difficult approaching dog walkers who don’t pick up their dog mess as they can be abusive.

15/214 Ms Sue Sternberg said that there is barbed wire on the footpath to Besselsleigh Woods and two parishioners has cut their hands when falling on the footpath.

15/209 Forest school leader, Mrs Sarah-Jane Williams, said that she takes 20-30 school children to the Besselsleigh Woods regularly and the risk assessments are getting increasingly harder because of vast amounts of dog poo on the grass and hanging in bags on the hedges.

15/214 Mrs Claire Salmon said that a minority of dog walkers purposely tie bags onto hedges along Lock Road. Mrs Salmon suggested that the parish council provide poo bags for free on the footpaths.

1. **Reports from District and County Councillors:** Cllr Melinda Tilley emailed a report to the parish council.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of 11th January 2016 meeting and 18th January planning meeting were signed as true records.
3. **Matters arising from the previous meeting and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:** None
4. **Clerks Report:** Nothing to report
5. **Dog fouling and Dog Control Orders:** The parish council received a letter from Mr Jeffreys regarding an increased problem of dog fouling in Long Close and he has issued his gardening team with cameras so they can take photos of anyone not picking up their dog mess so fines can be issued. Whilst the parish council can’t issue fines, the Vale of White Horse Environmental Health can issue fines if photographic or video evidence is presented.

Parish Council can issue dog control orders which can control dog fouling and when a dog should be kept on a lead, amongst other things. There is a cost involved for signage and training an officer to issue fines. The parish council agreed that Dog Control Order is not the right way forward at this moment.

The clerk was asked to write to Mr Jeffreys informing him that the parish council will support his gardening team in taking photographs of dog walkers that don’t pick up dog mess. Mr Sibthorp will do notices. The clerk will add a piece in the Advertiser and to the Appleton Website.

1. **Lock Road:** Mr Mansfield and Mr Adams had a meeting with the Gow family. The key points of the meeting were that the Gow family would like to reopen the Lock Road permanently. The goal is to form an independent village organisation that can organise a permit system. The cost of the permit would be minimal and any surplus money would go to local charities. Mr Gow would need to speak to the rest of the family before confirming to move forward with this idea and some issues need ironing out. There will be some conditions of the permit such as keeping your dog on leads at all times and picking up dog mess. The permit will be for the whole family and include family visitors.
2. **Bus services:** Mrs Mary Carey and Mrs Betty Griffiths met with Thames Travel and Oxfordshire County Council to discuss the future of bus routes 63 and 43. Bus route 63 might be saved if it can be used as a school bus service; Thames Travel said they will look into that option. Bus route 43 service costs £340 a month to run and is well used. The only way to save this service is if the parish councils concerned decided to commission the service, complying with all relevant legislation and fund it. Number 66 is a Stagecoach service that is fully commercial over which there is no council or other body who has any say on how and where they run their service. A community bus was suggested. The parish council decided to wait to hear from Miss Nicola Blackwood first as she had written to Oxfordshire County Council regarding Appleton and Eaton’s bus situation.
3. **Report from Village Hall Committee:** The seats in the committee room are going and will not be replaced.
4. **Neighbourhood Plan:** The parish council will be meeting with Community First Oxfordshire on the 9th February 2016 to discuss the steps that need taking to start developing a Neighbourhood Plan.
5. **Village Footpaths and Green Lane improvements:** At present Green Lane is in a muddy condition and at times impassable during winter. The parish council agreed to look into ditching the lane on both sides and see if drainage improves the surface condition. If ditching does not improve the conditions then the parish council will revisit the situation. Mr Mansfield will approach landowners to discuss options.

Besselsleigh footpath: Mrs Page hasn’t formed a working group as yet. Mrs Yalci will speak to Mrs Page for any updates.

1. **Update regarding Green Belt Review:** 
   * 1. The Local Plan Part 2 will be complete by October 2016.
     2. Mr Mansfield attended the Green Belt Review meeting held in The Beacon, Wantage.
     3. The Parish Council believe that the way the Vale of White Horse carried out the review is flawed. A complaint has been sent to The Vale of White Horse District Council and distributed to all parish councils in the area.
     4. The Vale of White Horse has not yet allocated housing to the two Appleton sites.
     5. The parish council can suggest areas of land for housing in the Neighbourhood Plan even if the land is in the greenbelt. A Neighbourhood Plan is a way to manage the Green Belt in our parish.
     6. The Parish Council agreed to seek professional advice from David Potter regarding our response to the Green Belt Review which will be sent to the Inspector before his final report is filed in October 2016.
2. **Planning**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Applications :** | | | |
| **(i)** | **P16/V0074/HH** | 96 Netherton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5LA | Two storey extension to existing dwellinghouse  **No objections** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Not for public consultation:** | | | |
| **(i)** | **P15/V3018/DIS** | Appleton House Netherton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5JX | Discharge of conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 on P13/V1548/LB. Proposed conversion of existing detached barn into studio/hobby room and conversion of existing garage loft space into ancillary accommodation attached to the main house. |
| **(ii)** | **P16/V0136/DIS** | Manor Barn Eaton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5JR | Discharge of condition 3 on P15/V1420/LB. (Internal and external alterations and improvements to Manor Barn, Appleton) |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Decisions :** | | | |
| **(i)** | **P15/V2579/HH** | Appleton House Netherton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5JX | Proposed repair and renovation of existing front elevation to remove 1960's pebble dash render and renovate existing original wall behind. This is a minor amendment to current approval P13/V1502/HH & P13/V1503/LB. (retrospective)  **Planning permission granted** |
| **(ii)** | **P15/V2831/HH** | 102 Eaton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5JJ | Proposed ground and first floor rear extension. Proposed ground floor front extension. Proposed loft conversion  **Planning permission granted** |

1. **Finance**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Invoices for approval** | | |
| **302** | **Clerks Salary and expenses: January 2016** | See attachment  **Approved** |
| **303** | **Ady Podbery Grounds Care:** Gang mow the whole field and marking out of football pitch | £176.40  **Approved** |
| **Invoices previously approved** | | |
| **300** | **SCAS LoF:** Donation towards Defibrillator Awareness Session | £100 |
| **301** | **Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils:** Roles and Responsibility Training x3 | £234 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Receipts** | | |
| **500049** | **Cumnor Minor Football Club:** Hiring of Sportsfield | £60 |
|  | **Tennis Club Committee**: Last payment of OLTA Loan | £1000 |
| **500050** | **Westminster Football Club:** Hiring of Sportsfield | £400 |

1. **Publications and correspondence**

* Letter of thanks from OSVC Citizen Advice
* Letter from OLTA confirming last payment received for loan
* Letter from Mr Jeffreys regarding dog fouling

1. **Matters for report:**

* Mr Adams gave his apologies for the meeting with Community First Oxfordshire.
* Cricket pavilion: Mr Sibthorp met with Mr Gilkes and Mr Willis. It was agreed that Mr Sibthorp will take over the designing of the pavilion. Mr Sibthorp has a modest refurbishment in mind.
* Dr Richards can’t attend the Roles and Responsibility training on the 2nd March 2016. The clerk will arrange for Dr Richards to attend in October 2016.

1. **Date of the next meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 14th March 2016 at 7:15 in the Appleton village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9:23pm