

APPLETON WITH EATON PARISH COUNCIL

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Appleton with Eaton Parish Council (AWE PC)

Conducted Via Zoom

Thursday 6th May 2021, 7:15pm

Allison Leigh – Parish Clerk

Minutes

Present: Chairman Liz Gilkes (LG), Vice Chairman Mary Carey (MC), Councillors John Adams (JA), Andy Salmon (AS) and Stephen Day (SD) and District Councillor Jerry Avery (J. Avery)

Also present: Allison Leigh, Clerk (AL)

Annual Parish Council Meeting

21/24: Appointment of Chairman: MC proposed LG as Chairman and SD seconded. LG accepted the appointment of Chairman.

21/25: Appointment of Vice-Chairman: LG proposed MC as Vice Chairman and AS seconded. MC accepted the appointment of Vice Chairman.

21/26: Signing of Declaration of Acceptance: LG and MC signed the Declaration of Acceptance forms and showed them to the council and clerk via Zoom.

21/27: Apologies for Absence: Councillor Nicki Clarke (NC)

21/28: Declarations of interest: None

21/29: Public questions and statements: No members of the public were in attendance.

21/30: Review and acceptance of Code of Conduct: The council reviewed and accepted the Code of Conduct.

21/31: Review and acceptance of Standing Orders: The council reviewed and accepted the Standing Orders which had no change.

21/32: Review and acceptance of Risk Assessment: The council reviewed the Risk Assessment which is a working document. AL noted that the internal auditor had looked at the progress of the document and indicated it is heading in the right direction. The council is happy for AL to proceed with this document and put it on the June agenda for review and acceptance.

21/33: Review and acceptance of Asset Register: The council reviewed the Asset Register. AL noted that she would like the council to note anything that needs updating. The council will review and this will be on the June agenda.

21/34: Review and agreement of members roles on and Terms of Reference for

committees: The council reviewed the following:

- Terms of Reference for the Leisure and Recreation Committee: The council made no changes
- Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group: The council made no changes.
- Councillor Roles and Working Groups: The council reviewed the councillor roles and working groups and accepted them.

21/35: Agree a Chairman's allowance: The council resolved to hold a £100 Chairman's allowance.

21/36: Dates of future meetings: The council agreed that Parish Council Meetings will occur on the second Monday of every month except in August and on a Bank Holiday. Leisure and Recreation Committee meetings to be agreed.

Monthly Meeting

21/37: Reports from District and County Councillors: There was no report from Oxfordshire County Council.

Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)

J. Avery sent the following report:

Strategic Issues

1. *As your district councillor and as a member of the Vale planning committee, I am deeply concerned that government proposals wrt to reforming the planning system seek to erode local democracy and further the interests of developers and not provide good quality affordable homes. Indeed, architect Charles Holland stated that, "the government are proposing to hand volume house-builders the right to build whatever they want" and that, "this unlikely to be either beautiful or affordable." He is supported by Alan Jones who is the president of the RIBA (Royal Institute for British Architects) and who described the government proposals as, "shameful" and that they will, "do almost nothing to guarantee the delivery of affordable, well-designed and sustainable homes."*

The PM claims that the proposals contained in the white paper entitled, " Planning for the Future" represent, "radical reform unlike anything we have seen since the second world war." His assertion may well be true but, of course, it carefully avoids addressing the obvious point that the proposals are a cynical attempt to destroy the planning system by deregulation and to seriously limit local democracy by making it much more difficult for local people to object to proposed developments near them. At the same time, the white paper

signally fails to address the issue of social housing provision and of meeting the carbon-neutral homes target by 2050. Alarming, there is also mention of scrapping section 106 which, if it were to be adopted, would make it much easier for developers to build and avoid paying for expensive infrastructure such as road improvements. Finally, there is a stark warning from the president of the RIBA that the proposed changes could, "lead to the creation of the next generation of slum housing."

Local Issues

- 2. At the risk of repeating myself, I cannot emphasise too strongly the key point that the recent white paper wrt planning seeks to provide the basis for legislation designed to rob local people of the right to object to proposed developments in their vicinity. Logically, when you tie that in with the resurrection of the Oxford – Cambridge ARC proposal then you are left in no doubt as to government intentions. I should perhaps conclude by repeating that the RIBA has stated that the legislation I refer to amounts to little more than deregulation and a developers' charter. Given that, then it is evident that we need to watch out for the submission of planning applications wrt major developments in the area.*

Funding - COVID-Related

As you are all doubtless aware, I still have £250 left of the £2000 that I was given originally. I would, of course, welcome any applications for that money from PCs.

J. Avery noted that there had been an issue with the Remittance Advice for the precept and will work to get that sent to the clerk.

21/38: Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the Meeting of the 12th April 2021 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the 27th April 2021 were approved and signed as a true record.

2139: Matters arising from the previous meetings and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda: The council discussed that the signs outside the school seems to be working well, however people are still parking on the white lines. The council would like to use the grant monies that were to be used for a banner to assist in paying for a some more signs such as are there as the council feel these are more effective. LG will check with the school.

21/40: Clerk's report: The Clerk's Report was acknowledged.

21/41: Website: The council noted that the new website has been launched. AL noted that there had been several positive comments and some queries:

1. A query had arisen as to whether the council was going to include an obituary section. The council discussed that it might not be the appropriate place for them and it may prove difficult if residents feel some obituaries are on the site and others aren't.

2. A query had arisen as to whether the council was going to include local businesses. The council decided not to include local businesses as it would be difficult to make a determination which businesses should be included/how wide the radius would be. The council asked AL to see if the self-employed group would like to have a section on the website.

3. LG noted that the library section indicated the libraries are closed. AL will fix this.

4. AS will provide AL with speed sign data for the site.

5. The council would like to see a news item on the quizzes and the monies raise. MC will work on this.

21/42: Parish Councillor Vacancy:

(John Adams joined the meeting at this stage.)

The council acknowledged that there are 2 expressions of interest in the Parish Councillor vacancy. The council resolved for Stephen Day and Nicki Clarke to have an informal chat with both candidates and come back to the council with their recommendation with a co-option at the June meeting.

21/43: CCTV: AL reported that she and NC had a discussion and NC indicated there are many checks that would need to be done in order to put CCTV at the sportsfield. A discussion was had as to whether or not putting CCTV at the sportsfield is proportionate to the recent events. The council agreed for this to be reviewed and put on the June agenda.

21/44: Social Media: The council discussed the possibility of the council having social media. The council resolved not to have a social media account at this stage, but to ask the admin of the community Facebook page to put any information on their page, if needed.

21/45: Planning applications: To discuss the following planning applications:

New applications

| <u>Application number</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Details</u> | <u>Comment</u> |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|
| P21/V0951/HH | 64 Netherton Road Appleton OX13 5JZ | Proposed side single storey extension with pitched roof for new study & entrance area | Appleton with Eaton Parish Council has no objections to this planning application. |
| P21/V0919/FUL | Stabling adj. to Dormers Netherton Road Appleton OX13 5QW | Single storey enlargement to existing stables and tack room (as approved under applications P17/V2339/FUL and P18/V0623/FUL) to provide additional storage space | Appleton with Eaton Parish Council objects to this planning application on the grounds of overdevelopment. |

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|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | If the application were to be approved, then, given the history of past applications for buildings with other uses on this site, a restriction be added that there should be no change of use allowed in respect of these stables in the future, which have been built very recently in the green belt. |
| P21/V0964/HH | 22 Eaton Village Eaton OX13 5PR | Removal of existing conservatory and erection of single storey flat roof rear extension comprising of utility/cloakroom, study and snug | Appleton with Eaton Parish Council has no objections to this planning application. |

Planning Decisions

| <u>Application number</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Details</u> | <u>Vale of White Horse District Council Response</u> |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| P21/V0370/HH | 89 Netherton Road Appleton OX13 5LA | Extension and Alteration works to the Dwelling | Permission granted |

21/46: Finance:

- **Finance Report:**

Payments authorised

| <u>Payee</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Cheque number</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Staff Costs | Staff Costs | Online payment | 573.91 | 31/5/2021 |
| Allison Leigh | Expenses | Online payment | 72.35 | 6/5/2021 |
| Liz Gilkes | Delivery of cherry tree | Online payment | 10.00 | 6/5/2021 |
| Jane Olds | Internal audit | Online payment | 130.00 | 6/5/2021 |
| Constantin Express Cleaning | Cleaning of sportsfield | Online payment | 64.00 | 6/5/2021 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------|--------|----------|
| Dark White Digital | Website development, hosting, maintenance, old website backup | Online payment | 537.50 | 6/5/2021 |
| Pete Borlace | Website photo and content work | Online payment | 210.00 | 6/5/2021 |
| Appleton Community Shop | Paper | Online payment | 9.10 | 6/5/2021 |
| The Play Inspection Company | Inspection of the playground | Online payment | 114.00 | 6/5/2021 |
| Ady Podbery | Mowing and strimming of sportsfield | Online payment | 254.40 | 6/5/2021 |

Receipts since the last meeting

| From | Item | Amount | Date |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Vale of White Horse District Council | CIL payment | 925.87 | 30/4/2021 |

Bank Reconciliation

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|--|----------|------------------|
| <i>Bank balance as of 30/4/2021</i> | £ | 55,573.91 |
| <i>Less Unpresented cheques:</i> | £ | 0.00 |
| <i>Financial year end Reconciled balance as of 30/4/2021:</i> | £ | 55,573.91 |

- **Audit:**
 - Review internal auditor report 2020 2021: The council reviewed and accepted the internal auditor's report.
 - Review and sign Annual Governance Statement 2020 2021: The council agreed and signed the Annual Governance Statement.
 - Review and sign Accounting Statements 2020 2021: The council agreed and signed the Accounting Statements.
 - Confirm posting of Notice of Public Rights 2020 2021: **The posting date was agreed, but will need to change to accommodate the first 10 days in July.**
 - 2020 2021: The variances and reserves were reviewed and agreed by the council.
 - Review any other documentation being sent to the external auditor: No other document
- **Credit Card:** AL reported that according to the Financial Regulations, reimbursement for expenses is not allowable. AL recommended a charge card from Unity Bank which has a £50 set up fee. The council resolved to proceed with a Unity Bank charge card.

21/47: Website and Advertiser:

Website: Quiz fundraising news item

Advertiser:

- Announce the village website
- Put a notice in about parking

21/48: Publications and correspondence: The council reviewed all correspondence. The following responses were discussed:

- The council discussed the parking issues in the village. AS has created some signage and the council would like for this notice to be placed on the community Facebook page.
- The council would like AL to write a letter to AH Cornish about the verges which haven't been cleared by the Christmas barn as walkers are having a difficult time negotiating the area which is causing a danger.
- The council would like AL to do a shout out noting the new speed limit on Cumnor Hill of 30mph.

21/49: Matters for report: AL noted that it might be nice to use the new logo on the website on letterhead. The council agreed.

AS and NC have sent apologies for the June meeting.

21/50: Date of the next meeting: The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Monday the 21st June at 7:15pm in the Village Hall.

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The meeting closed at 9:00pm.