

APPLETON WITH EATON PARISH COUNCIL

c/o 26 Eaton Village, Eaton, Oxfordshire OX13 5PR

E-mail: parishclerk.appletonwitheaton@gmail.com www.appleton-eaton.org

Appleton with Eaton Parish Council (AWE PC)

Held in the Village Hall

Monday 21st June 2021, 8:00pm

Allison Leigh – Parish Clerk

Minutes

Present: Chairman Liz Gilkes (LG), Vice Chairman Mary Carey (MC), Councillors Stephen Day (SD), John Adams (JA), Teresa Bennett (TB) (co-opted in agenda item 21/64) and Sue Sternberg (SS) (co-opted in agenda item 21/64), County Councillor Juliette Ash (J. Ash), District Councillor Jerry Avery (J. Avery)

Also present: Allison Leigh, Clerk (AL)

21/61: Apologies for Absence: Councillor Andy Salmon (AS)

21/62: Declarations of interest: None

21/63: Public questions and statements: Members of the public were in attendance to discuss planning applications. The Chairman allowed them to speak at the time of the planning agenda item of the agenda.

21/64: Parish Councillor Vacancy: The council had no call for election and had 2 applicants for the 2 vacancies. The council resolved to co-opt Teresa Bennett (TB) and Sue Sternberg (SS) as parish councillors. TB and SS signed the Declaration of Acceptance forms and AL will provide them with Register of Interest forms.

21/65: Reports from District and County Councillors:

Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)

J. Avery sent the following report:

District Councillor's Update - June 2021

Strategic Issues

- 1. As your district councillor, I continue to be very 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. As you know, the RIBA, a body that is clearly expert in these matters, has stated in no uncertain terms that the proposals contained in the White Paper are shocking and my last report provides the details wrt the White Paper in question. In the light*

of this, I will be watching developments very closely especially those relating to proposals for large-scale building programmes in our area.

Local Issues

- 2. I have been invited by Bethia Thomas who is the newly elected County Councillor for part of Thames Ward, to sit on a committee that is seeking to significantly improve road safety in our part of the Vale as well as elsewhere. Evidently, that will mean inter alia addressing the issues of so-called rat-running, of seeking to reduce speed limits in villages and, of course, of how to carry out enforcement effectively.*

Funding - COVID-Related

J. Avery reported that he has donated the final £250 left of the £2000 Covid fund to the 3 Villages Comet Bus. The council thanked J. Avery for his donation.

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

Juliette Ash introduced herself as the new County Councillor. She asked if the council would prefer written or oral reports and the council would like to have a written report prior to the meeting as well as have J. Ash attend in person.

J. Ash delivered the following report:

1. Election on 6th May complete. **Change of leadership and Cabinet.** Expect some delays as new Cabinet leads get to grips with their new briefs. Induction programme for new County Councillors fully under way.
2. Cllr Ash requests that we **minute a vote of thanks** to former Cllr Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor for her public service as a County Councillor.
3. Congratulations to former Cllr Ian Hudspeth for being awarded the OBE in the Queen's birthday list for services to Local Government. Congratulations also to Tim Stevenson, Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, for his award of the Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order in recognition of his service for the last 13 years.
4. Cllr Ash introduced herself and offered the Parish Council an **effective model for working together**: "I am an efficient operator that is focused on getting things done. I would like to hear each meeting what your ongoing top 3 priorities are. With 17 parishes that will already give me a to do list of some 51 items although clearly there will be overlaps."
5. Cllr Ash is very interested in providing **useful information for residents** to enable a fast response time wherever possible and in particular to help connect them with the many services offered by the County Council. A list of useful contacts and

connections to e.g. the www.fixmystreet.co.uk website will be provided below but all entries are also welcome in any Parish newsletter. Please pass on contact details to Cllr Ash directly so that these can be shared as widely as possible.

6. **A reminder: EU settlement scheme** EU residents in the UK need to apply to the EU settlement scheme by 30 June 2021, or risk losing their right to work and live in the UK. Please see gov.uk for <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>
7. **Vaccine update from OCC.** Cases confirmed continue to reduce week on week. Generally trending in the right direction with a steady decrease in new cases despite the presence of the delta variant & no deaths or hospital cases. The symptom free testing sites will close on the 26th June at 12.30 as more residents are opting to use testing at home. All over 18s can now book vaccinations.
8. **On Covid recovery & local Govt face to face meetings,** the consultation has now closed (17th June). The Government did not reject the idea but the High Court confirmed that it was not for them to decide, it was a matter for Parliament and there had not been enough time to process the primary legislation that was required. The Government will share the results of the consultation shortly.
9. Community safety: Unauthorised encampments update:

South and Vale

On the afternoon of Wednesday 16th 8 caravans and a motor home entered a field off Mill Road, Abingdon. Last year there was an incursion at the same location when the land owned by S&V DC but leased to a local landowner. The lease has lapsed so we are now dealing with this matter, 2 large concrete security blocks have been removed from the entrance to the field. They have 4 horses and a pony all tethered. There were also 4 quad bikes there when we visited on Thursday and served a landowner's notice. We are serving a direction to leave later today to leave by 1200hrs on Sunday 20th. They have stated they will be leaving on either Monday or Thursday next week on route to Leicester.

OCC: Persons living an alternative lifestyle in tents, caravans and converted vehicles, being because they wish to, or social economic reasons are increasing across the County. Though we will offer advice, documentation and experience, we will not be the lead authority in these matters unless they are Gypsies or Travellers. It is the responsibility of the owner or responsible person for the land that these incursions take place on.

10. The opportunity for children in the division to benefit from optional, free catch-up online lessons over the summer holidays delivered by the Invicta National Academy is currently being explored by Cllr Ash. Anyone that is interested in this proposal is welcome to get in touch to find out more.

11. APPLETON SPECIFIC ITEMS:

Nil to date.

Useful County Council links:

For potholes to be fixed: www.fixmystreet.co.uk

For post-covid outdoor activities: <https://www.getoxfordshireactive.org/oxfordcity>

For planning regs being ignored: tellplanning@oxfordshire.gov.uk

For emergency flooding

support: <https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/emergency/report-flood/>

21/66: Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of 6th May 2021, Extraordinary Meeting of the 24th May 2021 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the 2nd June 2021 were approved and signed as a true record.

21/67: Matters arising from the previous meetings and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:

21/68: Clerk's report: The council acknowledged the Clerk's Report.

21/69: Review and acceptance of Financial Regulations: The council resolved to adopt the Financial Regulations which had not changed since being last reviewed.

21/70: Review and acceptance of Risk Assessment: The council reviewed and adopted the Risk Assessment.

21/71: Review and acceptance of Asset Register: To review the Asset Register with a view to accept

20/72: Comet Minibus: MC reported that Covid restrictions have limited the numbers on the bus to 6. The bus is still going to Abingdon on Mondays, but it has not been advertised recently due to the limited places available which have largely been taken up.

MC requested a £250 donation from the council. The council resolved to donate £250 to the 3 Villages Comet Bus Group.

20/73: Village Weekend: It was reported that several activities had been planned for the weekend of the 26th June, but these had to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions. These events will be re-schedule.

The council discussed a thank you to the Village Shop for their service during the Covid pandemic. As it is planned that the event move to September, the PC will have the chance to discuss this at a future meeting.

21/74: CCTV: The council resolved for this to be on the Leisure and Recreation Committee agenda in July

21/75: Flowerbeds behind the War Memorial: It was noted that the flowerbeds behind the War Memorial belong to the parish council and that while historically the residents of Appleton House had maintained these, the council should keep an eye on their maintenance. TB offered to look and see if the maintenance is something she could do

21/76: Planning applications: Members of the public were in attendance to state their objections to planning application P21/V1523/FUL, Tacoma. The concerns raised included:

- Number of vehicles at the property as there will be 4 flats. Impact of increased traffic.
- Usage of tractor store
- Reports of workmen starting building works prior to 7am and excessive noise

The comments were noted and the residents also plan to put in their own objections to the Vale.

Members of the public were also in attendance to answer any questions on planning application P21/V1501/HH. The council had no questions/comments on this application as noted below.

New applications

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Comment</u>
P21/V1523/FUL	Tacoma Netherton Road Appleton OX13 5QW	Conversion of existing dwelling to provide 4 No 2 Bed flats, with private and shared amenity spaces, off street parking and provision of enclosed bin and bike stores.	See Attachment 1
P21/V1501/HH	57 Eaton Road Appleton OX13 5JH	Erection of a garden shed	Appleton with Eaton Parish Council has no comments on

			this planning application.
P21/V1568/T28	Oaksmere Appleton	To install electronic communication apparatus/ development ancillary to radio equipment housing on behalf of Cornerstone Remove 3no. existing antenna fixed to existing mast at maximum height of 29.5m together with installation of replacement RRHs	No comments were called for, but the council had no comments.

Planning Decisions

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Vale of White Horse District Council Response</u>
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.	Permission granted

21/77: Finance:

Payments authorised

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cheque number</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Castle Water	Water at the sportsfield	Direct Debit	21.19	7/5/2021
Staff Costs	Staff Costs	Online payment	592.60	30/6/2021
Allison Leigh	Expenses	Online payment	131.73	21/6/2021
HMRC	PAYE	Online payment	7.80	21/6/2021
BGG	Cutting of Jubilee Park	Online payment	72.00	21/6/2021
Appleton Community Shop	Paper	Online payment	4.55	21/6/2021
Dark White Digital	Website hosting and Wordpress updates	Online payment	30.00	21/6/2021

Ady Podbery	Mowing, strimming at the sportsfield, fertiliser, weeding	Online payment	1202.40	21/6/2021
Bluestone Planning	Basic Conditions Statement and assistance with the NP Consultation phase	Online payment	1773.90	21/6/2021
Roger Gilkes	Expenses for the Pavilion	Online payment	88.49	21/6/2021
OALC	Clerks, The Knowledge Training Course	Online payment	60.00	21/6/2021
Advanced Electrical Systems LTD	Fitting of the defibrillator at the sportsfield	Online payment	156.60	21/6/2021
Executive Alarms Ltd	Call out charge at sportsfield	Online payment	88.20	21/6/2021

Receipts since the last meeting

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Appleton Youth FC	Payment for use of sportsfield and pavilion in the 20/21 season (1/3 cost due to Covid)	117.00	17/5/2021

Bank Reconciliation

<i>Bank balance as of 31/5/2021</i>	£	53,694.46
<i>Less Unpresented cheques:</i>	£	0
<i>Financial year end Reconciled balance as of 31/5/2021:</i>	£	53,694.46

- **Arnold Baker:** AL reported she has a relatively recent edition of the Arnold Baker.... She will add this to the budget review for 2022/2023.
- **Donation Requests:**
 - Oxfordshire South and Vale: The council resolved to donate £200 to Oxfordshire South and Vale. AL will note in the letter that this donation may not be the same in 2022/2023 as the council took Covid needs into account.
 - Enrych Oxfordshire: The council resolved to donate £25 to Enrych.
 - Clean Slate: The council resolved to donate £50 to Clean Slate.

21/78: Website and Advertiser: The council would like the following in the Advertiser:

- Reminder about the new website
- Thank you for the Lockdown Quizzes
- Speed data
- Trimming of hedges after nesting season

21/79: Publications and correspondence: The council reviewed the correspondence since the last meeting. The council noted that there had been a further e-mail about the fireworks incident in the centre of the village.

21/80: Matters for report: It was noted that there are several potholes causing issues. AL will look into the ones between Besselsleigh and Eaton and the one at the fork in the road by Eaton and Appleton.

21/81: Date of the next meeting: The next Parish Council meeting date was confirmed as 12th July at 8:00pm (after yoga) in the Main Hall of the Village Hall. The reason for the later time is due to meeting in the Main Hall due to Covid restrictions.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Attachment 1:

Appleton with Eaton Parish Council

Response to Planning Application P21/V1423/FUL

The Parish Council objects to this development.

Tacoma, previously a semi-detached agricultural tenancy, is located in open country. It is situated outside the village envelope in the Green Belt in a field previously owned by Hills Nurseries, on the outskirts of Appleton village. This nursery has now closed.

The property is situated outside the built-up area and thirty miles an hour speed limit. There is no pavement or street lighting on the road outside the property.

Appleton is classed as a small village in the local plan.

1. Over-development: The council believes that the erection of 4 flats is over-development for the area of the village. The house is a semi-detached property in a rural setting, surrounded by fields. Converting this house into 4 separate flats would be totally disproportionate to the adjoining house and to neighbouring rural properties.

2. Traffic/congestion: Due to the above, the council believes that there will be a greater number of vehicles creating more traffic along an already busy road. Incoming and outgoing vehicles to the property would be increased. The property is not connected to the village by a footpath, further increasing car usage.

The current bus service, No 63, which runs along the Netherton Road, was reinstated for one year by the county council in August 2020 following a government subsidy, but there is no certainty that this service will be retained when the grant period is over. There is no bus service during evenings or weekends through the village.

Thus, contrary to the statement in the application, Tacoma does not have easy access to local services and use of a car would be necessary for day to day living in this property.

3. Character of the area: The area in which Tacoma lies is the countryside. The type of development proposed would be far better suited to a site more centrally located in a village or town. The visual impact of the parking areas needed to accommodate 8 cars and the proposed bin stores, all necessary for the property, would adversely affect the visual impact of that area of the village.

4. Noise: The construction of 4 flats together with the number of cars needed for those living in them will create more noise and disruption in what is a quieter, rural part of the village.

5. Additional comments:

- Subdivision of the existing dwelling will significantly harm the amenity of the occupier of the neighbouring semi-detached property
- The Parish Council would also like to raise concerns about the large store/garages now being constructed at the far end of the garden at this property ; the future use of this building and the planned access to it.