

**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) Meeting  
held in the Village Hall  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022, 7:15pm**

Allison Leigh – Parish Clerk

**Minutes**

**Present:** Chairman Liz Gilkes (LG), Vice Chairman Mary Carey (MC), Councillors John Adams (JA), Teresa Bennett (TB), Stephen Day (SD), Andy Salmon (AS) and Sue Sternberg (SS), Clerk, Allison Leigh (AL). District Councillor Jerry Avery and County Councillor Juliette Ash (J. Ash)

**21/227: Apologies for Absence:** None

**21/228: Declarations of interest:** None

**21/229: Public questions and statements:** A member of the public asked what the Parish Council's response to assistance to refugees of Ukraine might be. The council noted it will be looking at what assistance is needed. It was noted that there is a support group of residents in place in emergency situations. It was also noted that there is a willingness among the Parish Council and village to assist as it can.

**21/230: Reports from District and County Councillors (SC arrived during this agenda item)**

**Report from Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)**

**J. Avery send a report. See Attachment 1**

- **Climate Action Fund:** See J. Avery's report

**21/231: Minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022:** The minutes of the meeting of the 7<sup>th</sup> February were approved and signed.

**21/232: Matters arising from the previous meetings and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:** None

**21/233: Clerk's report:** The Clerk's Report was acknowledged.

**21/234: Village Hall/Pre-school:**

**(NOTE: J. Ash arrived at this point of the meeting.)**

Members of the public were in attendance to discuss a new village pre-school. Three village residents, including two who are parents of under 5's, presented their ideas/ vision for restarting a preschool in the village. An architect had been commissioned earlier with permission from the village hall committee, to produce outline sketches to see if the village hall could be adapted to make this possible.

It was agreed that a working group would be formed to work through this and TB will be the Parish Council representative with SS assisting on any grants needed.

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The Chair of the Village Hall Committee was in attendance. He reported that the Village Hall Committee has concerns as to the financial and logistical viability of the pre-school being housed at the Village Hall. He agreed to ask if any members of the Village Hall Committee would be interested/available to join the working group.

It was agreed that the working group would come to the Parish Council meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> May with an update.

### **21/230: Reports from District and County Councillors:**

#### **J. Ash presented the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) report here. See Attachment 2.**

The council asked how long the 63 bus would remain in operation. J. Ash will look into this.

J. Ash noted that perhaps the council could establish relationships with OCC representatives in the council to achieve things. The council reported it has reached out to the footpaths officer for over a year with no reply. J. Ash asked if the council could nominate a footpaths champion. AL offered to act as footpaths champion.

**21/235: Climate Change:** No initiatives were discussed.

**21/236: Platinum Jubilee:** It was noted that there will be a Zoom meeting to focus on the Queen's Jubilee on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> March. AL will look at the usage of Parish Council funding for any overages to the Jubilee budget.

**21/237: Speed:** The council acknowledged the speed data sent by AS. The council agreed to apply for the 20s plenty scheme and then review any proposed costs from OCC. AL will confirm the area and then email J. Ash. AS noted he does not support a 20s plenty scheme based on the data obtained from the speed indicator device.

**21/238: Street Lighting in Eaton:** The council received correspondence from a resident asking if the wattage of the street lights in Eaton could be reduced. The council agreed to look at this as well as the timings of the lights provided that the majority of the residents in Eaton agree. AL will follow up with the resident on this.

**21/239: Litter Pick:** The council agreed to the idea of a litter pick. AL and LG will follow up with those who suggested it.

**21/240: Car parking:** The council discussed correspondence received with regards to the issue of car parking on pavements in the village. The council agreed to put another notice in the Advertiser.

**21/241: War Memorial Repair:** The council resolved to proceed with the moving of the steps to the War Memorial and the cleaning of the War Memorial. The council considered 2 quotes and resolved to proceed with Abingdon Stone and Marble for the works.

**21/242: Village Map:** The council discussed the History Group's village map proposal and resolved to donate £500 to the History Group for the project.

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**21/243: Trees/Queens Green Canopy initiative** –The council discussed the possibility of planting a new tree at the Sportsfield. The council agreed for this to go on the Leisure and Recreation Committee Agenda. The council would look to plant the tree in November.

**21/244: Planning applications:** To discuss the following planning applications:

### New applications

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>
P22/V0381/DIS	Netherton Road Field	Discharge of condition 3 (Visibility Splays) in application P21/V2716/FUL. Removal of condition 6 (Closure of Existing Access) on planning application P21/V1117/FUL. Within one month of the completion of the new vehicular access, the existing vehicular access on Badswell Lane shall be permanently stopped up in accordance with a detailed scheme which shall first have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

### Planning Amendments

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>
P22/V0198/DIS	89 Netherton Road Appleton	As amended by Tree Protection Plan received 22 February 2022

### Planning Decisions

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Vale of White Horse District Council Response</u>
P21/V3179/HH	Manor Farm 29 Eaton Road Appleton OX13 5JR	Proposed in-ground outdoor pool	Permission granted.
P21/V3534/LB and P21/V3531/HH	16 Netherton Road High Trees Appleton OX13 5JX	Single storey side extension	Permission granted.
P21/V3114/FUL	Tacoma Netherton Road Appleton OX13 5QW	Subdivision of existing extended dwelling to provide one additional three bedroom dwelling.	Permission granted.

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		(Amended site plan drawing no. 20-008/F/306 Rev B rec 31 Jan 2022) (Amended composite plan drawing no. 20-008/F/401 Rev A rec 22 Feb 2022)	
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### 21/245: Finance:

- Finance Report:**

#### *Payments authorised*

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cheque number</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Lloyds	Paper, Zoom, ink, filing materials, monthly fee	Direct Debit	164.72	16/2/2022
Staff costs	Staff costs	Online payment	673.98	31/3/2022
Allison Leigh	Clerk expenses	Online payment	26.00	14/3/2022
OALC	Basics of Employing People – Stephen Day	Online payment	66.00	14/3/2022
Dark White Digital	WordPress update and hosting – March – invoice 908	Online payment	30.00	14/3/2022
Ady Podbery	Grass cutting and strimming at the sportsfield – invoice 4311	Online payment	91.20	14/3/2022
SLCC	Membership – 40% as shared with 2 other councils	Online payment	68.40	1/4/2022
CFO	Membership	Online payment	55.00	1/4/2022
OALC	Membership	Online payment	196.64	1/4/2022
HMRC	Staff costs	Online payment	18.20	14/3/2022
Appleton Village Hall	Donation	Online payment	1000.00	14/3/2022
Richard Dick	Tennis Club Rent	TBD (waiting for bank details)	300.00 (for 2 years)	14/3/2022
Appleton Community Shop	Paper and snacks for baby and toddler club	Online payment	12.31	14/3/2022
The Fun Firm	Deposit for helter skelter and cups and saucers rides for the Queen's Jubilee event	Online payment	600.00	14/3/2022

#### *Receipts since the last meeting*

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Mary Carey	Sale of adult fitness equipment in Jubilee Park	60.74	16/2/2022

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### **Bank Reconciliation**

Bank balance as of 28/2/2022	44,322.83
Less Unpresented cheques	30.00
Plus unpresented receipts	0.00
<b>Reconciled balance as of 28/2/2022</b>	<b>44,292.83</b>

**21/246: Website and Advertiser:** The council asked for the following to be placed in the Advertiser:

- An agenda for the Queen's Jubilee weekend
- Car Parking in the village per agenda item 21/40
- An explanation of the precept for the 2022/2023 financial year
- An update on the Parish Council's response to the War in Ukraine

**21/247: Publications and correspondence:** The council discussed the correspondence since the last meeting. There was correspondence relating to Ukrainian refugees referenced in agenda item 21/229.

A matter was raised about missing signage on 2 footpaths in the village. AL will follow up this.

**21/248: Matters for report:** None

**21/249: Date of the next meeting:** The date and location of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7:15pm in the Village Hall

**21/250: Staff:** The council discussed the remuneration of staff. ***Please note: This was a confidential item during which members of the public and press were present.***

The meeting closed at 9:20pm.

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### ATTACHMENT 1

#### Update for Thames Ward – March 2022

**Council Budget 2022-23:** The Vale has approved our budget for the coming year. It is both lengthy and detailed and such a lot of very hard work and excellent work has gone into it and the key points were in my update of Feb 2022. As you are all aware residents, are being offered £150 to help with energy bills and it worth emphasising that the quickest way to receive this financial relief is by setting up a direct debit. If that is not done it will take longer for all entitled to receive the relief.

**Boundary Review:** Following responses from parishes about possible changes to electoral boundaries, the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee met on 07 Mar 22 to discuss an officer's report on the suggestions submitted and decided whether to consult on these changes. This was a public meeting, and the papers were made available a week before the meeting via this

link: <http://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=542&Mid=3067>.

There had been a lack of clarity wrt this item and hence some misunderstanding, but I have since spoken to the Chair of the Boundaries' Committee (Cllr Ron Batstone) and been reassured by him that the meeting held on 07 Mar 22 had been called for the sole purpose of discussing and deciding on terms of reference. No items wrt any proposed parish boundary changes were on the meeting agenda.

**Oxford-Cambridge Expressway:** The Conservatives' plan to build it has been scrapped. Arguably this is a great victory for local campaigning but in her report, the leader of the Council, did state that there are indications that the Tories now want to build it by stealth. In his statement announcing the cancellation the Transport Secretary (Grant Shapps) said "the Government will continue to work on alternative plans to boost transport connectivity in the ARC." At the same time, Oxfordshire County Council is anticipating that at least 862,000 new houses will be built across the ARC between now and 2050. In order for that to happen there have to be a rate of building far in excess of any rate previously seen. It would mean doubling the number of houses in the county and that is certainly something that no-one has voted for.

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ATTACHMENT 2

**County Councillor Juliette Ash REPORT- All parishes- MARCH 2022**

My thoughts are very much with those in Ukraine and those with any with friends, family or colleagues there. As with all councils in England, OCC are ready to help people in Ukraine and any refugees that may come here. Central Government has committed a series of supportive measures to Ukraine from anti-tank weapons to £20 million as a starter donation with additional match funding given by residents to the Disaster Response Committee. OCC will respond to Central Government requests as to the best ways that we can help as the situation continues to develop. This is unlikely to be in the short term as so many local Countries have offered exceptional levels of support such as Germany and Poland and we commend them. However, we stand ready to support in the long term and by current gifts and donations where we can. For residents the feeling of helplessness whilst watching events unfold is acute. As a result, OCC has a page Support for Ukraine | Oxfordshire County Council to signpost people as to how they can help.

**Covid-19- vaccination prog**

NHS Oxfordshire msg:

- Children aged 5 -11 who are in a clinical risk group or who live with someone who is immunosuppressed will be able to get the first dose of the COVID vaccine in line with advice set out by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).
- If you are the parent or guardian of a child in a clinical risk group, or the child is a household contact of someone who is immunosuppressed the NHS will contact you to make an appointment to get vaccinated
- If you are unvaccinated it is never too late to come forward for a vaccine – all vaccination sites will welcome you for your first, second, third or booster. Walk-in vaccinations are available vaccination sites at Kassam Stadium. Anyone who is eligible can get a jab at these sites without the need for an appointment.

**URGENT: Reservoir development near East Hanney and Garford.**

The proposed development of a mega reservoir near East Hanney and Garford has dominated my meetings diary this month. There is a considerable amount of detail to share and much of it is well captured by the local group GARD, but suffice to say, exploring the proposals I am not convinced that the reservoir is required either for the local community of indeed residents of the whole of the South East for whom it is designed. There are secondary options for a Severn Thames link that would deliver the same water- based benefits without the extreme damage and disruption and above ground 150-million-ton capacity water reservoir that has been proposed. I urge residents to have their say in the consultation before the deadline of the 14th March.

<https://wrse.uk.engagementhq.com/>

I am working with MPs David Johnson and Layla Moran and other partners to achieve a positive outcome for residents regarding this development.

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### Council Tax budget:

At the County Council budget-setting meeting on February 8th the administration voted through an unfortunately large 5% Council Tax increase despite many Conservatives sharing how the increase could be limited to 3.5%.

This is not ideal timing regarding the current cost of living challenges that the UK is starting to face as a result of Covid, however, we will seek to ensure that tax-payers money is wisely and effectively spent.

### Supporting our local farmers.

Farmers' held a protest outside County Hall at the Feb meeting after OCC mandated a vegan diet at all council-catered events. Richard Binning, a beef farmer from Steventon, said: "The message they are sending out is really dangerous - they are suggesting its ok to eat avocados from Brazil, instead of our wholesome British beef." The farmers' protest received national press coverage. The motion to impose the vegan diet has to be ratified by the OCC Cabinet at its meeting on March 15th .

I advised when the motion was raised that mandated change could be unwelcome and will continue to press OCC to seek change through education, persuasion & choice rather than mandate.

### BRITAIN'S FIRST ZERO EMISSION ZONE (ZEZ) HAS STARTED IN OXFORD

Britain's first ZEZ started on 28 February. Launching as a pilot, the streets included in the ZEZ are: New Road, Bonn Square, Queen Street; Cornmarket Street, New Inn Hall Street, Shoe Lane, Market Street, Ship Street and St Michael's Street. The ZEZ pilot is a precursor to the introduction of a larger ZEZ covering most of Oxford city centre next year (2023), subject to further public consultation. The ZEZ pilot will operate from 7am - 7pm, all year around. All petrol and diesel vehicles, including hybrids, will incur a daily charge unless eligible for a discount or exemption. However, zero emission vehicles, such as electric cars, can enter the pilot area free of charge. The charge will vary from £2 to £10 per day depending on the emission levels of the vehicle. Automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras have been installed to enforce the zone. The scheme has been criticised as being a tax-raising measure and not a true ZEZ, as all vehicles are allowed into the zone if they pay the tax, however, it will encourage car owners to switch to less polluting models as soon as financially viable.

### BID SUBMITTED TO DELIVER 159 ELECTRIC BUSES FOR THE OXFORD AREA

A new fleet of state-of-the-art electric buses could be coming to Oxford and its surrounding areas after a bid for government funding was submitted. OCC last month applied for £32.8 million from the Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) scheme. Along with £6m from the council and £43.7m from bus companies Go Ahead and Stagecoach, the scheme could deliver 159 electric buses and the infrastructure to charge them in a package worth £82.5m.

If successful, the electric buses would operate in an area stretching from Kidlington in the north to Sandford in the south, and from Cumnor in the west to Wheatley in the east. There are no proposals to support the south of the county but I would press for an extension of



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this scheme if it goes ahead to ensure we maintain rural bus service provision where it is being used and there is demand.

### HAVE YOUR SAY:

*Surveys and call for evidence*

*Consultations this month that are closing:*

(Reminder as these have been running since Jan):

1. Local transport and connectivity. The Local Transport and Connectivity Plan consultation formally opens on the 5th Jan. Closes 16th March.

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ltcp>

2. Special Educational needs and Disabilities (SEND)

More funding has been committed by The Government for this important area of provision and proposals have been drafted to make more high-quality SEND support available closer to home i.e. in-County, here in Oxfordshire. There are many children in mainstream provision who would benefit for additional support in their current setting and so it is important that parents are able to have their say. The consultation launches on the 10th Jan and will be live until the 10th March.

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/send-2022>

3. Use of libraries and heritage services:

Residents are invited to share their thoughts on their usage of Oxfordshire's library and heritage services in order to feed into a new strategy for usage up to 2027. The consultation will open on the 24th Jan. I am very supportive of an increase in digital inclusion support services being made available and this is something I will press for on behalf of all residents.

*Unauthorised encampments update: South and Vale.*

Nothing to report.