

APPLETON WITH EATON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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**Appleton with Eaton Parish Council (AWE PC) Meeting
held in the Village Hall
Monday 11th April 2022, 7:15pm**

Allison Leigh – Parish Clerk

Minutes

Present: Chairman Liz Gilkes (The Chairman), Teresa Bennett (TB), Stephen Day (SD), Andy Salmon (AS) and Sue Sternberg (SS), Clerk, Allison Leigh (the Clerk) and District Councillor Jerry Avery

22/1: Apologies for Absence: Vice Chairman Mary Carey (MC) and Councillors John Adams (JA)

22/2: Declarations of interest: None

22/3: Public questions and statements: No members of the public were in attendance.

22/4: Reports from District and County Councillors

Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)

J. Avery sent a report. See Attachment 1.

J. Avery will write a letter to Pullens to the effect that Appleton with Eaton would very much like to keep the 63 bus service and, if that can't happen, the council would like to explore the possibility of working with Stagecoach to divert the S6 bus through Appleton 2/3 times per day (including morning and evening).

The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write a similar letter.

If neither plan works, J. Avery will look into further funding for the Comet Bus Service.

Also if neither plan works, the Parish Council would like to explore having MP Layla Moran come to the village and walk from the village to the A420 bus.

Oxfordshire County Council

There was no report and the County Councillor was not in attendance.

22/5: Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 14th March 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

22/6: Matters arising from the previous meeting and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:

The Parish Council agreed to purchase postcards and chocolates for any Ukrainians being hosted in the parish. The Clerk will purchase these and provide the welcome note and gift, as needed.

The Clerk had put the planting of a tree from the Queen's Green Canopy on the Leisure and Recreation (L&R) Committee agenda. The L&R Committee is happy to have a tree planted. AL will look into ordering a tree along with a plaque.

22/7: Clerk's report:

War Memorial: The Council agreed that the War Memorial most likely wouldn't be considered for a grant, so asked the Clerk to proceed with the works.

Litter Pick: The Chairman reported that local residents are looking to schedule a litter pick, but are waiting for the VoWHDC to come back to them with a date when the litter pick materials are available.

22/8: Annual Parish Meeting: The council will schedule an Annual Parish Meeting for Tuesday the 24th May at 7:30pm. The council asked AL to purchase wine, crisps, and orange juice for the evening. The council asked AL to invite the village groups to either attend and present a report or send a report. AL will contact the Advertiser about a full page in the May edition announcing this.

22/9: Pre-School Working Group: TB and SS provided an update on the Pre-School Working Group. It was reported that the working group has considered other locations for the Pre-School, but the Village Hall is still considered the most viable location. A new drawing has been done which is more agreeable than the last drawing, but is still in a very draft stage.

The working group has further meetings scheduled and will present an update at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May.

22/10: Queen's Jubilee:

It was noted that a Zoom meeting to discuss plans for the Queen's Jubilee was held in March.

It was noted that a separate program will be delivered to every household in the village. AS suggested it could be an idea to have the programs numbered for a raffle. The Chairman will discuss this with Jane Cranston.

22/11: Village Map: A mock-up of the Village Map was on display at the recent History Group meeting. The next step from the Parish Council standpoint is for the Clerk to have a discussion with the History Group about the procedural logistics.

22/12: Bus Service: See agenda item 22/4.

22/13: NALC: What do you want NALC to be doing for your council?: The council felt it would be useful if NALC could provide free legal advice where appropriate. AL will respond to NALC to this effect.

22/14: Planning applications:

New applications

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>AWEPC Comments</u>
P22/V0719/HH and P22/V0713/LB	Thatched Tavern Eaton Road Appleton OX13 5JH	The proposal includes the demolition of the former tap room on the gable end of the west, rear kitchen extension and part of the detached garage including a two storeys side extension and the introduction of a new entrance and single storey rear kitchen extension.	AWEPC objects to this planning application on two fronts. Firstly, the council believes the size of the two storey extension to be overdevelopment. Secondly, the Parish Council is concerned with regards to highway safety. The house is on a very dangerous bend. The Parish Council is concerned as to the parking situation with cars needing to back out into traffic onto the road.
P22/V0629/DIS	19 Bablock Hythe Road Eaton	Discharge of conditions 4 - methodology statement & 5 - details of all new windows and doors on planning application P21/V1669/LB. I. The replacement of decayed windows from 1988 with new double-glazed windows to match the existing style. II. Installation of two new conservation rooflights. III. Replacement of the decayed south door, with a new door in an historically appropriate style. IV. Replacement of decayed	AWEPC has no comments on this planning application.

		<p>timber lintols, one dates from 1988 the other is a concealed non-decorative lintol V. Repointing works to open joints using lime putty mortar. Potential strengthening of stonework with heli-bars and one area of localised rebuilding in accordance with structural engineer's report. VI. Installation of a conservation perimeter drain to alleviate internal damp issues. VII. Removal of an existing concrete screed floor and replacement with a limecrete floor, underfloor heating and stone or quarry tiled floor finish. VIII. Replacement of failing cement flashings to the roofs with lead stepped flashings. IX. Replacement of the existing steel gutters and downpipes with new larger cast iron goods. X. Renewal of the heating, electrical and lighting system. XI. Removal/relocation of modern internal partitions.</p>	
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Planning Decisions

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Vale of White Horse District Council Response</u>
P21/V2974/LDE	Land East of Clare Cottage Park Lane Appleton	The Use of Existing Stable, Storage Buildings and Associated Paddocks (numbered 1-4) for Non-Commercial Recreational Equestrian Purposes, and the use of Paddocks (5 & 6) for the related non-commercial grazing and exercising of privately owned horses. Occupation of the site by no more than 24 horses at any one time. (Amended Site plan received 18 December 2021)	Approved

22/15: Finance:

- **Finance Report:**

Payments authorised

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Payment Method</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Castle Water	Water at the sportsfield	Direct Debit	27.62	16/3/2022
Lloyds	Credit Card: Ink, Zoom, filing supplies, monthly fee	Direct Debit	114.85	16/3/2022
SSE Southern Electric	Electricity for the sportsfield	Direct Debit	175.23	31/3/2022
Staff costs	Staff costs	Online payment	625.45	30/4/2022
Allison Leigh	Clerk expenses	Online payment	26.00	11/4/2022
Dark White Digital	Website Hosting and WordPress updates	Online payment	30.00	11/4/2022
Appleton Community Shop	Snacks for play group, paper, post its, envelopes	Online payment	18.96	11/4/2022
Tetbury Accounting Limited	Payroll accountant	Online payment	252.00	11/4/2022
Ady Podbery	Mowing of sportsfield 24/3/22	Online payment	100.80	11/4/2022
HMRC	Staff costs	Online payment	25.00	11/4/2022

Receipts since the last meeting

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Vale of White Horse District Council	1 st Half of the precept	14,500.00	6/4/2022

Bank Reconciliation

Bank balance as of 31/3/2022	41,439.44
Less Unpresented cheques	0.00
Plus unpresented receipts	0.00
Reconciled balance as of	41439.44

- **Budget Against Spend Financial Year 2021/2022:** The council reviewed the budget against spend. There were no comments. The Clerk mentioned that she would like to review the process of Reserves with MC.

21/16: Website and Advertiser: The council would like to have the following on the website:

- A link to the Vale of White Horse information on Ukraine

- An update on the HMS Appleton model AS is working on

The council would like the following in the May Advertiser:

- Notice informing residents that the 63 bus may not continue and letting residents know the Parish Council is lobbying to keep the bus and/or have other transport solutions. If residents wish to write their letters of support for the bus, they can contact the Clerk for details.
- Notice asking residents if they are hosting anyone from Ukraine, they can let the Clerk know to be put in touch with others hosting people from Ukraine.
- Save the Date for the Queen's Jubilee and letting residents know a programme will be delivered to their homes

22/17: Publications and correspondence: The council would like for the Clerk to use the template from the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils and write to the MP about the Parish Council's wish to have the option of virtual meetings.

22/18: Matters for report: There were no matters for report.

22/19: Date of the next meeting: The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as 9th May at 7:15pm in the Village Hall. Note: This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

The Chairman noted that if there is anyone else willing to Chair the council, she would be interested in stepping down.

The meeting closed at 9:07pm.

ATTACHMENT 1

Update for Thames Ward – April 2022

1. Council Budget 2022-23: I do strongly urge PCs to advertise this matter on their websites. All residents with homes in bands A to D, 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 those entitled to receive the relief.
2. Boundary Review: Since having 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, I have heard nothing further in relation to this issue.
3. The Oxford - Cambridge ARC proposal: I have nothing further to add to the statement I made in my last update of Mar 2022.
4. Thames Water Reservoir proposal: Oxfordshire County Council has called for revived plans to build a seven square kilometre reservoir between Abingdon, Steventon and East Hanney to be dropped.

A draft regional plan for securing future water supplies includes proposals for the south east strategic reservoir option (SESRO), which would cost up to £1.4 billion. Similar proposals were rejected by the government in 2011 following a public inquiry.

The council's official response to the Water Resources South East (WRSE) regional plan was discussed by the council's Cabinet at its meeting on 15 Mar 2022. It recommended that the SESRO should not be included as there is insufficient evidence that it is needed and other options would be better value. It was stated that it would make more sense to bring water in from less water-stressed areas and/or consider other options such as reduced leakages, better water management and recycling. Indeed, Thames Water's own data show that such measures could produce far more water than the reservoir would hold and also be far less damaging in terms of environmental impact.

The council's particular concerns about SESRO (South East Strategic Reservoir Option) are as follows:

- the carbon footprint
- significant construction effects over a long period
- impacts on the landscape
- impacts on the amenity of those living nearby
- impacts from traffic including congestion and air quality issues
- the need for active travel and public right of way connections
- the potential for the railway to be used to reduce impacts on roads
- how the Hanney Road/Steventon Road will be diverted.

- impacts on flood risk
- water quality including potential for large growth
- impacts on archaeology
- impacts on biodiversity
- the potential to replace existing solar farms on the land
- the high cost of the reservoir and associated pipeline transfers.

The proposed reservoir would be located in an area adjoining East Hanney and Steventon, and in very close proximity to Drayton, Marcham and Abingdon and therefore will impact on those residents.

The consultation ended on 14 March and Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet submitted their final response after their meeting held on 15 March 2022. Although Oxfordshire County Council called for the reservoir proposal to be scrapped this is by no means the end of the matter.

5. In 2015, when Nicola Blackwood was MP, she and residents from Appleton staged a protest by walking to a bus stop on the A420 to show that it was neither practical nor safe for residents to walk the mile to use the Stagecoach Route 66 service. Today, unfortunately we are faced with prospect of the bus service (number 63) being discontinued in May 2022. It has always been a vital link for many in Thames Ward and discontinuing it will affect the most disadvantaged. The council is not in a position to intervene because Pulhams coaches that runs the service has a private contract and receives funding directly from central government.

6. Community Infrastructure Levy: Now is the time for PCs to submit bids for CIL money.

