

## **Minutes – Annual Parish Meeting**

**24<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**1. Welcome:** Vice Chairman Mary Carey welcomed everyone and asked the Parish Council to introduce themselves. The Parish Councillor members in attendance were:

Vice Chairman, Mary Carey

Parish Councillors John Adams, Stephen Day, Andy Salmon and Susan Sternberg

Parish Clerk Allison Leigh

Apologies were received from Chairman Liz Gilkes and Parish Councillor Teresa Bennett

**2. Minutes:** The minutes of the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

At this point in the meeting, District Councillor Jerry Avery delivered the following:

He has been District Councillor since 2019 and has 8 parishes within Thames Ward of which AWE is largest.

He is happy to see so many of the parish in attendance and is dedicated to fight causes important to parish.

1. Bus service was a matter of contention. Thames Travel has stepped in and it will continue for the time being.

2. Jerry provides a written ward report each month

3. Some issues currently affecting the Ward are the following:

- Fyfield and Tubney: Lion Court tried to get planning permission for 660 houses this side of Kingston Bagpuize. Road infrastructure and air quality have not been addressed.
- There is an ongoing boundary issue with Fyfield and Tubney and Kingston Bagpuize
- Jerry reported he welcomed Ukrainian refugees and expressed thanks to those in the parish who for the welcome they have been given.

### **3 Chairman's Report:**

#### **Report to Annual Parish Meeting May 2022: Liz Gilkes**

Welcome to our first Annual Parish Meeting for 3 years.

We have just lived through a memorable two years with covid lockdowns, social distancing, learning to hold meetings over Zoom and now this year, hopefully, a return to near normality with the timely advent of vaccines.

Throughout this time, your Parish Council has continued with the day to day duties expected of it, with or without a pandemic!

We have continued to meet monthly and at the start of the lockdown in early 2020 we all had to learn how to operate over Zoom with varying degrees of success. It was a steep learning curve!

After an emergency meeting with leaders of the church and Community Shop we began to hold Saturday morning meetings to coordinate support for the community, with a number of local road coordinators and volunteers coming forward to help with food deliveries and general assistance for those having to self-isolate. It was good to see the community pulling together through such a difficult time.

In autumn 2021, Mark Richards stood down as Chair of the Parish Council, when he moved away from Appleton. Liz Gilkes stepped forward to take on the role at that time.

A new Village Hall Management Committee was formed in autumn 2019 and had the task of managing the hall during this challenging period with frequent changes of regulations and the need to keep the hall in good shape despite its lack of use. Our thanks to Colin McGuire, Chair and the committee for seeing this through and opening up the hall again, now that groups are allowed to function.

During this time, the Neighbourhood Plan neared completion and after a long consultation period with the Vale, eventually a Referendum was held and it became official. It now has legal status to be considered in relevant planning matters. Our thanks to Claire Salmon as Chair and to Susan Blomerus and then Allison Leigh who acted as neighbourhood plan secretaries and to all those residents who helped put the plan together. It was a long haul but well worth it!

In no particular order- new Parish Council acquisitions included a new mobile speed camera for use on village roads to deter speeding- thanks to Andy Salmon and John Adams who regularly climb up poles to move it to different locations to keep motorists in order and provide us with useful feedback on drivers passing through the village.

Also, new toddler equipment was installed in Jubilee Park to provide a better play experience for younger children –thanks to those on The Friends of Jubilee Park who helped raise the funds for it.

We were pleased to support the reopening of the Baby and Toddler Group earlier this year, as an important resource for new parents, grandparents and carers to get together on a Friday morning and for the youngest members of our community to meet up and learn to play.

The Parish Council arranged for repair to the war memorial stone steps, which had been badly damaged by a large vehicle driving over them; however this has since happened again and it has now been decided to relocate the steps to a better position away from the road edge so hopefully the new repair will last a lot longer!

Two years ago, we began the process of applying for a Definitive Map Modification Order to register a right of way from the north end of Green Lane bridle way across the camping field

to the weir, to reach the Thames Path on the other side of the river. This route would allow villagers access to the Thames Path,

This application is now at the Appeal stage with the Planning Inspectorate. It has been a protracted process and we are now awaiting a decision. Our thanks to all those who helped compile the evidence submitted for this process.

You will probably recall the series of planning applications starting back in 2017, that were made to build houses on the pub garden. The Parish Council considered the proposals to all involve over-development of the site with many negative consequences for the pub in the future. In early 2020, we welcomed the news that the Developer's Appeal had failed. Thanks are due to the Pub Working Group for their efforts over a prolonged period.

During 2020, the village Preschool closed. You will shortly be hearing a presentation from the Working Group formed earlier this year to look at reopening a Preschool in the village. A lot of preliminary work has been put in by members of the group and our thanks to Mina Leal-Birch, Joe Rudkin for their hard work in drafting the plans and to Felicity and Richard Dick who kindly commissioned work with an architect on draft plans. We are also grateful to Sue Sternberg and Teresa Bennett for joining the Preschool working group.

The Village Hall Management committee is now working in partnership with the group to produce a survey to ascertain the support for this new project.

With the war in Ukraine and the government scheme for hosting refugees in the UK, our Parish Clerk Allison Leigh suggested using the village hall as a local hub where hosts and their Ukrainian guests could meet up. The first coffee morning held last week was a great success and it is hoped these will continue- perhaps moving to other local village halls in rotation. Thank you to all those who helped at this event.

Early this year, we began to plan celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Jane Cranston kindly volunteered to coordinate the events with a small committee and we are now all looking forward to four days of village fun and festivities to celebrate such a momentous time in history! Thank you to Jane and all the helpers.

We expect to see Appleton, Eaton and Besselsleigh festooned with bunting that week with royal scarecrows and blooming front gardens ready to be enjoyed on our Jubilee trail and prizes to be won too!

We hope residents of the three villages and their families will join us for the 'Big Picnic' at South Lawn on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June to enjoy live jazz, Halter Skelter rides for all ages, a Cup and Saucer roundabout for smaller children and party entertainers 'Sharkey and George'. Huge thanks to the Dick family for lending their back garden so generously (and the offer of using the barn if wet.) It could be the biggest event to be held here since the wonderful Millennium Party to welcome in the year 2000. Make sure you **buy your tickets** soon.

As Parish Councillors, we rely on our Parish Clerk to keep us all in order and to manage all the intricacies of the budget and to keep abreast with all the rules we are governed by. Although we are the lowest tier of democracy in the country-you would be surprised at how

complicated the task of Parish Clerk now is! Allison has worked tirelessly and with great efficiency throughout the last two years-we couldn't do without you. Thank you from us all!

#### **4 Accounts:**

##### **Parish Council Accounts for 2021/2022 – Allison Leigh, Clerk:**

The clerk reported that the accounts for 2021/2022 have been completed and reviewed by the internal auditor who has deemed them in order. The council reviewed the Annual Governance and Accountability Report at the Annual Parish Council Meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The clerk will be posting the Notice of Public Rights. This will have the clerk's contact details should anyone wish to review the accounts within the period designated on the form.

The council opened with a balance of £ 48,530.24 and ended with a balance to carry over of £ 41,439.44. The council also has monies in its reserves.

The council agreed a total budget of £32,935 at its meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> January. The council agreed on a precept of £29,000.

Financial documentation for the council can be found on the website: [www.appleton-eatn.org](http://www.appleton-eatn.org).

#### **5 Reports from Organisations:**

##### **St Laurence Church**

- Phil Parker took up his post as Rector during lockdown. He is hoping to meet everyone now.
- Revered Parker is a Governor at the school
- There has been an increase in home groups and bible studies.
- The Church has a new audio-visual system which is linked to the Internet for streaming services into or from Church if required.
- The churchyard is in good order and Green Appleton has been working on a nature restoration project in one part of it.
- There will an attempt to ring a full peal on Saturday of the Jubilee Weekend.

##### **Appleton Voluntary Transport Scheme**

Ten years ago the AVTS was set up with the support of The Appleton Charity which provided the phone and the mobile phone contract to enable the transport scheme to begin, under the guidance of Community First Oxfordshire.

Volunteer drivers and patients initially came from Appleton only, but the outlying villages were soon included to cover in addition Eaton, Besselsleigh, Fyfield and Tubney.

The scheme was stopped during the Covid lockdowns. There were 24 requests in 2021. So far in 2022 up to May, nine have been recorded. Increasingly there are treatments taking

place at Community Hospitals, Clinics and Practices in the County, as well as at the main hospitals in Oxford City.

There are currently 12 drivers, but included in that are four couples, and as most drivers are either retired but involved with childcare, or are working from home, it can sometimes be challenging to find someone to fulfil a transport request. The scheme continues to need more volunteer drivers.

The holding of the scheme mobile phone telephone used to be shared between the Drivers, but now that Penny Moorley has relinquished her contact role, the task has been kindly taken on by Judi Gowing, who we are lucky to have also as the Spokesperson to liaise with Community First Oxfordshire. It is helpful for us to know and to meet up with many of the other schemes currently running throughout the county.

Judi can be reached through the contact number for the scheme as advertised – there is a recorded message from a villager to listen to if she is not immediately available to take the call. We still urge would-be passengers to give at least two days' notice of an appointment.

AVTS phone number: 07503 447884

### **Green Appleton**

Green Appleton was launched In October 2021. We held our first official event here on a very wet 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 and still under slight Covid restrictions. We had a mix of displays, ranging from the churchyard project to Wild Oxfordshire. Wild Oxfordshire has been incredibly generous with their support and encouragement.

There are various groups that come under the umbrella of Green Appleton, including the churchyard group. The churchyard project has been running since 2019.

Our focus is nature restoration with the community of Appleton with Eaton at its heart. We also want to look at wider issues around sustainability- recycling, re-using etc.

At the event on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, we asked all those that attended for their ideas for moving forward as a group and the sort of initiatives they would like to see.

The list of suggestions included: Leave the verges unmown, a repair café, save/protect the hedgerows, green energy, tree planting, recycling points, wild flower meadows, jumble sales, and revive the green windmill days.

Since then:

- We've had a Green Windmill Day (7<sup>th</sup> April 2022), which was very successful.
- We've planted 30 metres of hedging donated by Wild Oxfordshire (this has been recorded on the Queen's Canopy Website).
- We have now had a second plant survey of the Churchyard (towards the Manor Cottages) and we are very excited to learn that we now have 2 new plant species that weren't seen at the first survey. The careful and planned management of that part of the churchyard is already having an impact. We now also have a bug hotel in the churchyard, which was built by school children. Mowing of paths continues to

enable people to visit the graves in that area, whilst the rest is left unmown to encourage flora and fauna. Records are kept to monitor changes.

- The Oxford Treescape Project has provided a report identifying possible sites for hedging, tree planting, wild meadows etc.
- We've been offered some very generous funding from the Church to help us with the churchyard project.

What's coming:

- More Green Windmill days/more events.
- Litter picking days.
- More hedge /tree planting (once we identify where)
- Links to the school to encourage young people to get involved
- Regular surveys of the churchyard
- Links to other community schemes, sharing knowledge.
- Agree our constitution with a view to joining CAG Oxfordshire, which will help us with possible funding for the future but will also help with insurance and provide guidance going forward.

Most importantly, we would like everyone to get involved. – everyone has a stake in this. Our next meeting is on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 6.30 -8.00 at South Lawn. Details in the June Advertiser. Everyone welcome.

### **Besselsleigh Wood Group**

The past year has been one of steady activity but may be not of the widest diversity. A number of our objectives outlined in last year's report have been addressed but not all to our satisfaction. Our relationship to the wood's owners, the Vale of White Horse, has been clarified but I think to no one's satisfaction. The efforts of Richard Snow to try and resolve or at least improve this somewhat intractable problem need to be acknowledged. His experience and knowledge have been invaluable to the group but regrettably he has stepped away for the moment. The Vale does at least now acknowledge our existence and we will maintain our efforts to establish a liaison group.

The woods continue to receive a high footfall which, once the weather turned, has meant our footpaths in several areas have become swamps. This is a real problem and has needed to be addressed to ensure that waders are not the only suitable footwear needed to enjoy a stroll around the wood. Our current solution is to lay many lengths of timber across the paths where the mud is deepest. While this is not the most comfortable walking surface, it is cost effective and it lasts.

Our year started with the stunning success of Ryan Mitchell's illustrated Zoom lecture on the hugely diverse insect life to be found in the woods. The number of people who joined in was way in excess of our anticipation but the medium allowed for this. It is to be regretted that our contact with Ryan has been lost as he has moved out of the area.

The replacement of our problematic mechanical wheelbarrow with a new Hyundai mini dumper happened early in the year. While it does not have the capacity of its predecessor, it is reliable and is much easier to handle, so more people are able and willing to drive it. The amount of timber it has been used to extract from the wood is reflected in the volume of sales of firewood we have been able to make.

The staging of the fifth Woodfest in early September was another significant success. We attracted a moderate sized attendance and had a wholly wood-based set of activities, almost all of which allowed hands-on participation. We were fortunate with the weather, attracted a lot of school aged families but were not supported by other organisations with an interest in the woods or conservation in general, which was a little disappointing. Nevertheless, a useful amount of money was raised and those who attended went away with a positive view of what the group is trying to achieve.

I mentioned above about the volume of firewood we have processed this year. This is entirely due to the steady and reliable input on Monday mornings of a group of about six volunteers who, rain or shine have attended the woods and offered their energy, skills and enthusiasm – and have undertaken a range of activities other than preparing firewood. Namely, we have cleared and repaired paths, cleared around recent plantings, maintained the Woodfest site, completed the clearance of tree shelters and planted more trees. I am hugely grateful to the team who keep me company. Together, I believe we have managed to achieve a great deal for the betterment and accessibility of the woods for all.

The group is as always indebted to the many who undertake small tasks, such as bramble snipping or balsam pulling and those who make us aware of issues in the woods. Every bit

### **Appleton Tennis Club**

The Tennis Club is currently thriving, we are financially sound, Membership numbers are good (and stable), plenty of social play, teams in the Oxon Leagues, and we have a good Junior Coaching Programme with most coming from Appleton Primary.

We have a problem with Committee moving forward. Post AGM (in Mar), we no longer have a Chairman; Alan stood down at end of 5yr constitutional term and nobody willing to take up post. As pragmatic way forward, we have 4 of current Cttee filling post as Acting Chairman on 3-month rolling basis – this will get us through this year. Although, we have all other key posts covered – we are an ageing (and somewhat wearied) Cttee – and having trouble getting younger (and in that I include the 40-60 year old bracket!) Members to step up to the plate to see us through the next decade. If we can't recruit new Committee members in the near/medium term – will become an issue. It's not a unique problem I know – as all volunteer organisations across the Country are having same problems.

### **Appleton Cricket Club**

Appleton Cricket Club continues to flourish. Last season about eighteen matches were played at home and ten were played away. Two were rained off.

The ground was also used for Saturday matches by Cumnor Cricket Club. The income from these match hirings helps the Parish Council income and maintain the cricket club.

The 2021 season was moderately successful. Well over half of the members either live or originate from Appleton or Eaton. It is very encouraging that several youngsters living in Appleton joined the club last season. They played in most of the matches and the club benefited greatly from the supporters that they brought with them.

The square continues to be maintained by cricket club volunteers using equipment and materials supplied by the cricket club. During the peak growing season, the outfield is cut by cricket club volunteers using the tractor and gang mower in a fortnightly rota alternating with the Parish Council's contractor.

At the start of last season, the club organised a grant for the purchase of five collapsible tea tables and an awning outside the French doors.

The members are grateful for the support of the parish council in maintaining the outfield and for the use of such a good facility.

### **Friends of Jubilee Park**

The park continues to be well used by the children of the village. The Friends successfully operate on a rolling chair basis. During the year, Covid restrictions have eased and the park is now back to normal.

We have had a small amount of noise and teenager activity with some noise, bottles and litter.

Each month a different member is responsible for park checks and general oversight, a system that works well for all. The main activities during the year in terms of changes have been;

- Removal of adult training equipment
- Replacement of damaged Table Tennis Table with outdoor quality model
- Installation of 'toddler Tower' to provide something for younger children (age 2-4)

Major fundraising was required to allow these improvements to go ahead.

The new TTT cost nearly £1,000 more than the insurance value of the old one, funds raised primarily through a Zoom Quiz organised by the Friends.

The toddler tower fundraising was kick started with some individual donations of around £2,000 then a very generous donation from the village shop of £1,000.

The Friends then organised a very successful Dog show last August, which raised over £3,600. This was one of the first village events since lockdown restrictions eased and proved very popular with all who took part. It was however a major effort and the Auction lots, which produced a major part of the fundraising, was something we could not manage again for a few years. Many kind gifts of holiday homes from villages produced some vigorous and generous bidding. The toddler Tower was around £6,000 to install, so leaving the Friends with around £2,500 excess to the normal expectation of annual fundraising of £1,000.p.a.



In terms of normal activities the park requires maintenance days, which the Friends organise and we always seem to require more wood bark and sand to top up areas. The raised beds require remedial work to some of the worst affected rotten sleepers later this year which will hopefully give them another 3-4 years before we need to look at them again.

There are currently no fund raising activities planned and the park will be taking part on the forthcoming Jubilee celebrations.

### **Appleton Bell Ringers**

St Laurence's Church has a world-famous ring of 10 bells. In 1818, six bells were given by Robert Southby, the Squire of Appleton Manor, and these were augmented to eight bells in 1854 and ten bells in 1861. In 1977, the bells were rehung and the sixth was recast. Over 500 peals have been rung in the tower, including many record-length peals.

You may have noticed that the tower bells were strangely silent during the Covid-19 pandemic due to the various lockdowns we experienced. We have now re-started ringing for two Evensong services a month, but no longer have enough people to ring the bells for other services or even practise on a Friday evening. There are no current ringers actually living in the village and our ten dedicated ringers, who have village links, come from Botley, Cumnor, Dry Sandford, Grove and Rockley.

We urgently need some recruits to help keep Appleton bells ringing. Ringing is a hobby which can be undertaken by anyone over the age of 10 and once you are proficient you can ring anywhere in the UK. If you'd like to find out what we do and start learning to ring, please contact the tower captain, Michele Winter ([michele.winter@btinternet.com](mailto:michele.winter@btinternet.com) or 07802 421702) after the end of June.

It was suggested a shout out about bell ringers

### **Appleton Village Hall (Registered charity no 300111)**

This report covers the 12-month period to May 2022.

In July 2021 we held the Village Hall AGM in line with our Charity Commission requirements, held later than normal due to the Covid pandemic.

The Hall has faced challenging operating conditions with many groups not wanting to come back to meet in person until the last few months. Grants awarded from the Vale of White Horse have been key to keeping the books balanced, and we still are not operating at a level to cover our running costs.

Many groups who have returned wanted a warm hall (for activities like Yoga) but then had windows opened for ventilation. Energy costs have increased. Our energy costs are an issue, which we need to address both through increased hire charges and improved

insulation. Having replaced the majority of the windows the major piece of work outstanding is to insulate the Hall roof from within with Celotex panels or similar.

The hall also had improvements carried out by the committee to over paint the dark stain wood, to replace the curtains, including black out linings, and the floor has been professionally sanded; a task long overdue.

We have now removed all extra covid related requirements and are relying on hirers to be responsible for how they deal with the issue. This could change based on future government policy.

The hall continues to be used for regular classes for Yoga and Zumba. Other regular users include the Women's Institute, The Evergreens group, Gardening group, History Group, The Ukulele players and many children's birthday parties and family events.

The hall continues to lease out the 'doctors Surgery' to a village based Chiropractor which provides a useful regular rental income.

We now have a new website and utilise an online booking system (Hallmaster) which has improved the booking process and reduced the efforts of the bookings secretary.

During the year we organised two fund raising events – a Jazz Night in September and a very successful Quiz Night in April which raised a substantial amount for Ukrainian charities and a smaller amount for village hall funds.

The issue of a proposed redevelopment to enable a dedicated space for a pre school continues to be a major issue to deal with. Back in July 2021 we reported that proposals had been put forward, but no interest from the community had materialised. Since then, others have come forward and the issue is back on the table. This would be the first major redevelopment of the hall since the rebuild after the fire in 1987. As such we as a committee would recommend wider consultation and buy in to this work which will require expert assistance and individuals outside the current committee to drive the project through to completion.

### **History Group**

The group meets on the first Thursday of each month from September to May in the committee room of the Village Hall. Our meetings are 'mixed' in order to allow former residents who have moved away to remain in contact via Zoom and to make a contribution to our meetings. Membership has increased with the use of Zoom: we now have approximately 15 active members.

It is our aim to produce at least one publication a year. 'Awesome Histories' is a widely varied collection of papers on a range of topics of local interest which individual writers have thought worthy of offering for publication, and which our editor deemed suitable. This year Awesome Volume 9 was published just before Christmas.

The group has enjoyed a close relationship with Oxford University Continuing

Education Archaeology Department for some seven years. The Appleton Area Archaeological Research Project [AAARP] continues to go from strength to strength with their current dig site at Besselsleigh. We hosted a well attended public lecture in April when Dr Jane Harrison and team members presented an overview of the project to date. The opportunity to view the dig site was taken by over 50 local people.

At the start of the current year the idea of creating an historical information board for the village was resurrected and driven forward with a new energy. This project became our intended contribution to the village's Platinum Jubilee celebration. Timescales have almost inevitably slipped and funding the actual construction is still to be sorted but with the support of the Parish Council, the board could be in place within three months. A 'mock up' of the map and written information but minus the planned artwork will be on display in the Village Hall on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

After some nine years in the chair, I have stood down and been replaced by David Hine.

### **Annual Report from Appleton WI for 2021-22**

When searching for a phrase to begin this report, or a phrase for the year, 'a return to near normal' comes to mind.

Our near normal began in July 2021 when we celebrated our 95th anniversary with tea and entertainment back in the village hall. (during the pandemic we met in summer 2020 once, for a picnic and we kept in touch with our members by email or phone.)

Meeting face to face again was much enjoyed. We were entertained by Bob King, member of the magic circle, old Appletonian and brother to Jennie. Ann had iced a cake which was cut by the three nonagenarian members present. Penny took a group photo of everyone present as a record of the day. (Several members were shielding and felt unable to meet in an enclosed space).

In August we went back to the sports field but since then have met in the hall, keeping to the advice of social distancing and with doors open but it became too cold and uncomfortable. We didn't meet in January!

In February our speaker was from Diabetes UK, the first opportunity for her to spread awareness of this disease for two years. Afterwards we had tea and cake but as our speaker had emphasised it's all about portion control and moderation.

One of NFWI resolutions this year was to campaign against the increased use of violence against women. This was brought home to us with the tragic and untimely death of the daughter of one of our members and known to many from her childhood and schooldays in

the village. We were all conscious of the deep sorrow and bewilderment caused to her parents, children, sister and wider family.

Currently Appleton WI has 33 members and we continue to attract visitors to most of our meetings. We now meet in the afternoons (previously evenings) of the third Thursday in the month at 2 pm in the village hall.

### **Village Shop:**

Thanks to village and Claire and Angela during the pandemic. Thanks to Village Hall and volunteers. Turnover skyrocketed, but has since dropped.

The shop could do with more volunteers

The shop is a great asset which is there to support the community.

### **6. Update on proposed Pre-school project**

Joe Rudkin introduced the proposed pre-school project and noted the pre-school working group excited about it, but change is hard.

He showed current plans of the proposal

He reported that working group had been formed.

He reported the next step is for the working group along with the Village Hall to create a survey to the local community to see if the community supports the proposal. If support is there, then development can move forward to next steps

If the proposal proceeds, there are possibly other Village Hall works to take place at same time such as insulation of the roof.

He reported the pre-school working group has done a business plan. The pre-school would operate as a charity and parents would be able to use vouchers.

A question arose as to cost. Joe reported that a ballpark figure of £65k and £30k for the insulation of the roof. A question arose as to the number of teachers and cost. This hasn't been finalised as Ofsted rules are changing.

The group reported there will be outdoor space as well.

The working group is happy to meet with the current tenant who was in attendance.

### **7 Open Session**

- Tina Mould spoke about Electrical Vehicle Charging Points. She mentioned Village Hall car park could be used for this.

This will be on the Parish Council's June agenda.

- A letter was received from AH Cornish which was read:

“AH Cornish (Appleton) Ltd, has been asked by Jane Cranston for permission for a Jubilee Ramble organised by Rosie Page to walk up the Lock road, on Thursday 2 nd June, having crossed over the weir from the Northmoor side of the river. We thank Jane for acknowledging the road is Private and that there is no access to members of the public without the landowner’s permission. On this occasion we are happy to give permission.

As you are aware we have allowed permissive access down the Lock road for the last 11 years during the Barefoot campsites season. Due to the current dispute we are unwilling to allow access to anyone other than farm staff, Environment Agency staff, and those staying on the campsite. It will not be open to Appleton residents and other members of the general public as it has been for the past 11 years.

As you may also be aware we have suspended the Permit scheme this year, which has operated since 2016, and we apologise to the 40 plus households in Appleton who have purchased permits over those years. This regrettable action has been taken as a direct consequence of the Parish Council decision to apply for a DMMO (Definitive Map Modification Order) across Upper Lock Paddock and part of Lock Road, in which it challenges through it’s arguments the conduct/actions of both my father and grandfather, both of whom contributed greatly to Appleton Parish in their own way. The situation will be reviewed when the dispute has been resolved.

Thank you.”

- The issue of potholes was raised and it was noted that it was disappointing Councillor Juliette Ash was not in attendance
- A resident noted that Appleton is abundant with older organisations, but is in danger of a decline of community spirit as the village needs younger people to step up/need to be encouraged
- Everyone was encouraged to attend Jubilee festivities.
- The village thanked the Parish Council for its work.

DRAFT