

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, 14th November 2022, 7:15pm

Allison Leigh – Parish Clerk

Minutes

Councillors present: Liz Gilkes (Chairman), Mary Carey (Vice Chairman), John Adams (JA), Teresa Bennett (TB), Stephen Day (SD), Sue Sternberg (SS) and Andy Salmon (AS)

In attendance: Allison Leigh (the Clerk)

22/148: Apologies for Absence: District Councillor Jerry Avery (JA)

22/149: Declarations of interests: None

22/150: Public questions and statements: No members of the public were present.

22/151: Reports from District and County Councillors

Vale of White Horse District Council (VOWHDC)

See Attachment 1

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

There was no report.

- **Application for priority fund:** The Council resolved to make an application for the Councillor's Priority Fund for funding for the Pop-Up Café. The Council would like to ask for £100 per session for 6 sessions to cover refreshments, village hall rental, heating and possibly other elements such as craft items, décor, games, etc.

22/152: Minutes of the last meetings: The minutes of the Parish Council Parish Council Meeting of 10th October 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

22/153: Matters arising from the previous meetings and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda: The Council asked the Clerk to put the Village Hall's survey results on the website.

22/154: Clerk's report:

- The Council asked the Clerk to order the key box with light for the Pavilion.
- The Council asked why there is still a green film on top of the Pond. The Clerk will speak to the pond group.

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22/155: Cost of Living Crisis: The Clerk has not had any emails about joining a working group for a Pop-Up Café. The next Pop-Up Café is 1st December. The Clerk will meet with the craft group with a view to them providing a craft for the December Cafe.

22/156: Street Lighting:

- The Clerk reported there has been no response from OCC with regards to her query on street lighting.
- The Council resolved to write to the Leader of OCC and Chief Executive of OCC.

22/157: Footpaths

- The Clerk reported there has been no response from OCC with regards to her query on footpaths.
- The Council resolved to write to the Leader of OCC and Chief Executive of OCC.
- The Clerk will arrange a meeting with Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment with the Chairman and SD to discuss the state of the footpaths.

22/158: Speed surveys: The Council reported that OCC had carried out speed surveys throughout the village and based on the data, there was no indication the current speed limit needs to be lowered. The Clerk to write to a resident who wrote to the Council about speed by Appleton Common.

22/159: Asset of Community Value

- **The Plough Inn:** There is no official update at this time. The Interim Inn has been running every Friday since The Plough Inn closed and has been very popular.
- **Eight Bells:** The Council resolved to write to Sheehan Haulage and Plant Limited in response to their email of 17/10/22 indicating they would give the parish the opportunity to buy the pub should they ever be looking to sell it. The Vice Chairman will draft a letter for the Clerk to send.

22/160: War Memorial: TB reported she had cleared leaves and tidied around memorial.

22/161: Emergency Planning: The Clerk reported she had been on a training course where OCC indicated it would be useful for all Parish Councils to have an emergency plan so they have contact information in the case of an emergency. The Council resolved to create an emergency plan. The Clerk will draft and circulate a plan.

22/162: Planning applications:

- **Tacoma:** The Council asked the Clerk to write to enforcement and cc the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive. It as noted that in the letter from the Assistant Planning Officer on 20th October 2022, they stated that "If the building were built with primary habitable accommodation in it from scratch, then it would not have

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been built in accordance with P20/V1443/LDP, the use would not have been 'incidental' to the main dwelling, and planning permission would be required for the outbuilding and annexe accommodation therein as it would have fallen outside the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 1, Class E of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)." As this is not the case, the Council believes the development is unlawful.

Planning amendments

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>
P22/V2330/DIS	Former Parklands School Besselsleigh Abingdon	No comments

Planning Decisions

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Vale of White Horse District Council Response</u>
P22/V1921/HH	13 Badswell Lane Appleton OX13 5JN	Construction of storey side and rear extension arranged over 1 and 2 floors.	Permission granted

22/163: Finance:

- **2022/2023 Preliminary Budget:** The Council reviewed the draft budget. There were no comments at this time. The Clerk will put this on the December agenda and Councillors will review it prior to this time.
- **Finance Report:**

Payments authorised

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Payment Method</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Lloyds	Zoom, Google, Queen's condolence books, parking, monthly fee	Direct Debit	72.95	17/10/2022
BHIB	Insurance	Online payment	1146.72	19/10/2022

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Staff costs	Staff costs	Online payment	582.13	30/11/2022
Allison Leigh	Clerk expenses	Online payment	26.00	14/11/2022
Dark White Digital	Web hosting and WordPress updates – October	Online payment	30.00	14/11/2022
Ady Podbery	Mowing and strimming sportsfield	Online payment	191.86	14/11/2022
Appleton Community Shop	Refreshments for Pop Up Café	Online payment	13.39	14/11/2022
Constantin Express	Cleaning of Pavilion	Online payment	72.00	14/11/2022
HMRC	Staff costs – Quarter 3	Online payment	6.00	14/11/2022
Open Spaces Society	Membership renewal	Online payment	45.00	1/12/2022
BGG	Jubilee Park grass and hedge cutting	Online payment	372.00	11/14/2022
GFA Premier	Pavilion: fire extinguisher service, repairs and refilling	Online payment	283.49	11/4/2022

- **Receipts since the last meeting**

There have been no receipts since the last meeting.

- **Bank Reconciliation**

Opening balance as of 1/4/2022	41,439.44
Receipts	34252.28
Payments	17969.20
Cash book balance 31/10/2022	

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Bank balance as of 31/10/2022	57722.52
Unpresented cheques	0.00
unpresented receipts	0.00
Reconciled balance as of 31/10/2022	57722.52

- **Tennis Table bats for Jubilee Park:** It was reported that the bats purchased in May have gone/been damaged and need to be replaced with 15 bats. The Council resolved to purchase bats. AS will put the Council's initials on them.
- **Electricity provider for Pavilion:** The Clerk presented the cost comparison between the current electricity provider and Clear Electricity Solutions. Clear Electricity Solutions' quote was substantially less and the Council resolved to proceed with them.

21/164: Website and Advertiser: The PC would like to put the following in December's Advertiser:

- Footpath to the A420 working group
- Cost of Living Crisis
- Pop Up Café
- Tree planting at the sportsfield
- Dog Fouling
- Christmas message

22/165: Publications and correspondence:

- It was noted that the Council should keep careful track of the Local Plan 2040, the VoWHDC's Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change and the Green Belt.
- The Council reviewed the updates from Appleton Village Hall.
- It was noted that a resident had asked for a tree to be planted in Town Furlong. The Council noted there have been difficulties in obtaining permission from Sovereign Housing, but suggested that she might plant one there herself.
- The Council asked the Clerk to obtain a Queen's Green Canopy plaque for the tree planted at the sportsfield.

22/166: Resolution to exclude the public for agenda item 22/167: The Council resolved to exclude the public from agenda item 22/167.

22/167: Staff Salary: The Council resolved to proceed with the cost-of-living salary scale for the Clerk for 2022/2023 together with the amount backdated from April.

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22/168: Matters for report:

- AS noted that parts of Witney now have a speed limit of 20mph.
- The Clerk reported she is on holiday from 19/11/22 returning to work on 11/28/22 and will have no access to email. She will have an away message on with contact details for the Chairman for urgent queries.

22/169: Date of the next meeting: The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as the 12th December 2022 at 7:15pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed 8:35pm

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ATTACHMENT 1

Update - November 2022

1. To date I have received nothing further wrt the bid by Lioncourt to build 660 houses on land east of Kingston Bagpuize and within the parish of Fyfield & Tubney. However, since my last update I have been informed by the Chair of the Planning Committee that, at the very earliest, it will not come before his committee until January 2023. I should add that I have already spoken to Fyfield & Tubney PC in relation to when the bid is likely to be considered and members of that council and I stand ready to express our very real concerns wrt to the bid as it stands.

2. As you are aware, the government has made a dramatic U-turn in relation to fracking. We as your representatives in the Vale of the White Horse are deeply relieved that it is no longer being considered as an option because the consequences for residents and the environment would have been entirely negative. As you are only too well-aware, the carrying out of fracking would result in the following detrimental impacts:-

- a) The disruptive effect of heavy vehicle movements on our roads.
- b) The seismic risks caused by fracking especially considering the uncertainty about steps to predict and reduce its impact.
- c) The potential impact upon our rivers and protected streams.
- d) The hugely detrimental potential effect on our Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

3. Thames Water: The company is still keen to press for permission to build a 7-square kilometre reservoir south of Abingdon. Oxfordshire County Council will, of course, continue to oppose such a bid. However, wrt a much smaller specific issue which is a more immediate threat to the environment, Thames Water is seeking to get permission to exploit the aquifer (water-bearing rock layer) feeding Letcombe Brook near Wantage. If it is allowed to do that the brook will effectively dry up and inevitably the wildlife will suffer. The chalk stream runs through Letcombe Valley which is a 7.5-hectare nature reserve south of Letcombe Regis managed by the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust. Clearly, we are very much opposed to the proposal to exploit Letcombe Vally as a water resource.

Best Regards,

Jerry

Jerry Avery MBE

District Councillor - Thames Ward - VoWHDC