

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, 12th December 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), District Councillor Jerry Avery (J. Avery) and County Councillor Juliette Ash (via Teams)

In attendance: Allison Leigh (the Clerk)

22/170: Apologies for Absence: None

22/171: Declarations of interest: None

22/172: Public questions and statements: A member of the Appleton Community Pre-School Group (ACPG) was in attendance. They noted they are an incorporated company and in the process of forming a charity. ACPG has asked for a meeting with Village Hall Trustees. Tessa Hall from ACRE has agreed to mediate if a meeting takes place. The Village Hall Trustees have indicated they are moving towards becoming an incorporated body which is a long process.

The ACPG feels a meeting to review the draft plans is a necessary next step. The Village Hall Trustees will be meeting in January and the ACPG is hopeful a meeting between themselves and the Village Hall Trustees can take place after this meeting.

The ACPG made some notes with regards to the Village Hall's constitution for AWEPC and will send these to the Clerk for circulation to Councillors.

ACPG is asking if the AWEPC can assist them to meet with the Village Hall Trustees. The ACPG also asked AWEPC to recognise the points raised in their notes with regards to the constitution. The ACPG encourages groups to have representatives on Village Hall Committee.

ACPG would like to reassure AWEPC that it has looked into other potential sites and they have been proven to not be viable.

J. Ash has offered to help to facilitate a meeting between the ACPG and the Village Hall Trustees. The ACPG public will send information for J. Ash to review.

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22/173: Reports from District and County Councillors

Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)

J. Avery sent a report. See Attachment 1

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

J. Ash sent a report. See Attachment 2.

J. Ash reported she will be attending the meeting on the Botley Solar Farm in Cumnor on 13/12/22.

- **Application for priority fund:** J. Ash informed AWEPC that she has approved AWEPC's application for the Councillor's Priority Fund for the Pop-Up Café.

22/174: Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Parish Council Meeting of 14th November 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

22/175: Matters arising from the previous meetings and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:

- The Clerk is working to set up a meeting with the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment to discuss the state of the footpaths.
- The Clerk will revise the letter regarding the delay in communication from OCC and send.

22/176: Clerk's report: The Council acknowledged the Clerk's Report.

22/177: Finance:

- **2023/2024 Budget:** The Council agreed an expenditure budget for 2023/2024 of £36,310. Based on the expenditure and income budget for 2023/2024, the Council agreed a precept of £30,500.
- **Donation requests:**
 - The Council resolved to donate £100 to Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice.
- **Finance Report:**

Payments authorised

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Payment Method</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
Lloyds	Flowers for Ukrainian family, Zoom (last payments), Google, HP, Monthly fee	Direct Debit	73.97	16/11/2022

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Staff costs	Staff costs	Online payment	739.73	31/12/2022
Staff costs	Staff costs	Online payment	157.61	12/12/2022
Appleton Parochial Church Council	Advertiser printing	Online payment	285.00	12/12/2022
Allison Leigh	Clerk expenses	Online payment	26.00	12/12/2022
Chagos Consulting	Parish Online training session	Online payment	15.00	12/12/2022
Dark White Digital	Website hosting and WordPress updates	Online payment	30.00	12/12/2022
Ady Podbery	Mowing senior football pitch 9/11/22	Online payment	60.00	12/12/2022

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	34,252.28
Payments	19,665.04
Cash book balance 30/11/2022	56,026.68
Bank balance as of 30/11/2022	56,026.68
Unpresented cheques	0.00
unpresented receipts	0.00
Reconciled balance as of 30/11/2022	56,026.68

22/178: Botley West Solar Farm: AWEPC discussed the Botley West Solar Farm consultation. The Clerk will work with the Chairman to fill in the form.

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22/179: Bus Shelter: The Clerk will ask the resident who enquired as to a shelter for more information.

22/180: King's Coronation:

- The Dick family is happy for South Lawn to be used as a venue for any planned coronation celebrations.
- The Clerk will email the Dicks regarding the organisation of events.

J. Avery left the meeting at this stage.

22/181: Cost of Living Crisis: The Clerk reported the Pop-Up Cafes have been well-attended. The Clerk will work to sort a date for the next one asap so it can be printed in the January Advertiser.

20/182: 20mph Campaign: The Clerk noted she has received toolkit from OCC with regards to the 20mph campaign. It was noted that the possibility of a 20mph zone in Appleton will not be reviewed by OCC until Easter 2024 – Easter 2025. For this reason, the Council does not wish to put up posters about a 20mph zone at this time.

22/183: Leisure and Recreation Committee:

- **Sleepers:** The Council resolved to replace sleepers in Jubilee Park up to a cost of £1000 for 22/2023, if needed. There is a budget item for these in 2023/2024.
- **Play bark:** The Council resolved to purchase bark for Jubilee Park up to a cost of £300 in 2022/2023, if needed. There is a budget item for these in 2023/2024.

22/184: Electric Vehicle Charging: The Council discussed the issue of Electric Vehicle Charging. The Council resolved not to proceed at this time and to review in the future. It was noted that AWEPC expresses interest to OCC so is on their list for any updates.

22/185: Publications and correspondence:

- The Clerk noted an email had been received from AH Cornish asking whether the Council would respond to the decision of the Planning Inspectorate with regards to the Definitive Map Modification Order for the Addition of Footpath at Northmoor Lock. The Council advised the Clerk it will not take the matter further and asked the Clerk to respond to this effect as well as ask if AH Cornish might be willing to open the Lock Road over the Christmas period.
- The Council discussed the recent emails regarding the proposed pre-school. The Council resolved to wait and see if a meeting takes place in January. If not, AWEPC will revisit the issue.

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22/186: Planning applications:

There were no new planning applications.

Planning Decisions

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>VoWHDC Decision</u>
P22/V1184/HH and P22/V1186/LB	22 Badswell Lane Appleton OX13 5JN	Single-storey rear linked extension; internal alterations including to existing and proposed new openings and insertion of stud walls; external alterations including insertion of rooflights and dormer window. (As amended by plans received 1st August 2022). (Additional Forestry information received 14th October 2022.)	Planning permission granted.

Planning Withdrawals

<u>Application number</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Details</u>
P22/V2041/HH	96 Netherton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5LA	Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension to detached dwelling (previously consented under P16/V0074/HH & P17/V0144/PDH)

21/187: Website and Advertiser: In addition to the items already circulated for the January Advertiser, the Council asked for the following to be put in the edition:

- The date for the next Pop-Up Cafe
- A message making residents aware they can subscribe to the mailing list on the website. Also asking village organisations to review their entries on the website and send any amendments to the Clerk.

22/188: Matters for report:

- The Council noted that while they would like J. Ash to attend in person, they would accept having her attend via Teams rather than not attend.
- LG reported she is working on adding the Hornbeam tree at the Sportsfield to the Queen's Green Canopy map.

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22/189: Date of the next meeting: The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as the 9th January 2023 at 7:15pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 20:50.

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Attachment 1 (unedited)

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 Valley as a water resource.

The Solar Farm Proposal - Botley

On the plus side, the creation of the solar farm as envisaged would provide clean power to some 300,000 homes. On the other hand, the CPRE is very rightly

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concerned about the negative impact that such a large installation will have on the green belt and on fertile land. Wrt the effect on Thames Ward, the southern part of the farm as proposed directly affects an area of land just to the southeast of Farmoor Reservoir and hence the ward is not directly affected. However, as always with any large construction project like this I foresee that there will inevitably be an increase in road traffic and that will affect surrounding areas.

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Attachment 2 (unedited)

County Councillor Juliette Ash REPORT- All parishes- DEC

OCC COUNCIL BUDGET

The Budget process is now underway and it is likely the administration will impose a 5% increase in Council Tax on residents. Residents can have their say on the council's budget proposals between 18 November and 19 December by visiting [oxfordshire.gov.uk](https://oxfordshire.gov.uk/budgetconsultation) and completing the online survey.

ROAD SAFETY- 20's PLENTY

Thank you all those that have submitted 20's plenty requests. OCC are working through those that they have in alphabetical order. There is still time to submit a request for your village but the next tranche of projects accepted will commence in 2024. For those still to request an area, it is worth noting that the most effective use of the speed limit will be through and near high pedestrian footfall areas e.g. adjacent to shops and schools and where there are cyclists that don't have a separate cycle path.

The scheme is free to town and parish councils, with the County Council funding sign-only changes for areas wishing to be part of the changes as long as locations meet the agreed criteria for 20mph restrictions. Town and parish councils will be expected to fund any traffic calming measures or speed-activated signs that may be required to support the new limit in their areas.

There is a clear link between the speed of traffic and the likelihood of accidents leading to deaths or serious injuries. You are seven times more likely to survive if you are hit by a car driving at 20mph than if you are hit at 30mph but the new mandatory speed limiters in all new vehicles that came in in July '22 means that road users may become frustrated and ignore the limits if they are added to sections of road that are deemed to be transit roads. There is also some evidence that questions how effective the schemes are in reducing vehicle speeds in some areas. (*See research belowⁱ).

I am fully supportive of all measures that promote road user and pedestrian safety and am supporting all schemes that are requested whilst advising that the specific sections are drawn up in consultation with the Highways team to ensure that they are accepted.

OCC WORKING TO RETAIN BUS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF OXFORD

Following Oxford Bus Company's announcement of the withdrawal of bus services to parts of the city, recognising that this will adversely affect many local residents, OCC has launched a tender process for replacement services. Earlier in the year, the council set aside up to £2.5 million over the next two years to protect previously commercial services at risk of withdrawal as a result of lower passenger

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numbers and spiralling bus industry costs. There is concern that our rural communities are not set to get their fair share of these funds & support.

BUS TIMETABLE CHANGES

Where bus timetables have been amended and rationalised, there is not currently a joined-up approach to timetables. Please share back any obvious areas of overlap as I am planning to confirm my support for our rural services but encourage different providers to liaise with each other in order to spread out arrival and departure times more evenly.

CONCERN RE: COSTS OF LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOODS IN OXFORD

OCC spent has spent £73,000 repairing vandalised plastic bollards used in Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes at Oxford's Divinity Road, St Clement's and St Mary's areas. The total may have risen since that figure was released. Steel bollards are now to be installed at a cost of £100,000 after the "unprecedented levels of vandalism". There is concern that large sums of money are being poured into this divisive scheme that might benefit a small number of residents in Oxford, while budgets are being stretched for traffic safety schemes in rural areas such as ours.

OCC TO SPEND £6.5M ON TRAFFIC FILTERS SPLITTING OXFORD INTO FOUR SECTORS

The administration intends to create four 'Sectors' within the city: North, South, West and East. When the traffic filters are operating, for cars without a permit, movement within each sector is unrestricted, but direct movement between sectors is not possible and requires use of the ring road. Affected motorists will face much longer journey times and distances. The intention is to force a change in behaviour. At the Cabinet meeting on 29th November, a record number of individuals and organisations spoke passionately for and against the highly controversial proposal. The meeting was attended by police armed with tasers and security guards. The chamber had to be cleared at one point. The proposal was approved by Cabinet.

OCC LAUNCHES A TEN-YEAR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES

The principles underpinning a ten-year plan to manage and rationalise the wide variety of buildings owned or managed by OCC was approved by the Cabinet on 15th November. OCC owns 905 sites around the county, including 13 offices. As part of the proposed review, officers would be asked to develop plans to rationalise this "operational estate" of offices, including options and business cases for Oxford city centre office accommodation. There is cross-party agreement that property is a long-

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term issue and cross-party consensus is essential. To this end, a cross-party Cabinet advisory group is to be formed to advise on the issue.

Health visiting and school and college nursing services. Parents of young people, and healthcare professionals, are being asked for their views on health visiting and school and college nursing services in Oxfordshire. A new survey looks to find out what parents think of the services they have used, their thoughts on what is the most important support and

Unauthorised encampments update: South and Vale.

Nothing to report.

For consultations see:

[Let's Talk Oxfordshire](#)

Useful County Council links:

Customer services: 0345310111

To fix potholes: www.fixmystreet.co.uk

For highway issues: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/contactus/contact-highways-team

For emergency highway issues: 01223 849731

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

For flooding support: www.oxfordshiretoolkit.com/emergency/report-flood

Cllr Juliette Ash

7/12/22

Please refer to PC for additional verbal reporting on your top three priorities by Parish

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***NEW EVIDENCE ABOUT LACK OF EFFECTIVENESS OF 20MPH LIMITS**

A new study from Queen's University Belfast, Edinburgh University, and the University of Cambridge has found that reducing speed limits from 30mph to 20mph has had 'little impact' on road safety. The data was collected over 76 streets in the centre of Belfast prior to the introduction of the 20mph roll-out, and then one and three years after they were installed. That information was then compared with data collected from nearby streets where the 20mph are not in place. Further analysis of the data revealed that when compared with areas that had retained their previous speed limits, the new 20mph limits led to minimal change in short or long-term outcomes for road traffic collisions, casualties, or speeding. The data also showed that the average traffic speed fell by only 0.2mph after the first year. This increased slightly after year three to 0.8mph. An RAC road

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safety spokesman said: "Our research shows drivers are less likely to comply with a lower limit if they don't believe it's appropriate for the type of road."