

Appleton with Eaton Parish Council (AWE PC) Parish Council Meeting
held in the Village Hall
Monday 9th September 2024 7:15pm

Allison Leigh – Parish Clerk

Minutes

Councillors present: Stephen Day (Chairman), Councillors Liz Gilkes (LG), Sue Sternberg (SS) and Valentina Brito-Marquez (VBM)

In attendance: Allison Leigh (the Clerk), District Councillor Mark Coleman

24/81: Apologies for Absence: Councillor Mary Carey (MC), John Adams (JA) Chris Mitty (CM). CM was not in attendance, but did not send apologies.

24/82: Declarations of interest: None.

The Chairman moved item 24/84 to this stage in the meeting.

24/84: Reports from District and County Councillors

Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)

See Attachment 2.

The District Councillor left the meeting after his report.

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)

The County Councillor was not in attendance but sent a report. See Attachment 1.

24/83: Public questions and statements: A member of the public was in attendance to note their interest in understanding a vision for the remnant of the Great Green.

The resident also wanted to learn about the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Friends of Jubilee Park. The Clerk advised that this ToR would be there to assist the Council in meeting its obligations. The Council noted it is very happy with the work the Friends of Jubilee Park does but noted it would be helpful to have good lines of communication.

The Chairman moved item 24/90 to this stage in the meeting.

24/90: Groundworks: The Council discussed the maintenance of the remnant of the Great Green and would like to clear this and open it up more. The Council resolved to put a piece in the Advertiser seeking anyone interested in assisting in a working party to do some clearance as well as resolved to contact the scouts enquiring about their assistance.

The Council asked the Clerk to inform a nearby resident of these resolutions.

24/85: Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8th July 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

24/86: Clerk's report: The Council considered the Clerk's Report.

24/87: Finance:

a. Finance Report:

Payments authorised

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Total</u>
30/09/2024	Confidential		692.77
02/07/2024	Bankers box for filing	Sounds Wholesale Ltd	19.87
02/07/2024	Paper	Appleton Community Shop	5.15
02/07/2024	Microsoft subscription	Microsoft	1.99
02/07/2024	Council phone	Lebara	6.95
02/07/2024	Google subscription	Google	1.59
02/07/2024	Mailchimp subscription	Mailchimp	12.39
02/07/2024	Lloyds fee	Lloyds	3.00
19/07/2024	ICO Fee	Information Commissioners Office	35.00
09/09/2024	Defibrillator session	South Central Ambulance Charity	150.00
09/09/2024	Defibrillator session	South Central Ambulance Charity	170.00
01/08/2024	Scribe accounts subscription	Starboard Systems	42.00
16/08/2024	Microsoft subscription	Microsoft	1.99
16/08/2024	Adult football nets for sportsfield	Newitts.com	209.85
01/08/2024	Council phone	Lebara	6.95
16/08/2024	Google subscription	Google	1.59
01/08/2024	Mailchimp subscription	Mailchimp	12.16
16/08/2024	Lloyds fee	Lloyds	3.00
09/09/2024	Clerk expenses	Allison Leigh	26.00
09/09/2024	Mowing grass at sportsfield	Ady Podbery	300.00
09/09/2024	Grass cutting at Jubilee Park	BGG	168.00
09/09/2024	Audit fees	Moore	252.00
09/09/2024	Website hosting and WordPress Updates	Dark White Digital	30.00
09/09/2024	Scribe set up fee	Starboard Systems	178.80
09/09/2024	Speed sign	Elan City	2,747.99
09/09/2024	Payroll administration	Tetbury Accounting	276.00
28/08/2024	Electricity at the sportsfield	EDF	160.62
12/09/2024	Website hosting and WordPress Updates	Dark White Digital	30.00
09/09/2024	Pavilion cleaning	Constantin Express Cleaning Ltd	96.00
09/09/2024	Grass cutting at Jubilee Park	BGG	84.00
09/09/2024	Mowing grass at sportsfield	Ady Podbery	392.40
09/09/2024	Weed treatment of sportsfield	Ady Podbery	336.00
09/09/2024	Paper and refreshments for defib training	Appleton Community Shop	5.15
09/09/2024	Paper and refreshments for defib training	Appleton Community Shop	1.50
			6,460.71

Receipts

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Supplier</u>	<u>Total</u>
01/07/2024	Hire of pavilion and sportsfield	Private hire	60.00
30/07/2024	Team hire of sportsfield	Private hire	200.00
30/07/2024	Team hire of sportsfield	Private hire	50.00
02/08/2024	Hire of pavilion and sportsfield	Private hire	90.00
29/08/2024	Hire of pavilion and sportsfield	Private hire	250.00

- b. Transfer to Unity Instant Access Account:** The Council resolved to transfer £65,000 from the Current Account to the Unity Instant Access Account.
- c. External Audit 2023/2024:** The Council considered the report from the External Auditor. There were no actions required.
- d. Cricket Club fees 24/25:** The Council agreed fees of £850 for Appleton Cricket Club's use of the Pavilion and Sportsfield for the 2024 season.
- e. Training Courses:** The Council resolved to agree for the Clerk to attend the Society of Local Clerks National Conference 2024.
- f. 2025/2026 Budget items:** The Council would like to consider the following item for the 25/26 budget:
 - a. £300 for the remnant of the Great Green
- g. Direct Debits:** The Council agreed the following direct debits:
 - a. Scribe
 - b. EDF
 - c. Lloyds card
- h. Insurance renewal:** The Council resolved to proceed with Clear Councils for the insurance provider.
- i. Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) subscription:** The Council resolved to support the increase of subscription for OALC for 2025/2026.
- j. EDF:** The Council considered the quote from EDF for the electricity at the Sportsfield. The Clerk noted she had received a higher quote from SSE. The Council asked the Clerk to contact a resident who has electricity knowledge. If the resident does not have a less expensive option, the Council resolved to proceed with EDF.
- k. Donation Requests:**
 - a. Oxfordshire Motor Project: The Council asked the Clerk to investigate whether Oxfordshire Motor Project is assisting local residents. If so, the Council resolved to donate £100.
 - b. My Vision Oxfordshire: The Council resolved to donate £60 to My Vision Oxfordshire.
- l. Recurring payments:** The Council agreed the following recurring payments for 2024/2025:
 - a. Dark White Digital – web hosting and WordPress updates (monthly) - £30
 - b. Clerk salary (monthly)
 - c. Lebara – Council phone (monthly) - £6.95
 - d. Mailchimp – shout outs (monthly) – approximately £13
 - e. External Auditor (annual) – approximately £250
 - f. Information Commissioner (annual) - £35
 - g. Annual Subscriptions:
 - i. Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) – approximately £185
 - ii. Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) – approximately £95

24/88: Planning:

Planning applications: The Council considered the following planning applications:

[P24/V1825/DIS](#)

Otters Pool Millway Lane Appleton

Discharge of condition 4(Landscaping Scheme) on application P23/V1952/HH. (Demolition of existing single storey garage. Erection of two storey three bay garage with home office above).

AWEPC has no comments on this planning application.

[P24/V1787/LDP](#)

Oakleigh Millway Lane Appleton

Single storey side extension and x2 single storey rear extensions.

AWEPC has no comments on this planning application.

[P24/V1491/HH](#)

74 Eaton Road, Appleton

Erection of a 2.4 x 4.8 meter wood panelled shed on the front driveway

This application arrived in between meetings. The Council had no comments.

[P24/V1133/N4B](#) and [24/1134/N4B](#)

Cheers Farm, Netherton Road, Appleton

Amendment: Additional parking and tracking plan

This application arrived in between meetings. The Council had no comments.

[P24/V1719/S73](#)

Former Hills Nurseries, Netherton Road, Appleton OX13 5QN

Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) on application P22/V1570/FUL - internal and external alterations to Plot 2; addition of air source heat pumps, subterranean floor and reduced glazing (Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on application P16/V1986/FUL - to improve the design's ecological and social sustainability. Proposed conversion and redevelopment to provide 2 no. five bed dwellings with associated ancillary structure and provision of separate access arrangements.)

AWEPC has no comments on this planning application.

Planning Decisions: The Council noted the following planning decisions:

[P24/V1291/HH](#)

30 Eaton Road, Appleton, OX13 5JH

Erection of a single storey front extension

Permission granted

[P24/V1264/HH](#)

94 Netherton Road, Appleton OX13 5LA

Two storey side and rear extension

Permission granted

Other: The Council noted the following:

Certificate of Lawful Development

[P24/V1635/LDP](#)

Oakleigh, Millway Lane, Appleton OX13 5LB

No comments are called for.

24/89: Traffic: The Council resolved to make a request via Oxfordshire County Council's "Ask for Traffic Changes" site with regards to the following:

- Crossing on Netherton Road
- Moving of 30mph signs on Oaksmere and/or having signs warning of double bends

It was noted that there is a hedge on Oaksmere which needs cutting to assist with visibility. The Chairman will contact the resident.

24/91: Oxfordshire Councils Charter: The Council resolved to adopt the Oxfordshire Councils Charter

24/92: Working Groups: *Friends of Jubilee Park*

1. Minutes: The Council considered the minutes.
2. Terms of Reference: The Council agreed the Terms of Reference for the Friends of Jubilee Park with minor edits.
3. Membership: The Council agreed the membership of the Friends of Jubilee Park.

a. *Pavilion Working Group (PWG)*

1. Terms of Reference: The Council agreed the Terms of Reference for the PWG with minor edits.
2. Membership: The Council agreed the membership of the PWG.
3. Update: The Clerk reported that the PWG will be meeting on 11/9/24.

b. *Flood Working Group*

1. Terms of Reference: The Council agreed the Terms of Reference for the Flood Group with minor edits.
2. Membership: The members of the Flood Working Group were agreed.
3. Update: The Clerk will look to set up a meeting of the Flood Group.

c. *Leisure and Recreation Working Group*

1. Terms of Reference: This was deferred to the October agenda.
2. Membership: This was deferred to the October agenda.
3. Update: The Clerk reported that she is working to set up the next meeting.

24/93: Meeting with MP: The Council resolved to contact the MP find out when surgeries are.

24/94: Publication and Correspondence: The Council considered the correspondence.

- The Council would like to thank Richard Dick for his work on Green Lane.
- The Council asked the Clerk to contact SSEN regarding the branch hanging on a cable on Eaton Road.

24/95: Website and Advertiser: The Council would like to put the following in the October Advertiser:

- Great Green: To ask for anyone interested assisting with clearance.
- Walking in the dark – To remind residents to wear high vis when walking as the dark nights are becoming earlier.

24/96: Matters for report:

To have an update on the Baby and Toddler Group: LG went to the last meeting in July. She reported that a rota has been done for the term and it is well attended.

24/97: Date of the next meeting: The date of the next meeting will be Monday the 14th October 2024 at 7:15pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 20:34.

Attachment 1: Vale District Council – Member for Thames Ward Report to the Appleton with Eaton Parish Council – 9 September 2024

Joint Local Plan

The Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils have been working on a Joint Local Plan (JLP), to replace their existing, separate Local Plans; Local Plans require updating every five years. The JLP will be fundamental to achieving many of the councils' strategic ambitions and ensuring that any development is appropriately planned. The councils anticipate submitting the JLP for approval in December 2024, four months earlier than previously thought.

In October 2024, the councils intend to publish the proposed JLP, along with the relevant supporting documents and the evidence the plan is based on. The public will have a 6-week opportunity to comment on whether they think the plan meets all the relevant requirements.

Local Authority Boundary Commission

As previously reported, the Local Authority Boundary Commission is reviewing the wards within the Vale DC to rebalance the number of electorates in each. Public consultation on their proposals closes on 16 September 2024. On 3 September, the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee met to agree a Council position. The proposal remains that Thames Ward would be absorbed into other wards as follows:

- Appleton with Eaton and Besselsleigh to join Cumnor Ward
- Buckland, Fyfield & Tubney, Hinton Waldrist, Littleworth, Longworth and Pusey to join Kingston Bagpuize Ward

Cumnor will remain a two-member ward and Kingston Bagpuize will gain an additional member to also become a two-member ward. Their final proposal should be published in November. Changes to the warding will not come into force until the local elections in 2027.

Cllr Mark Coleman

Vale of White Horse District Council Deputy Leader

Lib Dem Member for Thames Ward

Member for Environmental Services and Waste

Armed Forces and Veterans Champion

Mobile 07483 224436

Email mark.coleman@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Attachment 2: COUNTY COUNCILLOR – Juliette Ash - REPORT- All parishes- SEPT 24

COUNCIL COMMITS TO £0.5M SPEND ON DEVELOPING WORKPLACE PARKING TAX

OCC LD Cabinet member for infrastructure and development, Judy Roberts, agreed with officers' recommendations to approve £500,000 spending on technical aspects of development work around the planned workplace parking tax at her decisions meeting on Thursday July 18. A Team Leader is being recruited on £50k pa. This is despite the fact that the proposal is hugely controversial and hasn't been out for public consultation yet. Critics observe that it is clear that the proposal will go ahead, whatever the result of the consultation.

OCC TO BE A COUNCIL OF SANCTUARY FOR REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

OCC council leader Liz Leffman, has written to the Home Secretary stating:

“Our ambition in Oxfordshire is to support a refugee and asylum system that ensures a warm welcome for all new arrivals and embraces and supports independent living for those staying in the county. Oxfordshire is enhanced by the contribution of a range of diverse communities living here and we are committed to playing our part in the overall national and international challenge. To that end, Oxfordshire County Council is currently working towards becoming a Council of Sanctuary.”

This follows Full Council in July when Cabinet member for Finance, Dan Levy, confirmed that the administration was looking at ways to provide free or subsidised bus travel to asylum seekers from its funds, if financial support from HM Treasury was not made available.

HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN TO LOSE AFFORDABLE BUS TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

At Full Council on 28 March 2023, the Opposition tabled a motion expressing regret about the apparent loss of bus places for children attending schools across South Oxfordshire and Cherwell using the 'Spare Seats' scheme. This scheme allows parents and guardians with children not eligible for free home-to-school transport to pay to use spare seats on school buses. Almost 18 months on, the issue continues to cause concern with a further round of children set to lose their school bus places, particularly in Cherwell and West Oxfordshire, from the start of the school year. This is despite a motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition being passed at Full Council on 9 July 2024 designed to ensure that “school bus places can be maintained and, where possible, increased”. As many as 800 children are thought to have a Spare Seat to school on 29 bus routes into 25 schools across Oxfordshire. The future of the scheme, which has been running for over 30 years, is a huge worry to schools and families across the county.

CONTROVERSIAL OXFORD FOUR-SECTOR PLAN POSTPONED AGAIN

The controversial plan to split Oxford into four sectors for traffic management purposes by using six 'traffic filters' has been postponed yet again. This is because Network Rail has postponed the replacement of Botley railway bridge and is unable to reopen Botley Road in October.

FREE ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTS

Residents are being encouraged to take up the offer of a free electric blanket check. Sessions will be held at locations across the county this autumn. Appointments can be booked by visiting <https://service.oxfordshire.gov.uk/blankettesting> or calling 01865 895999.

ROAD SAFETY IN KINGSTON & CUMNOR

Safety and wellbeing of Oxfordshire residents is my number one priority. There has been a consistent improvement year on year, however, I join with other Cllrs calling on OCC to continue to report on road casualties in Oxfordshire to support decision making and ensure that progress is maintained.

OCC stopped reporting in 2021. 2021 report below:

OCC CRITICISED BY OPPOSITION FOR NOT PUBLISHING EITHER ROAD SAFETY OR 20MPH DATA

OCC normally publishes its [road casualty report](#) every year but for reasons the council has explained as "reviewing the content", it is yet to publish any yearly analysis since 2021. Councillor Eddie Reeves, leader of the Conservatives on the county, said: "Why County Hall has ostensibly withheld publication of such data like a vital road casualty report, is beyond me." He added in relation to road casualty statistics there are "serious questions" about whether 20mph zones are "even enforceable" and "the emerging data on traffic accidents suggests little, if any, positive impact".

CURRENT ROADWORKS ACROSS OXFORDSHIRE

Link to current roadworks on the OCC website:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/roadworks/major-current-roadworks>

UPDATE ON POLICE POSITION ON 20MPH LIMITS

The Oxford Mail reported on 8 August that the Chief Constable said that speed cameras "do not work at 20mph" when questioned during the annual 'Crime and Disorder' meeting held in July. Previously, as a result of political pressure, Thames Valley Police changed their position on 20mph limits from 'Object' to 'Concerns'. Their concerns can be summarised as follows:

- Compliance with 20mph limits is a challenging issue as there is a difference between the achievable results of the various available schemes. For example, a sign-only scheme will only have a limited effect on the mean speeds.
- If a speed limit is set too low and is ignored then this could result in the vulnerable road user being less safe. It can also cause a dis-proportionate number of drivers to criminalise themselves and could bring the system of speed limits into disrepute.
- Thames Valley Police have no policy to enforce based on arbitrary speed limits alone but will enforce based on threat of harm, risk and resourcing.
- There should be no expectation that the police would be able to provide regular enforcement if a speed limit is set too low as this could result in an unreasonable additional demand on police resources and there are no additional resources.

Community speed watch schemes have been used to curb serial offenders.

HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES TO CLOSE FOR CLEANING AND REPAIRS

Residents planning to use Oxfordshire's household waste recycling centres (HWRCs) are being warned about a series of short closures in September and October to enable essential work to be carried out. For safety reasons, OCC Council will be shutting the centres for two days – although never at the same time – to allow for deep cleaning and essential maintenance. This includes jet washing the sites and structures, repainting lines and safety areas, as well as other general work to improve the customer experience. The closing dates are:

- Stanford in the Vale, near Faringdon: Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 September
- Ardley, near Bicester: Thursday 5 and Friday 6 September
- Drayton, near Abingdon: Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 September
- Oakley Wood, near Wallingford: Thursday 12 and Friday 13 September
- Dix Pit, Stanton Harcourt: Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 September
- Alkerton, near Banbury: Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 October.

All closures are on quieter weekdays to minimise disruption and sites will reopen at 8am the following day. Residents are asked to plan ahead, ideally holding onto their waste until the site reopens or, if that

APPLETON WITH EATON PARISH COUNCIL

c/o 26 Eaton Village, Eaton, Oxford shire OX13 5PR

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is not possible, visiting one of the neighbouring sites. The deep clean for Redbridge HWRC in Oxford will be carried out later in the year and full details will be provided in due course. More information can be found on Oxfordshire County Council's website, including details of alternative sites during the closures. Users are reminded that to use their free DIY waste allowance, they need to book an appointment for their visit on the council's website. Residents with van or trailer permits can use these at any of the HWRCs.

Have your say. For current 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
Juliete
Ash
2/9/24