

# Appleton *with* Eaton

— Parish Council —

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of Appleton with Eaton Parish Council (AWEPC)  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 7:15pm Appleton Village Hall

**Councillors present:** Stephen Day (Chairman), Councillors Sue Sternberg (SS), Mary Carey (MC) and Liz Gilkes (LG), John Adams (JA) and Valentina Brito-Marquez (VBM)

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

**24/131: Apologies for Absence:**

- Apologies were received by Councillor Valentina Brito-Marquez (VBM).
- Councillor Chris Mitty (CM) was absent from the meeting.

**24/132: Declarations of interest:** None

**24/133: Public questions and statements:** Members from Sunningwell PC were in attendance to observe.

Other members of the public were in attendance to make representations regarding the planning application for 91 Eaton Road. The following comments were noted:

- Planning was put in in June for same property and there is no substantive change from the original application
- Residents feel this is ostensibly the same application with the same issues as the last time such as:
  - The proposed dwelling is placed into a tiny space.
  - Drainage issues with regards to cutting the hedgerow
  - Access/visibility as vehicles turn out of the lane
- A resident noted that there had been high risk flood reports when the properties in the area were purchased.
- The residents would like DC to recommend it goes to the planning committee.
- DC is conscious that if the Highways report deems the application to be acceptable, planning permission may be granted.

**24/134: Planning:**

**a. Planning applications:**

[P24/V2605/FUL](#)

91 Eaton Road, Appleton, OX13 5JJ

Double and single storey rear extensions and alterations to existing semi-detached dwelling and proposed new two-bedroom dwelling in garden land with associated parking and access.

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Appleton with Eaton Parish Council resolved to object to this planning application. The Clerk will circulate the objections from the last application and the Council will note any further comments as needed.

## **b. Planning decisions**

### [P24/V1990/FUL](#)

Conversion and change of use of a traditional agricultural building into a single storey three bedroom residential dwelling.

Cheers Farm Netherton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5L

Permission granted.

### [P24/V2205/HH](#)

Erection of side and rear extension to include the addition of a first floor loft room and bay window to front elevation, front infill extension and single storey rear extension (amended block plan received 13 December 2024).

Oakleigh Millway Lane Appleton OX13 5LB

Permission granted.

### [P23/V0998/FUL](#)

Demolish stables and storage buildings. Erect two self build dwellings. (as amended by plans and information received 23 April 2024)

Clare Cottage Park Lane Appleton OX13 5JT

Permission granted

## **23/135: Reports from District and County Councillors:**

### **Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC)**

The District Councillor sent a report. See Attachment 1. The following was noted:

- Devolution: With regards to the devolution white paper referenced in Attachment 1, the view from VoWHDC is that despite any views they may have on it, as it is happening, they would like to start the process as soon as possible.
- At the recent meeting of the Faringdon Area Traffic Advisory Committee (FATAC), the following AWEPC-related issues were discussed:
  - Bend in the road by The Plough Inn: It was noted this is a 20mph zone and OCC would like to retain the rural aspect by not adding more signs. The suggestion was that this is monitored with AWEPC noting any issues/comments from residents.
  - Speed/danger of road at Oaksmere: FATAC agreed there is an issue and discussed placing "dragon's teeth" markings earlier in the approach to Appleton. FATAC has passed this to OCC to review/action.

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- Path to the A420: It was noted that a path could be considered inside of the hedge on the right-hand side of the road between Oaksmere and the A420.

The Council would like the 2027 boundary review on the February agenda.

## **Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)**

The County Councillor was not in attendance, but did send a report. See Attachment 2.

**24/136: Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

**24/137: Clerk's report:** The Council noted the Clerk's report regarding an update on her actions from the last meeting.

## **24/138: Finance:**

### **a. Finance Report:**

Payments authorised:

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Supplier</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
13/01/2025 - 31/01/2025	Confidential		844.60
16/12/2024	Microsoft	Microsoft	1.99
16/12/2024	Council phone	Lebara	6.95
16/12/2024	Paper	Waitrose	5.00
16/12/2024	Google subscription	Google	1.59
16/12/2024	Mailchimp subscription	Mailchimp	12.42
16/12/2024	Lloyds fee	Lloyds	3.00
17/12/2024	Electricity at the sportsfield	EDF	90.79
02/12/2024	Scribe accounts subscription	Starboard Systems	42.00
13/01/2025	Grass cutting at Jubilee Park	BGG	84.00
13/01/2025	Mowing grass at sportsfield	Ady Podbery	440.40
13/01/2025	7813	Starboard Systems	24.00
19/12/2024	Donation to Citizens Advice	Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice Bureau	125.00
19/12/2024	Donation to Hope after Harm	Hope after Harm	50.00
19/12/2024	Cloudy Microsoft renewal	Cloudy IT	123.84
31/12/2024	Unity Service Charge	Unity Trust Bank	6.00
13/01/2025	Clerk expenses	Allison Leigh	26.00
13/01/2025	Donation	Open Spaces Society	100.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,987.58</b>

Receipts from 1/12/24 – 31/12/24

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Supplier</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
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23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
23/12/2024	Cumnor Minors Team Hire	Cumnor Minors	35.00
31/12/2024	Bank Interest	Unity Trust Bank	447.80
<b>Total</b>			<b>727.80</b>

- b. Budget against spend:** The Council considered budget against spend from 1/4/24 – 31/12/24 along with the budget notes report and had no comments.
- c. Training Courses:** No training courses were requested.
- d. Donation requests:**
  - a. Oxfordshire Mind/Mind in Berkshire: The Council resolved to donate £75 to Oxfordshire Mind.
  - b. Appleton Village Hall Committee: The Council resolved to donate £1200 to the Village Hall Committee.
- e. Items for the Sportsfield:** The Council resolved to pay for the following up to a cost of £600.
  - a. Stones for filling holes
  - b. Metal shelving
  - c. Skip for rubbish
- f. Parish Online:** The Council resolved not to renew the membership to Parish Online.
- g. Open Spaces Society:** The Council resolved to donate £100 to the Open Spaces Society's legal action appeal.

**24/139: Grounds Maintenance contracts:** The Council resolved to proceed with the grounds maintenance contracts

**24/140: Working Groups:**

- a. Friends of Jubilee Park:** There was no report.
- b. Pavilion Working Group:** The Group will be meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> January.
- c. Leisure and Recreation (L&R) Working Group:** There was no report.

**24/141: Policies:**

- a. Biodiversity Policy:** It was noted that this had been approved at the December meeting.
- b. Updated Financial Regulations:** Councillors asked for this to be postponed until the February meeting.

**24/142: Flood equipment:** The Clerk reported that she had not had any requests for flood equipment.

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**24/143: Correspondence:** The Council noted the correspondence since the last meeting. The Council would like to thank the current superuser for their work which has been much appreciated by the Council and residents.

**24/144: Website and Advertiser:** The Council would like the following in the February Advertiser:

- Information on the recent Highways meeting
- Ask for Volunteers for possible VE Day celebrations

**24/145: Matters for report:**

JA asked the Clerk to assist with pieces needed for the speed sign and will send photos to the Clerk in order to contact the provider

The Council discussed the possibility of adding locations for the signs.

The Council thanked JA for his work on the speed signs.

**24/146: Date of the next meeting:** The date of the next meeting was confirmed as the Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7:15pm.

**24/147: Confidential item:** The Council resolved to exclude members of the public from agenda item 24/148 due to its confidential nature.

**24/148: Lease at the land of the tennis courts and adjoining land:** The Council noted the legal documents received and had no comments.

The meeting closed at 20:23.

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## **Attachment 1**

### **Vale District Council – Member for Thames Ward Report to the Appleton with Eaton Parish Council – 13 January 2024**

#### **Local Authority Boundary Commission**

The Local Boundary Commission has made its final recommendations on the Vales re-warding. They are broadly in line with what the Vale had proposed. This means that Thames ward will be subsumed into two wards. Appleton with Eaton will be part of the Cumnor ward, together with Besselsleigh. The remainder of Thames ward will become part of the Kingston Bagpuize ward. Assuming parliament accepts the commission's recommendations, the changes will come into effect in May 2027.

#### **Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution**

The government published its English Devolution White Paper on 16 December. The paper is wide ranging and includes significant proposals on devolution and combined authorities. The Government intends to encourage all areas of England to come forward with proposals to create new unitary councils. This could see the removal of district and county councils, along with some existing smaller unitary councils. The Government's emphasis is on creating large unitary councils with a threshold of more than 500k population, but it makes no reference to the size of the geographic area.

The government is also encouraging the creation of Strategic Authorities sitting above the unitary authorities covering much larger areas, perhaps with an elected mayor.

There are numerous options as to what that might look like for this area. For example, it might be based on the Thames Valley area, with or without Milton Keynes, or it could be aligned with the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board. The unitary council might be based on an Oxfordshire County Unitary or maybe comprising the Vale of White Horse, South Oxford and West Berkshire. Oxfordshire County Council has been asked to say whether this area would be interested in exploring the options for devolution, and we anticipate their sending a letter to the Government saying we are. My personal view is that we are better to shape what our future will look like by being pro-active than to have the government determine what our local government will look like. The White paper suggests that these changes should be in place before the next general election.

#### **Botley West Solar Farm**

The Planning Inspectorate has accepted for examination a Development Consent order for the Botley West Solar Farm development. To have the right to make representation to the Planning Inspectorate it is necessary to register an interest; the deadline to register is 27 February. We believe the process will be like a planning appeal inquiry/local plan examination with formal sessions over several weeks.

Mark Coleman

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Mobile 07483 224436

Email [mark.coleman@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:mark.coleman@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

## **Attachment 2**

### **County Councillor Juliette Ash REPORT- All parishes- Jan 25 GENERAL OCC**

#### **REPORT**

#### **WINTER PROTECTION MEASURES in OXFORDSHIRE FLOODING & COLD**

#### **WEATHER advice**

#### **Information and advice for residents**

OCC have published a '[snow and cold weather](#)' news page on our website, which provides information for residents, including gritter activity. We are also providing regular updates on social media (Facebook and X).

Residents can also:

- Monitor online information from The Met Office, which issues [weather warnings](#) when severe weather is expected.
- Check the [Met Office website](#) for advice about how to stay safe in the snow and ice.
- Check X at [@OxonTravel](#) for road and travel updates.
- Read the council's [snow guide](#) for information about snow clearance.
- Read the advice on Thames Water's website about [low or no water pressure](#) caused by frozen pipes.

#### **Flood alerts and flood warnings**

If a flood alert is issued this indicates that an area should prepare, including making defences and staying up to date with the latest information. When a flood warning is issued, this indicates a greater level of severity.

You can keep in touch with the Environment Agency's [regularly updated](#) information relating to current flood alerts and flood warnings and the five-day flood risk for Oxfordshire. This page also captures flood alerts and warnings from areas immediately adjacent to the county.

Meanwhile it is also possible to monitor [individual levels](#) on the county's rivers, streams and brooks and [rainfall statistics](#).

Flood water is not clean and not suitable for children to play in. There might be hidden hazards under the water such as manhole covers that have lifted. Anyone who has been in flood water should wash their hands at the soonest opportunity.

You can [sign up](#) to receive flood warnings from the Environment Agency. Alternatively you can call Floodline on 0345 988 1188 to register. The service is free and you can choose to receive notifications of flood warnings by email, text, or both.

#### **OCC BUDGET 2025/26 CONSULTATION**

A public consultation on the substance of the 2025/26 budget has now closed. The final proposals will be published this month and will then go forward to Full Council in February, together with Opposition

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amendments.

## **HIF1 PLANNING INQUIRY COSTS £29M**

The result of the public inquiry into plans for a £269million road scheme (HIF1) has been announced. The proposals include creating a dual carriageway on the A4130 from the A34 Milton Interchange towards Didcot, new bridges and a Clifton Hampden bypass. In July 2023, [Michael Gove called in the planning application](#) after OCC applied to itself for planning permission but the OCC planning committee refused it – despite recommendations from officers that it should be approved. Local government minister Matthew Pennycook has now approved the application. The costs associated with both the CPO and Planning Public Inquiries are estimated to be around £1m. This figure does not include the inspector costs, which are not yet



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known. The inflationary increase of the construction works due to the delay in commencement is estimated to be 15%, which equates to approximately £28m.

## **OCC AIMS TO GO BEYOND NET ZERO BY REMOVING CARBON EMISSIONS**

OCC has become the first local authority in the UK to set a target of going beyond net zero when it comes to carbon emissions. The council's Cabinet has committed itself to extending the current carbon neutral target for its own estate and move into carbon dioxide removal. The cost of this initiative to the Council Tax payer is £110,000 (including 'carbon offsets'). Critics claim residents are being short-changed by the council going way beyond its remit and mistakenly positioning itself as a climate change leader, and that it should get back to basics and deliver better services to residents.

## **PIZZA, POLITICS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS**

More than 40 young people from across the county came together in November to talk politics and enjoy some pizza, as part of OCC's Future Generations Fortnight. The session was open to all in Oxfordshire aged 11 to 18. It aimed to help them get an understanding of local democracy and encourage them to get involved in politics.

## **SUPPORT FOR OXFORDSHIRE FARMERS**

An Opposition motion in support of Oxfordshire farmers was passed at Full Council on 10 December. The Leader will now write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to ask that introduction of the family farm taxes be reconsidered for the sake of environmental protection and food security.

## **OXFORD TRAFFIC MEASURES TO BE QUESTIONED**

A motion as amended by the Opposition was passed at Full Council on 10 December that called for the establishment of a resident & business group to be set up to consider the impact of the proposed traffic measures that could cost Oxfordshire motorists £57m over five years.

### **Community defibrillator scheme**

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) has recently reopened its community defibrillator scheme. This scheme allows local community groups to apply and potentially receive a free defibrillator and cabinet which must then be made accessible for use within the local community.

In areas where health inequalities exist, survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest are reduced and this scheme may be of significant assistance to these areas. You can [find out more about the scheme and apply](#) on the BHF's website.

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## [Unauthorised encampment update](#)

### South & Vale – nothing to report

We are seeing a rise in individuals residing in tents, caravans, and converted vehicles across the county, often due to economic circumstances. While we can provide advice and support, we are not the primary authority on these matters unless they involve Gypsies and Travellers. In

**Appleton with Eaton Parish Council (AWE PC) Parish Council Meeting**

**held in the Village Hall**

**Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 7:15pm**

**Minutes**

such cases, it is the responsibility of the landowner or managing party to address any encroachments on their property.

Planning applications:

Maleficent Meadows, Baulking Lane, Baulking, Farringdon, SN7 8NR -

Planning application P20/V2556/FUL

Proposed development: Change of use of former mineral workings land to a combined pedigree dog and cat breeding facility including the stationing of a temporary dwelling and associated development including, installing a Klargest tank and hardstanding. (Amended description 3.12.20)

Appeal reference number: APP/V3120/W/21/3273729

Public inquiry is scheduled on **26/27/28 November 2024 at 10.00 am**. The inquiry will be held at Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon, OX14 3JE.

Maleficent Meadows, Baulking Lane, Baulking, Farringdon, SN7 8NR -

Planning applications P23/V0071/DA and P23/V0072/DA

**Appeal reference number: APP/V3120/C/23/3314401 and APP/V3120/C/23/3314399** Alleged breach: Without planning permission the material change of use of the land from agriculture to a caravan site by the stationing of a mobile home and touring caravan for residential use.

Alleged breach: Without planning permission the undertaking of building, engineering, and other operations on the land.

A hearing in connection with those appeals was held on 16 May 2023, but we are still awaiting on an appeal decision from the Inspector.

COUNCILLOR PRIORITY FUND

I am working with PCs and OCC on final requests and applications for my Cllr priority fund support and the fund is broadly now covered. Please message with any final requests as they may be able to be considered/be first in line in the new financial year.

Priorities for funding include:

ROAD SAFETY

FAMILY ACTIVITIES & WELFARE EDUCATION

FOOTPATH SUPPORT (signage/support for footpath generation and maintenance) All best,

Cllr Juliette Ash 08/1/25

*Please refer directly to Cllr Ash for additional verbal reporting on your top 3 priorities by Parish*