

Minutes of the Appleshaw Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013 in the Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mr B Parker - Chairman  
Cllr Mrs J Hopkins - Vice Chairman  
Cllr Mrs J Weeks  
Cllr Mr D Green  
Cllr Mrs A Cowlin  
Cllr Mr J Clements  
Cllr Mrs L Black  
Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis  
Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk  
Members of the Public - 5

Apologies : County Councillor Mrs P West.

**WELCOME.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

Cllr Mrs J Weeks declared an interest in the Playing Field as she is a Trustee.

Cllr Mrs J Hopkins declared an interest in the Village Hall and ARC.

Cllr Mrs A Cowlin declared an interest in the Flower Show

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.**

The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman. Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis proposed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman continue as they are. All agreed. Cllr Mr B Parker was elected Chairman and Cllr Mrs J Hopkins elected Vice Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman read out the following report :

**Highways.** I'm happy to say that we have been well-served by Hampshire County Council over the past year. Paul Walsh was newly in charge of our area and he has paid a number of visits. The result is a wholesale repair programme although the winter just gone has obviously had its effect and further repairs are now needed.

**Flooding - Southern Water.** We have been dealing with all the difficulties caused by rising groundwater. The serious concerns I expressed to Martin Banks , a senior Southern Water executive, was followed by the recent inspection of the sewers by CCTV. Significant leaks have been found and I have been assured they will be repaired as soon as possible. However, some of the less significant leaks may not. I am still waiting for a special meeting to be convened between ourselves, Southern Water and a representative of the Environment Agency at which, I hope, we can nail this problem of damaged sewers once and for all. The meeting is being co-ordinated by our Test Valley Councillor, Phil Lashbrook. I'm grateful to him for all the help he has given us over the past year as, indeed, I am to Pat West, our County Councillor.

**Grass-cutting.** I'm happy to say that any misunderstandings of 'who does what' were sorted out last year and we have in place a similar rota for this year. In my view, the Playing Fields and The Green have never looked better. It is particularly good to see the Appleshaw-bred daffodils on The Green in flower at the moment, planted in 2011 as part of a scheme organised by the Flower Show Committee. Dessie Green has continued,

voluntarily, to cut various areas of grass in the village.

**Bus-shelter.** This has now been refurbished and is fit-for-purpose again. Other areas of village activity will have been covered elsewhere in the Parish Council Meeting with council colleagues, as always, taking a big part in their success.

All of the elected Councillors and the Parish Clerk have been a huge support over the past year and I would remind everybody that all Councillors give of their time freely. I am, and I think we should all be, grateful to them. As the editorial in the latest edition of ARC said, 'things don't just happen in villages'. There are willing people out there ... not just Council members, of course ... behind all the events which give so much pleasure to everybody.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT - 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013**

EXPENDITURE - April and May 2013

Richard Waterman	Wages - April	£139.00
Richard Waterman	Wages - May	£139.00
Richard Waterman	Adjustment Wages £42	
	½ Year Office Allowance	£92.00
Mr Brian Pearce	Grass Cutting Redenham	£40.00
TVBC	Dog Bin Emptying	£296.64
H.C.C.	Street Lighting	£212.22
D A Cook	Service Tractor	£457.46

### INCOME

SEB - Back Payment of Way Leave £184.56

SEB - Way Leave Payment 2013 £35.86

½ Precept £4,867.86

### MONEY OWED TO THE COUNCIL

Testway Housing - Allotment Gate - £92.54

Insurance Claim for Play Area repair

### BANK BALANCE

After above movements have been deducted and added : £6,433.15

### ALLOTMENTS

Allotment Money £21

Water Butts £500

The Clerk presented a financial account for the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013. Cllr Mrs A Cowlin had inspected the accounts with the Clerk prior to the meeting and had no issues to raise. The Clerk reported that the accounts are with the Internal Auditor, Mr Paul Reynolds, before being sent to District Audit.

The Clerk reported that documentation has been received from LloydsTSB to open the new PC account. The Council had already agreed to the opening of the Lloyds Account following considerable dissatisfaction with the service provided by Santander. Signatories on the Lloyds account will be Cllr Mr B Parker, Cllr Mrs A Cowlin and the Clerk. The Santander Bank account will be closed and the money transferred to Lloyds.

### **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Matters arising

from those minutes :-

**HIGHWAYS** - Repairs are ongoing. The Parish Council agreed that Appleshaw has been well served by Hampshire Highways over the past year and the majority of the reported problems have been dealt with.

**FLOODING** - Cllr Mrs J Hopkins reported that she has been informed by Mrs C Hughes that Southern Water have agreed to erect new fencing adjoining their Cleaver Cottages property and to repair drains and verges. The Chairman was pleased that Southern Water have addressed the problems faced by Mr and Mrs Hughes.

Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis stated that it was encouraging that Southern Water are taking action: it was unacceptable to have raw sewage spilling out onto the road.

**ALLOTMENTS** - The Chairman reported that invoices had been sent out for 2013 fees. He felt that next year there should be a standard charge for an allotment of £10. At present there are various letting rates. The Chairman proposed that from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 a standard fee of £10 will be levied for all allotments, to be reflected from invoices sent out from January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Parish Council agreed.

The Clerk reported that he is still waiting for three quotes for the remaining allotment fence repairs.

The Chairman reported that a site meeting was held after the last PC Meeting to look at the new fencing erected by Mr Bob Caddy. The Parish Councillors who attended the meeting were impressed with the fencing. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council should make a contribution towards the cost of the fencing. This was seconded and voted on - 7 for and 1 against – and a conditional sum of £100 was agreed. The Council felt that improvements needed to be made in the area adjacent to the allotments in question.

**PLAY AREA** - Cllr Mrs L Black wished to thank Mr C Wilkins for the excellent job he is doing on the Play Area grass cutting. The issue of the defective poor quality materials used on the play equipment is ongoing and Hampshire Playing Field Association have been contacted to see if they can help with grants for its replacement.

Mr E Carr reported that there is a problem with the bin adjacent to the bench being used for dog waste. This was discussed at length and it was agreed that this bin will be taken away and the Green Bin re-sited between its present position and the bench, suitably placed for easy emptying by TVBC but far enough away from the bench not to cause further problems.

**WEB SITE** - Cllr Mrs A Cowlin reported that the Web Site has been upgraded and is now interactive. Some additional work, however, is needed as the site cannot, at present, be accessed by tablets or smart phones. The Chairman stated that the web site is looking good and thanked Cllr Mrs A Cowlin for all her hard work. The Parish Council agreed.

**BUS SHELTER- WHITE HOUSE** - This has been refurbished and the bike rack has been installed.

## **PLANNING**

Cllr Mrs J Hopkins gave a report on the 18 planning application the Parish Council received over the last year and the revised Local Borough Plan. The Parish Council has raised the question of taking the Allotments and the Playing Field out of the Village Settlement area and the issue of developers planting tall, mature trees on property boundaries which might adversely affect adjoining properties.

13/00785/FULLN - Infill open section of roof over yard to provide back lobby and extended Cellar - Hillside House (formally Yonder Dene), Ragged Appleshaw.  
The parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this planning application.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT - Mrs Pat Wood had sent apologies for not attending the meeting and reported that the draft Village Design statement is nearly complete. A suitable map is now needed to complete the project, the acquisition of which is in hand.

### **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

CLLR MR D GREEN - asked if the Green in Redenham was Parish Council owned. The Chairman did not think it was. He would check.

CLLR MRS L BLACK - asked if the grass verge at Greensey was due to be cut. The Clerk reported that Chris Wilkins was asked to quote to take on the additional work at the end of the last season and should soon start cutting the entrance to Greensey and in front of Pippin Grove.

The Chairman suggested that Mr Wilkins be asked to quote to cut the grass area in the allotments. The Parish Council thought this a good idea.

### **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

It was reported that a tanker was seen driving so close to the kerb that it knocked several kerbstones into the ditch. The Chairman would take this up with Southern Water. However, Southern Water appear to have agreed to make good any damage caused in Appleshaw.

### **CLOSE OF THE MEETING.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting

### **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

4<sup>th</sup> July 2013 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The Clerk reported that a Hampshire County Council representative will be attending to discuss improvements to the Village Street Lighting under the PFI Agreement.