

## **Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 in the Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Mr B Parker – Chairman  
Cllr Mrs A Cowlin – Vice Chairman  
Cllr Mrs J Hopkins  
Cllr Mrs R Bass  
Cllr Mr J Clements  
Cllr Mr D Green  
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk  
County Councillor Mrs Z Brooks  
Borough Councillor Mrs P Mutton  
Member of the Public – Mrs S Parker

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Mrs J Hopkins, Trustee, Village Hall; Cllr Mrs A Cowlin, ARC, Flower Show, WI; Cllr Mrs R Bass, Flower Show and Appleshaw School

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

The Chairman proposed that the minutes be signed as a true record, seconded by Cllr Mr J Clements. Agreed with one abstention.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.**

PARKING ON ROADS ADJACENT TO THE SCHOOL – Cllr Mrs R Bass will raise this with the headmaster.

### **PLANNING**

15/01902/TREEN – Rosehill, Biddesden Bottom Road, Appleshaw – NO OBJECTION;

15/01981/TREEN – Firbeck, Biddesden Bottom Road, Appleshaw – NO OBJECTION

15/01548/LBWN – Old Vicarage, Biddesden Bottom Rd, Appleshaw – NO OBJECTION

15/02070/FULLN - Land at Harrow Farm, Ragged Appleshaw - amended scheme. A similar application was approved in May 2015(14/02828/FULLN). This new application is similar to the approved scheme with the following amendments:-

- Plot 2 increased from 3 – bed to 4-bed with garage attached to the side of the building.
- Plot 3 increased from 3 – bed to 4-bed. The double carport is reduced to a single bay and a bay window is added to the front elevation.
- Minor amendment to driveway to provide turning and extended forecourt to plot 3 – increase of parking to 3 vehicles.

PC members would consider this and report before the closing date.

It was reported that re-rendering on Iron Pear Tree Cottage had been halted after intervention by a TVBC Conservation Officer.

Cllr Mrs J Hopkins reported a boundary issue between a new build in Greensey and the Playing Field and Village Hall Trustees.

## FINANCE

The Clerk reported that District Audit have signed off the Accounts for the Year 2014/2015 and have raised no issues. An Audit Completion Notice will be posted on the village board.

### EXPENDITURE - August and September 2015

Richard Waterman	Wages – August	£160.00
Richard Waterman	Wages - September	£160.00
Richard Waterman	Wages adjustment	£40.00
R.N. Waterman	½ Year Expenses and Office Allowance	£127.00
Mr B Pearce	Grass Cutting Redenham	£80.00
Mr C Wilkins	Grass Cutting and Petrol	£1904.74
		<b>£2471.74</b>

### INCOME

Allotments £180  
Weyleave Payment £39.92

### BANK BALANCE

After above movements have been deducted and added = £5,676.36

#### BANK ACCOUNTS

Allotments Account = £ 694.09  
Current Account = £ 5,676.36  
= £ 6,370.45

### VILLAGE HALL AGM

The Chairman reported that he had attended the Village Hall AGM and had read out the following statement:-

The Parish Council is grateful to the Village Hall Treasurer for passing on documents which relate to the application of a Test Valley grant towards improvements and maintenance of the Hall.

Members of the Council do regret, however, the adversarial and completely unnecessary exchanges that have taken place, stretching back two years, which have soured relations generally between the two village organisations and recently delayed the award of a vital grant.

The apparently unanimous decision recently by members of the hall committee that the welfare of the hall is 'none of the Parish Council's business' was wholly inappropriate. It should not be necessary to remind the Trustees that they are all accountable not just to the local community but to the public as a whole.

The Parish Council would like it to be known that Test Valley Borough Council's opinion is that "Appleshaw Parish Council has taken a very courageous and commendable stance by insisting that probity be shown by the Village Hall Committee, in all of its functions...Test

Valley Borough Council Officers and Ward Councillors are in full agreement that Appleshaw Parish Council has acted correctly and with justifiable cause.”

The Parish Council has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the hall, its committee and everything it tries to achieve for the village. So that the Parish Council can continue that support, it asks that none of its Councillors will be subjected to any further unwarranted insults either written or verbal.

Having seen the relevant documents, the Parish Council is now content to renew its support for the grant.

Not only do we wish the Hall well with its important project but would like to propose that our newly elected Councillor, Mrs Ros Bass, be our representative member on the Hall’s Board of Trustees. We feel this will cement good will on both sides.

The Chairman stated that he was not happy with the draft minutes of the village hall AGM which he said would amount to a false document if left uncorrected. His statement (minuted above) was not recorded in the AGM minutes. An important discussion which had taken place about fees paid by the PC for use of the village hall had also been omitted entirely from the minutes: an alleged but unattributed discussion had been ‘minuted’ but the discussion had not taken place at all. The Chairman had taken up these issues with the Rev Ian Tomlinson who chaired the AGM and he had promised to investigate.

The Chairman also stated that he had been asked by the Rev Tomlinson to read out and record the following:

‘At no time did the Rector have any prior knowledge of emails relating to false quotes for building work at the village hall. Nor did he have anything to do with the way views from a hall meeting were subsequently conveyed to the Parish Council by the Hall Secretary.’

The Chairman said he was happy to make this clear.

### **DOG BINS**

There has been a problem over the summer with dog bins remaining unemptied. TVBC were contacted and the emptying is now being monitored. At present, the dog bins are emptied once a month but if the problem persists, the emptying will be more frequent.

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS Z BROOKS**

Cllr Mrs Z Brooks congratulated Appleshaw on putting on a very good Bank Holiday Fete. The Chairman agreed and on the Parish Council’s behalf wished to thank all those involved with organising the excellent Flower Show and Fete, particularly Steve Amey and Althea Shapiro.

## **BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS P MUTTON**

Cllr Mrs P Mutton had no immediately pressing matters to report.

## **COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

CLLR MR D GREEN – reported that the hedge of No 2 Greensey was overhanging the pavement making it difficult for pedestrians. Mr Green wondered why workmen had been surveying the Greensey car park. The Clerk was asked to contact Aster about both issues.

CLLR MRS A COWLIN – reported that there is ivy overhanging the highway on the road out of the village to the White House junction. The Vice Chairman will contact the property owner (Kate Buchele).

CLLR MR B PARKER – Reported that he had been in touch with Highways and they plan to clear the ditch in the autumn. Cllr Mr B Parker spoke briefly about ownership of the bridges over the winterbourne, some have been damaged and are in need of repair. This issue will be investigated.

CLLR MRS J HOPKINS – Reported that the issue of speeding through the village needed raising again. The Chairman would contact Highways.

## **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mrs S Parker reported that she and Cllr Mrs A Cowlin had been discussing the village web site and feel that Appleshaw requires a new one that is up-to-date and interactive. Mrs Parker has spoken to a professional web site designer who will design and put together a web site package for around £500. Reasonable ongoing costs for hosting and maintenance would need to be confirmed. The Parish Council thought this worth exploring. Cllr Mrs J Hopkins thought it would be better to find someone in the village to design and maintain the site. Councillors felt that a professional approach was paramount. Mrs S Parker stated that she would investigate further.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The proposed village defibrillator was discussed. It was agreed that the Walnut Tree Inn would be the best place to site the equipment and the Chairman would speak to Mr and Mrs Burden. Cllr Mrs A Cowlin mentioned that the WI were hoping to be in a position to make a contribution of at least £200 towards the defibrillator.

## **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

5th November 2015. (Please note that this meeting will take place in Appleshaw Village Church.)