

Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 4th July 2013 in the Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mr B Parker - Chairman
Cllr Mrs J Weeks
Cllr Mr D Green
Cllr Mrs A Cowlin
Cllr Mr J Clements
Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk
Members of the Public -

Apologies : Cllr Mrs J Hopkins - Vice Chairman, Cllr Mrs L Black, Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis, Revd Dr Ian Tomlinson and Mrs P Wood

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 A Cowlin declared an interest in the Flower Show

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record.
Matters arising from those minutes :-

ALLOTMENTS - The Chairman reported there was only one outstanding rent and a reminder had been sent to the relevant allotment holder. Water butts were in the process of being ordered.

PLAY AREA - Cllr Mrs L Black sent in the following report

1. Play area looks very smart and used a lot in fine weather especially after school.
2. We have been awarded £250 from HPFA towards cost of replacing last climbing wall and are liaising with RoSPA about replacing the climbing ramps with much cheaper decking board. We need to source a special kind that complies with the British Standard for the whole of the climbing frame and thus meets insurance conditions..
3. On the whole, the community is keeping the play area litter free and a nice place to be but with one or two notable exceptions..

WEB SITE - Cllr Mrs A Cowlin reported that the web site now works on tablets and mobile telephones. There are a few empty pages and she suggested that Neighbourhood Watch, Appleshaw Primary School and the Village Fete

Committee might like a page on the web site.

BUS SHELTER – Following the refurbishment of the bus shelter on the A242, vandals had kicked in panels each side of the doorway. This has now been repaired.

SOUTHERN WATER - The Chairman was pleased to report that Southern Water have agreed to repair certain sewer pipes in the village and letters to households were in the process of being sent out. Southern Water have been in the village surveying the system ready for a programme of repair.

HIGHWAYS - it was noted that the Appleshaw roads are the best they have been for years with only a few pothole repairs outstanding.

PLANNING:

Appleshaw:

13/00785/FULLN and 13/00786/LBWN -Yonder Dene (now Hillside House, Ragged Appleshaw). New application for minor works approved by the conservation officer. Appleshaw PC made no objection. The applicants have made a formal appeal to the Planning Inspectorate under 12/01287/FULLN and 12/01288/LBWN **and** 12/02138/FULLN and 12/02144/LBWN, both of which were turned down on the advice of the conservation officer. The informal appeal will be considered by the inspector soon.

Redenham

13/00851/LBWN - Ivy Cottage, Redenham. Re-application to replace the front door, this time approved by the conservation officer. Appleshaw PC made no objection but added a comment that we were surprised that this matter had to be dealt with by a second application. The extra comment didn't make it on to the TVBC website and Richard is finding out why.

Draft Statement of Community Involvement in Planning Matters

We have submitted a comment on the Planning chapter (12) along the lines of 'we welcome

greater public participation in local planning decisions, but Appleshaw PC's experience is that the views of the community are ignored more often than not at the decision stage. Unless there is an aspiration to change this culture, much of the proposed policy is meaningless'. Jenny Hopkins

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT - The Document has been completed and is available to read on the web site. The Parish Councillors have all been sent a copy

FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENDITURE - June and July 2013

Richard Waterman	Wages – June	£139.00
Richard Waterman	Wages – July	£139.00
Richard Waterman	Adjustment Wages	£42.00
Mr Brian Pearce	Grass Cutting Redenham	£80.00
	Repairs to Bus Shelter/ Bin	£173.00
The national Allotment Society	Subscription	£66.00
D A Cook	Repair small mower	£148.20
Mr C Wilkins	Grass Cutting/Petrol	£760.39
Mr R Caddy	Donation towards fencing	£100.00
Aon	Tractor Insurance	£310.58

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 :- £4,474.98

ALLOTMENTS

Allotment Money £255
Water Butts £500

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

CLLR MR J CLEMENTS - reported that Redenham residents are feeling a little left out. In Appleshaw, the grass verges are cut, the ditch strimmed and everything is looking pristine. The grass in Redenham, however, is long and the ditch has not been strimmed since before the winter. Cllr Mr J Clements has approached two local farmers about cutting the grass but both were busy with harvesting. Cllr Mr Clements will contact TVBC for a quote.

The Chairman agreed that Redenham grass is high but the Parish Council do not own the land so have no real responsibility for it. The Chairman suggested the PC obtain quotes for grass-cutting and the PC would look at the cost involved to see if can be included in future budgets.

It was noted that toward the end of the summer, landowners will be contacted again to remind them of their responsibilities to keep ditches clear. Chris Wilkins will be asked to look at the ditch through Redenham with the view to strimming its length. Cllr Mr Clements was asked to check the ownership of the stretch of grass through Redenham from the Paddocks towards Biddesden.

CLLR MRS J WEEKS - reported that the height of the grass on the triangle has

caused several residents to complain to her in recent weeks although the grass had now been cut. Cllr Mrs Weeks suggested that it would be prudent for the Parish Council to find out who owns this piece of land. The Clerk promised to check the Land Registry.

CLLR MR B PARKER - reported that there is a monument with a plaque commemorating the planting of the walnut trees on the Village Green. Unfortunately the plaque is facing the road and barely visible - it cannot be seen at all by walkers using the green. Cllr Parker suggested that the plaque is moved to the other side of the monument to face the village green. All were in agreement.

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS.

APPLESHAW PRIMARY SCHOOL - Sally Smith spoke about the school year.

- Year 6 have attended trial days at John Hanson, Test Valley and Harrow Way Secondary Schools.
- There is a full complement at the school - 95 on the roll with 19 coming from the village. The new intake in September will see another 6 joining from the village.
- The School Netball team have been successful in the school league.
- In January 2013 the school was given a 'good in all areas' grade in the Ofsted report.
- The School SATS are looking good for 2013.
- The School had heating oil stolen in February and the culprits broke the tank getting the oil out. A new tank had been fitted and will be enclosed in a cage to help deter thieves.

Sally Smith reported that this was her last term at Appleshaw School and the new head, Mr Ian Hickman, will be taking the reins as from September. The Chairman thanked Sally for all that she has done for the school during her time as head and he wished her well for the future.

W.I. - Thelma White reported that Appleshaw and Redenham W.I. have had a busy year with many interesting speakers. They have been involved with the flower show and other events in the village. This year was the 25th Birthday of the Appleshaw and Redenham W.I. and a trip to the Blue Glass factory was held to mark the event. There are 17 members and new members are always welcome.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT - To Follow

PLAYING FIELD TRUSTEES – Once again the Trustees are pleased to report that the playing field is in good condition. The trustees wish to record their appreciation to the Parish Council for the continual support in respect of financing and arranging the grass cutting of the playing field. Although only 2

cricket games were played, the Cricket Club also spent a lot of time improving the cricket square.

As well as general parishioner use for walking and recreation, the field has been used for various events over the past year, with Pippins Play Group regularly using the area just outside the village hall and the Annual Village fete, and spring plant sale.

Last season the football pitch was also home to 3 football teams which was the only source of income. These were in conjunction with bookings for the Pavilion section of the Village Hall and the Trustees wish to thank Mary & Eric Carr for all their help in coordinating the bookings and for collecting the match fees. We also thank Eric for all his work in marking out the football pitch prior to each game.

On two occasions during the past year, the perimeter fence near the triangle has been damaged by lorries. Thanks to diligent villagers who saw what happened and reported the incidents, the cost of repairs have been claimed from the companies concerned.

During the year we received a request for a skate ramp to be constructed on the field and we looked into both temporary ramps and permanent ones. Unfortunately, we are unable to proceed with either due to initial cost plus very high insurance which would have to be taken out. We did consider other options such as a basket ball net but this offer was not taken up.

One significant change this year is that although the Hampshire Playing Field Association has a vested interest in the Ward Memorial Playing Field Charity, the Field is now linked with the Field In Trust which was previously known as the National Playing Field Association. This change has meant that the trustees have now had to take out their own Public Liability Insurance.

FLOWER SHOW - The Flower Show 2012 was as popular as usual but the bad weather during the summer managed to wipe out some of the classes. However, the day itself produced more than enough entries to keep the judges and committee busy. The Scarecrow competition was not as popular as in 2011 and a decision has been made not to run it this year. There are new classes to appeal to all age ranges and a baking class for men only, which it's hoped will provide some family entertainment. Schedules are being delivered to all households with the next copy of ARC.

PLANT SALE - Considering the weather, we felt that we had another successful sale. Unfortunately, two of the stallholders pulled out at the last minute

because of illness and vehicle breakdowns, but even so, we made £432.80, just £40 down on last year when we had an additional one-off silent auction. The teas are always popular, mainly because of the delicious cakes provided by volunteers, for which many thanks. Those and the donations' table (and many thanks to those who contributed) serve to boost the takings but the main aim of the sale is to provide an enjoyable village event.

We have some money to spend. We have offered to buy a walnut tree to replace the one outside Appleshaw Cottage which died. We feel it fitting to plant a tree in this Coronation Anniversary year as the original trees were planted in Coronation Year itself. Information on the planting will be advertised. If anyone has ideas for other fitting projects for us to fund, please let us know.

VILLAGE HALL – report submitted by Mrs Hopkins.

The Hall has had another good year. We are very lucky to have found Clare Richards to take on the Treasurer's role, and her first task was to drive forward the work on the new heating system in conjunction with Tim and Melissa Seymour. TVBC has now confirmed the grant of £8,317.00, and that it is acceptable for the Hall to cover the 12.5% financial contribution which is normally asked of a Parish Council.

The Hall's roof tiles should be replaced at the same time - the composite tiles have come to the end of their life after 18 years and some have become brittle.

We await confirmation that the original quotation for the heating system still stands after such a long time, and Clare is in the process of getting quotes for the replacement of the roof tiles.

The account is in a very healthy state, mainly thanks to Angus Burnett's stewardship for the last six years and to our regular customers. We would be in a very different situation without the income from Pippins Pre-school and other organisations and individuals. We are most grateful to Eric and Mary Carr for their care and generosity in covering the caretaking and Hall booking duties. We have £23,500 in the bank, a large proportion of which is earmarked for the proposed works.

We could always do with more people on the committee, but a new chairman is especially needed someone who could take the Hall forward and build on what has been achieved in the past. Our charter requires a parish councillor, other than me, to fill a gap.

FETE - Steve Amy reported that the Committee are two meetings away from the event.

- There will be a 50 bird Clay Pigeon shoot this year and there will be a cage for the Public to 'have a go'
- A live pigeon release is also planned along with the usual attractions.

- The Fete Committee have sponsored a copy of ARC and this will contain extensive information on the Fete.
- The Fete is to be held on Bank Holiday Monday 26th August 2013.

ARC - Rhonda Smith reported on her first year as Editor of ARC.

- There was some good positive feedback from a survey of the ARC readers.
- Rhonda wished to thank all the distributors of the magazine and the contributors of the articles that make interesting reading.
- The aim is not to make a profit but to cover costs. With the continued increase in printing costs, it has been decided to increase the subscription and this will now go up to £10 a year. Production will decrease to 9 issues a year with several double editions.
- The next issue will be the Fete issue and will contain 4 colour pages on the Fete which will be delivered to every house
- On the 9th November, 2013, ARC are to host an 'Africa comes to Appleshaw' event in the Village Hall.

The Chairman thanked Rhonda and her team for doing such a good job.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

5th September 2013 in the Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.30pm