

Minutes of the Annual Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th May 2016 in St Peter's Church, Appleshaw at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Mrs A Cowlin – Chairman
Cllr Mr J Clement – Vice Chairman
Cllr Mrs R Bass
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
County Councillor Mrs Z Brooks
Borough Councillors Mrs P Mutton and Mr P Lashbrook
Members of the Public – 4

Apologies: Cllr Mrs J Hopkins

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs A Cowlin, ARC, Flower Show and WI; Cllr Mrs R Bass, Flower Show and Appleshaw School.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN - Cllr Mrs R Bass proposed Cllr Mrs A Cowlin as Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Mr J Clement. There were no other nominations. Cllr Mrs A Cowlin was elected Chairman.

VICE CHAIRMAN – Cllr Mrs A Cowlin proposed Cllr Mr J Clement as Vice Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs R Bass. There were no other nominations. Cllr Mr J Clement was elected Vice Chairman.

RECENT CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM PARISHIONERS

The Chairman read out a letter dated 8th April 2016 that had been received from 14 parishioners and addressed the concerns that had been raised.

“We the undersigned are electors within the parish of Appleshaw and request that a Parish Meeting is advertised and convened within the next three weeks, chaired independently of the present Council to discuss the following :-

1. To ensure that Appleshaw parish Council meetings are always held in the Appleshaw Village Hall, so all parishioners can attend without feeling intimidated.”

The Chairman stated that it was her intention to suggest a return to the Village Hall and this will be discussed as an agenda later in this meeting.

2. “To discuss the following :-
(a) Decisions taken which affect the village outside the Parish Council meeting”

The Chairman stated that these decisions were not itemized and she was not aware of any decisions taken outside the Parish Council meeting.

- (b) “Unnecessary internal bickering by leaders who should know better.”

The Chairman stated that there has been no bickering between her and Mr Bruce Parker who were the leaders of the Parish Council.

3. "The future conduct of Appleshaw Parish Council."

Cllr Mr P Lashbrook stated that Parish Council have been monitored, from time to time, by representative and officers of the Borough Council. The Parish Council's conduct and execution of business has always been appropriate. The Borough Councillors are fully supportive of Appleshaw Parish Council and look forward to continuing their good working relationship with the Parish Council.

The Chairman stated that the letter lacked identity and was a list of signatures, no names or addresses for reply.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Seconded by Cllr Mr J Clement.

Matters arising:

DEFIBRILLATOR – TVBC have given permission for the installation of the Defibrillator Box. This should be installed soon. The Clerk suggested that a demonstration of the defibrillator is organised for the July Meeting. This was agreed.

DROVE SIGNS – The Drove street signs have been installed.

HIGHWAYS – Appleshaw Parish Council attended a Highways meeting organised by Cllr Mrs Z Brooks on the 29th April. Representatives from TVBC and HCC Highways were present. The meeting was very informative and plans to repair the potholes to a higher standard very encouraging.

PLANNING FEE – The Chairman confirmed that the £18 paid for the Planning Application for the defibrillator box was not a planning fee but a charge for administration as the planners helped fill out the application and producing copies.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

The Clerk reported that TVBC have informed him that the Parish Council can co-opt to fill the vacancy. Mr D Green stated that he would be happy to come back on the Parish Council if the venue was changed to the Village Hall. Agreed he would rejoin at the July meeting.

VENUE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Parish Council discussed moving back to the Village Hall. It was agreed that the Parish Council would move back to the Village Hall if the dates are still available and Pippins Play Group are asked to pick up their mats, a Councillor tripped and fell at the last meeting held in the Village Hall.

Cllr Mrs R Bass will relay this to the Village Hall Committee and confirm the dates are available. A donation to the PCC for the use of the Church will be discussed at the July meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As the Chairman had only just been appointed, she had no report to give, other than to reiterate that the Parish Council was to work for the Village as a whole and not for individuals. A line was to be drawn under previous ill-feeling.

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCE

The Clerk produced the end of year accounts for the year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016. Each item was explained. The Clerk reported that the accounts are to be audited by Paul Reynolds the internal Auditor. The Parish Council agreed to adopt the accounts and agreed with Section 1 - Annual governance statement and Section 2 – Accounting Statement. Proposed by Cllr A Cowlin and seconded by Cllr J Clement. The Chairman signed off the Audit Form. The Accounts will now be sent to District Audit.

PLANNING

There were no new planning applications.

CERT UP-DATE - Cllr Mrs R Bass reported that the group have been busy gathering information from each parish, Another CERT group meeting is planned to take the scheme to the next stage.

VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Mrs R Bass reported that the Village Hall AGM is on the 26th May and this will be followed by a short committee meeting.

FINANCE

EXPENDITURE – April and May 2016

Richard Waterman	Wages – April	£180.00
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HCC	Street Lighting	£174.73
TVBC	Dog Bin Emptying	£317.38
Mr B Pearce	Grass Cutting and Maintenance	£100.00
		£952.11

INCOME

TVBC - Half Precept £4,750

BANK BALANCE

After above movements have been deducted and added: £8,900.07

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS Z BROOKS

Cllr Mrs Z Brooks thanked the Councillors and the Clerk for attending the Highways Meeting on the 29th April 2016, feedback has been positive and a further meeting will hopefully be held in September 2017. A request for the Police to attend has been made.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Mr P Lashbrook reported that TVBC have been short staffed in the Planning Office and the planning process has been slow. Paul Jackson now has some new blood on the team and it is hoped that things will improve.

HCC have cut costs to their recycling collections and this has seen a rise in fly tipping. Members of the public are urged to report any fly tipping issues to TVBC.

Cllr Mrs P Mutton reported that Planning Officer Bob Gregory is retiring and will be a hard act to follow.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mrs J Marshall reported that to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday a 'bring a picnic' event has been organised for the 12th June on the Playing Field

Mrs Pat Wood thanked the Parish Council for being steadfast during the recent tough times and for the work they do keeping the village looking so good.

Mr E Carr spoke about grass cutting and late start this season. This has been resolved.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

7th July 2016 in the Village Hall.