

Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 8th January 2015 in Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mr B Parker - Chairman
Cllr Mrs A Cowlin - Vice Chairman
Cllr Mrs J Hopkins
Cllr Mrs J Weeks
Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis
Cllr Mr D Green
Cllr Mr J Clements
Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk
Members of the Public - 4

MARY CARR

The Chairman paid tribute to Mary Carr and the work she had done for the entire community. Her dedication had been immeasurable. The Parish Council expressed their sympathy to Eric and the family.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Mrs J Weeks, Trustee, in the Playing Field, Cllr Mrs J Hopkins, Trustee, in the Village Hall, Cllr Mrs A Cowlin in ARC, the Flower Show and the WI.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Chairman signed the minutes of the September and November meetings as a true record. Matters arising from those meetings :-

HIGHWAYS: HCC Highways had started work on clearing the ditch, delayed slightly when a service duct was unearthed alongside The Tree House. The Chairman praised HCC for their recent work in the village and their continued co-operation.

PLAY AREA: The Clerk has engaged Brian Pearce carry out the outstanding repairs to the Play Area before the new weekly inspections begin.

PLANNING:

14/02828/FULLN - Erection of three detached dwellings (3-bed) and associated site works - Land between harrow Farm Cottage and South View/Rose Cottage, Ragged Appleshaw. This application was discussed at length with questions answered by the applicant. **OBJECTION.** (PC submission on TVBC website.)

14/02719/FULLN - Demolition of existing dwelling and barns - replaced with new dwelling and ancillary buildings - Elm Bungalow - **NO OBJECTION**

Extension to Butchers Shop, Randle Parker Foods - **PERMISSION**

Cllr Mrs J Hopkins had met Paul Jackson, Head of Planning, on site to discuss the development at Appleshaw Dene. The new build was in accordance with the plans submitted.

FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENDITURE December 2014 and January 2015

Richard Waterman	Wages - December	£160.00
Richard Waterman	Wages - January	£160.00
Richard Waterman	Wages adjustment	£40.00
Mr C Wilkins	Grass Cutting	<u>£625.50</u>
		£985.50

BANK BALANCE

After above movements have been deducted and added :- £5,295.73

BANK ACCOUNTS

Allotments Account	=	£587.09
Current Account	=	£4,708.64
	=	£5,295.73

2015/16 PRECEPT

Cllr Mrs A Cowlin reported on the estimated accounts for the year 2014/15 and the budget for the year 2015/16. The cost of grass cutting had risen owing to additional areas being added to the specification: an increase of £500 would be added to the budget to cover this. It was felt that the village had looked at its best over the past year and that the current schedule should continue.

Cllr Mrs A Cowlin said the PC had been advised to budget for the possible cost of an election in May 2015 and the precept, therefore, would need to be increased by a further £1400. However, it could return to its current level the following year. In total, the precept will be increased by £1,900 to £10,900. Cllr Mrs J Weeks was not keen for the precept to be increased. The Chairman agreed it was most unfortunate but that was the price of democracy. If an election was not triggered, the £1,400 increase in funds could be returned to council taxpayers by way of a reduction the following year.

Cllr Mr D Green proposed that the precept be increased to £10,900 for the 2015/16 financial year, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Hopkins. This was agreed by a majority vote. The precept for 2015/16 was set at £10,900.

VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Cllr Mrs J Hopkins said the Village Hall was progressing with its oil heating installation although no date had been set. The Chairman said he would be happy to become the PC representative on the hall committee.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

CLLR MR D GREEN - reported concerns about the untidy state of the Aster-owned car park adjacent to the garages at the bottom of Greensey. The Clerk would contact the Neighbourhood Officer to bring this to her attention.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr J Brewer thanked the Chairman for replying to his previous letter but pointed out that the council's Code of Conduct was not on the website. Cllr Mrs A Cowlin would ensure the Code of Conduct was posted on the Appleshaw website.

Mr Steve Amey reported that the Fete Committee needed new members and additional help on the day to run the attractions. The Parish Council agreed they would help spread the word.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis told the Council that he had asked Cllr Mrs J Hopkins for an apology for her explicit criticism of the way he had conducted himself as Chairman at the May 2014 meeting. This apology had not been received by him in spite of numerous requests. Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis said if no written apology was forthcoming by 6pm the following day, the 9th January, 2015, he would resign from the council. Cllr J Hopkins stated that she had apologised but Cllr Mr D Bloom-Davis was adamant that he had received no such apology.

The Chairman disallowed any further discussion on the grounds that the issue had been discussed at length in an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council. He said he would be placing the matter in the hands of the TVBC Monitoring Officer after the deadline given by Cllr Mr Bloom-Davis should an apology not be received.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

5th March 2015