

Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 in St Peter's Church, Appleshaw at 7.30pm.

Covid-19 Rules on Social Distancing were followed.

Present: Cllr Mr J Malony - Chairman
Cllr Mr B Hodgson
Cllr Mr M Watts
Cllr Mr T Seymour
County Councillor Mr C Donnelley
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Members of the Public – Mrs J Hopkins and Dr G Legg

Apologies: Cllr Mr T Burden, Cllr Mr J Holder – Vice Chairman and Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook.

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest recorded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman signed the minutes of the May 2021 meeting as a true record. Matters arising:

FOOTPATHS – The Clerk reported that he had submitted the list of footpaths that needed trimming to Hampshire County Council. Cllr Mr M Watts stated that he and Cllr B Hodgson had trimmed all the footpaths. The Clerk will inform HCC.

VILLAGE CLOCK – Cllr Mr M Watts reported that he hoped the clock would be working again by the end of the month. The electrician had found a problem with the earth wire to the outbuildings at the Old Vicarage (the owner is paying for this to be rectified). When this work has been completed, the additional double-switch socket will be installed. The contractor electrifying the clock has been on site and is ready to install the apparatus.

WEBSITE – The new website is up and running and receiving good reviews.

PLANNING.

21/01654/FULLN – Two storey rear extension to provide study with bedroom and bathroom above – Biddesden Bottom, Biddesden Bottom Road, Redenham – NO OBJECTION.

FINANCE.

Expenditure May, June and July 2021

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|---------|
| D.A. Cook | Mower Repair | £440.25 |
| C Wilkins | Ground Maintenance | £407.46 |

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| TVBC | Dog Bins | £1,221.60 |
| PGPC | Office Hire | £55.00 |
| R.N. Waterman | Expenses | £137.50 |
| Mr P Reynolds | Audit | £260.00 |
| PGPC | Rubbish Bin | £218.99 |
| D.A. Cook | Mower Repair | £59.76 |
| Mr C Wilkins | Ground Maintenance | £1,671.17 |
| Electric Work | Electrics for Clock | £102.00 |
| Mr B Pearce | Grass Cutting | £ 80.00 |
| R.N. Waterman | Spray for PA | £18.70 |
| R.N. Waterman | Administration J + J | £500.00 |
| | | <u>£5,172.43</u> |

INCOME

Nil

Summary of Accounts 2021/2022

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Opening Balance 1 st April 2021 | = | £ 8,134.31 |
| Plus Income – April and May | = | £ 6,500.00 |
| | = | <u>£14,634.31</u> |

Less Expenditure

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| April and May | £1,099.54 |
| June and July | £5,172.43 |
| | = <u>£6,271.91</u> |

= **£8,362.40**

FUNDS AVAILABLE

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|
| Allotments | = | £ 250.09 |
| Parish Council | = | £ 8,112.31 |
| | = | <u>£8,362.40</u> |

HEMLOCK IN THE PARISH.

The Chairman reported that for over five weeks he had been emailing various authorities regarding the Hemlock that is growing in the ditch between the Walnut Tree Inn and the Old School House.

- The Environment Agency were the first to be contacted by the Clerk, who confirmed they would only come and remove the Hemlock if there was water in the ditch and it was impeding the flow.
- Hampshire County Council and Test Valley BC, after several emails, both stated that they have no legal duty to remove Hemlock from public areas.
- It has now been suggested that the removal of the Hemlock is down to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council discussed how to remove and dispose of the Hemlock. Cllrs Mr M Watts, Mr B Hodgson and Mr T Seymour will attend to this.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors concerned and stated that he was disappointed with the lack of support from Test Valley BC and HCC on this issue.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR CHRIS DONNELLY

Cllr Donnelly introduced himself and spoke about the planned re-surfacing of the Old School Road. He reported that he has a devolved budget to use for parish projects and welcomed any applications for funding. HCC have grants available of £5,000 for schemes to reduce waste. HCC are lifting the cap on the number of visits allowed to the re-cycling centres, although booking a slot will still remain in place for the time being.

PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

CLLR MR M WATTS reported that it is becoming very difficult to see cars coming from Ludgershall direction at the Whitey House junction due to the overgrown hedge of the property on the righthand side.

Mrs J Hopkins suggested that the long grass at the junction was more of a barrier to view oncoming traffic from both directions at that junction. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk will ask Mr C Wilkins if he could strim the long grass on the righthand side of the junction and the island in the middle of the road.

Cllr Mr M Watts reported that Mr H McCall's hedge in Ragged Appleshaw is growing out over the pavement and pedestrians have to walk in the road. Mr McCall needs to be made aware of this and be asked to trim the hedge.

Cllr Mr M Watts has been informed that the allotment holders have not been billed for two years. The Clerk apologised and reported that this is in hand. A site meeting to look at the allotments is planned as it has been brought to the Clerk's attention that at least three plots have not been worked for some time.

Cllr Mr M Watts reported that there are still incidents of drug-taking and dealing on the playing field. There have also been incidents of vehicles doing 'doughnuts' on the field in the early hours of the morning.

Cllr Mr M Watts suggested that retractable bollards might be installed at the entrance as there are no longer any gates. The suggestion would be explored. It was noted, however, that this is not a parish council matter but it would be discussed with the village hall trustees and the playing field trustees.

Cllr Mr M Watts reported that Chris Wilkins will need to shut the play area while working there to comply with his insurance cover. Chris has received a certain amount of abuse from mothers while working in the play area. The Clerk had spoken to Chris and signs are being prepared for him to hang on the gate while working in the play area and he intends to lock the gates while working.

Cllr Mr M Watts stated that he intends to sort out the shelving in the telephone box library.

Cllr Mr M Watts wished to thank Ben for the wildflower areas in the village as they are a joy to view.

CLLR MR B HODGSON reported that he plans to back the new Neighbourhood Watch signs with hard board before erecting them in the village.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Dr G Legg reported that there is a bench on the Village Green in need of repair - new wooden slats are needed and the metal frame attending to. He thought that this would need repairing in situ as the bench is bolted onto a concrete base. Cllr Watts and Cllr Seymour will look at what needs doing.

Mrs J Hopkins also wished to thank Ben for the wildflowers.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

8th September 2021.