

Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 in Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Mr J Moloney - Chairman
Cllr Mr J Holder – Vice Chairman
Cllr Mr B Hodgson
Cllr Mr T Burden
Cllr Mrs S Smith
Cllr Mr M Watts
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
County Councillor Mr C Donnelly
Members of the Public – 7

Apologies for absence: Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook.

WELCOME

Cllr Mr J Holder, Vice Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None recorded.

PARISH COUNCIL RESIGNATION.

Cllr Mr T Seymour has resigned from the Parish Council. The Clerk will inform TVBC of the vacancy. The Parish Council wished to thank Mr Tim Seymour for all the work he has done during his time on the Parish Council.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY.

Mrs Sue Smith signed the Declaration of Office and was co-opted onto the Parish Council.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the March meeting were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING.

SPEED SURVEY – no news to report.

ALLOTMENTS – Cllr Mr M Watts.

The Clerk reported that Southern Water have quoted between £1,200 and £1,400 for a connection to the mains.

Cllr Mr M Watts reported that since the last meeting and the publishing of the minutes, there had been plenty discussion about the provision of water and the suggested increase in the allotment annual fee.

Cllr Watts stated that 50% of the allotment holders did not want mains water supplied and are happy to continue with collecting rainwater. The suggested increase in the allotment annual fee had not been received at all well and it was felt that an increase to £52 a year was excessive.

The Clerk reminded Councillors what was actually recorded in the May minutes:

"Fees for allotment tenancy need revising with some allotment holders only paying £10 a year for a full-size allotment. It was suggested that the fee for an allotment be raised to £1 a week, i.e. £52 per annum. The size of the allotment will also be taken into consideration. It was agreed to review the rents over the summer with the view to the increase in rents for the next year, beginning April 1st, 2023."

The fee of £52 a year was only a suggestion and required further discussion by the Parish Council.

Mr B Parker, an allotment holder, said he had not been consulted on either the provision of water or the rent increase. He knew of other allotment holders who had not been consulted and questioned the 50% statement made by Cllr Mr M Watts.

The Clerk suggested that he put together a questionnaire for the allotment holders by way of consultation with them before any decision is made. The questionnaire will be distributed to Councillors ahead of the September meeting when it can be approved and recorded in the minutes. This was agreed.

FOOTPATHS – Cllr Mr M Watts and Cllr Mr B Hodgson.

The majority of the village footpaths are clear and walkable. There are two overgrown footpaths that are not being cleared by the landowner. One is being attended to under the Lengthsman Scheme.

VILLAGE MAINTENANCE - Cllr Mr T Burden had no issues to report.

PLAYING FIELD FENCING – Cllr Mr M Watts reported that the playing field fence has been repaired by himself and Cllr Mr B Hodgson. The Village Hall trustees are paying for the materials.

DEFIBRILLATOR – The Clerk reported that the defibrillator at the Walnut Tree was found to be faulty and has been sent back to the manufacturer for investigation. The new defibrillator has been put in the cabinet at the Walnut Tree until the original has been repaired.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS – UP-DATE

- Speed Monitoring – recording equipment due in the Autumn.
- Refurbishment of the village notice boards – the refurbishment of the Redenham notice board has been completed. The Ragged Appleshaw notice board is in fairly good condition and just requires rubbing down and repainting and new internal backing – this will be done before the autumn and can be done on site.
- Walnut trees on The Green – no further news to report.
- Grass cutting – the new contractor is now coping well with requirements.

PLANNING.

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

FINANCE.

Financial Statement 13th July 2022

Expenditure June and July 2022

R.N. Waterman	Administration J & J	£540.00
PGPC	FSS Maintenance 2022	£240.18
L. Harris	Refurbish Notice Board	£300.00
Gerry's Timber	Wood	£49.20
Wel Medical	Defib Cabinet	£546.00
DA Cook	Mower Servicing	£271.20
Mr B Pearce	Grass Cutting	£80.00
Microsoft and McAfee		£99.00
K Baynes	Grass Cutting	£1,812.60
SBPC	Storage	£20.00
		<u>£3,958.18</u>

INCOME

TVBC Grant £1,000.00
(£500 Jubilee Celebrations and £500 Defib Cabinet)

Summary of Accounts 2022/2023

Opening Balance 1st April 2022 = £ 8,032.62
Plus Income – April and May £ 6,500.00
June and July £ 1,000.00
= **£15,532.62**

Less Expenditure
April and May = £ 4,488.70
June and July = £ 3,958.18
= **£ 8,446.88**

= **£ 7,085.74**

FUNDS AVAILABLE

Allotments = £ 474.00
Parish Council = £6,611.74
= **£7,085.74**

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

Cllr Mr T Burden reported that the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee went extremely well and everyone who attended had a good time. A spread sheet recording all income and expenditure has been completed and will be forwarded to the Parish Clerk for the records.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR C DONNELLY.

Cllr Mr C Donnelly reported on the following issues:

- Test Valley Community Police are out and about carrying out speed checks in the rural areas.
- Hampshire County Council are actively looking at cutting costs on managing the environment in the county.
- Free school meals for the disadvantaged will continue during the summer holidays.
- The new HCC Highways cabinet member will be touring rural areas with Mr

Donnelly to look at the state of the roads and when a date has been set, the Parish Council will be invited to attend.

- HCC are looking again at the criteria for a 20mph speed limit in the village.

PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

CLLR MRS S SMITH – Reported that she has painted the inside of the telephone box and intends to make it more user-friendly, concentrating on providing items for the children of the parish. Mrs Smith reported that the original colour paint is available for the outside of the telephone box. It is expensive but would take the colour back to the original. It is intended to add a solar powered light and new 'original style' signs. The Parish Council thought this a good idea and agreed to proceed.

It is also intended to feature local authors making books available to read. Mrs Smith intends to work with the school to promote the wellbeing of the children in the village, focusing on education.

CLLR MR M WATTS reported that the bench on The Green has been repaired and the plaque in memory of Des Green has been added.

CLLR MR B HODGSON reported that some of the wood on the 'dog gates' on some of the footpaths is beginning to split and will be monitored.

CLLR MR J MOLONEY (Chairman) reported that he has spoken to PCSO Connor Hill regarding speeding in the village. PCSO Hill confirmed that there have been no recorded incidents to the 101 telephone number.

CLLR MR T BURDEN reported that he had witnessed a local contractor's employee speeding through the village and that he would speak to the contractor who is a personal friend.

Cllr Mr T Burden reported that a local person received a shock from an electric fence while out walking on the MacCall's land and it was noted that there were no signs indicating that it was an electric fence.

Cllr Mr T Burden reported that there is a fallen bow on one of the trees on the Playing Field and that he intends to remove it. Mr Burden also asked when the next village litter pick is to be held. The Chairman suggested September – once the date has been agreed the information would be announced on social media.

CLLR MR J HOLDER asked the Clerk to place a letter of thanks to the Jubilee Committee from the Parish Council on the notice boards.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Mr B Parker pointed out that maintenance of the allotments is the responsibility of the Parish Council and that it is the only significant piece of land they own. His own plot and a neighbouring one are shaded for some of the day by tall sycamore trees. These trees have been pruned back in the past but now need further work.

Cllr Mr T Burden, the publican, stated that he owned the trees in question and he had no idea they were causing problems. A discussion followed between Mr Parker and Mr

Burden. The Parish Council noted the points raised and agreed to take a look at the allotments and formulate a maintenance programme.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

14th September 2022.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS.

- Speed monitoring - HCC
- Refurbishment of the village notice boards.
- Walnut trees
- Allotment rents and provision of water.
- Defibrillator repair – installation of second cabinet.