

Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th July 2023 in Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Mrs S Smith – Chairman.
Cllr Mr B Hodgson – Vice Chairman
Cllr Mr T Burden
Cllr Mr M Watts
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Emma Moss – HR Manager. Pilgrim's Foods, Tilley Down.
Members of the Public – 14

Apologies: County Councillor Mr C Donnelly and Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook.

WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Mrs S Smith declared an interest in the Village Hall.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY.

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council still has vacancies. One parishioner had come forward but unfortunately could not attend this meeting and will be co-opted onto the Parish Council in September.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN. AND VICE CHAIR.

CHAIR – Cllr Mrs S Smith proposed Cllr Mr B Hodgson as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Mr M Watts. All agreed. Cllr Hodgson was elected Vice-Chairman.

PILGRIMS.

The Chairman welcomed Emma Moss the HR Manager at Pilgrim's Foods, Tilley Down.

Emma Moss reported:

- Pilgrims now have an Eco Director on site and the plans to reduce the amount of light pollution from the site is ongoing. A PIR System is to be installed and a plan and map of the installation of lighting to meet the needs of the plant is being produced.
- The 20 mph banner is being moved around to help get the message across to staff and visitors to the plant. The 20 mph suggested speed limit is on the monthly Health and Safety meetings.
- Emma was pleased to report that Pilgrims will be donating £1,000 towards the cost of the new mower.
- Pilgrims have also agreed to contribute to the refurbishment of the play area by giving a day's free labour of their handyman/gardener to help with the painting of fence.
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The Chairman thanked Emma Moss for her report and her continued support.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

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

MATTERS ARISING.

ALLOTMENTS – Cllr Mr M Watts reported that the issue of providing water to the allotments has been re-addressed and all allotment holders have now been consulted. The Parish Council will now proceed with a project to supply water to the allotments.

Animal troughs will be installed and the annual cost of water usage will be split between the allotment holders. Cllr Mr M Watts wished to make it clear that the Parish Council will, with the help of grants, pay for the installation. There will be no installation charge to the allotment holders.

POLICE LIAISON – The Chairman reported that the Parish Council is in weekly contact with our Special Police Constable. There have not been any reported incidents. There will be another 'Beat Surgery' in September 2023.

ROAD SAFETY IN APPLESHAW AND REDENHAM.

- The Road Safety Traffic Group have decided that safety on the village roads is the priority and aim to put a plan forward with real achievable objectives.
- It is felt that the RSTG must look for ways to influence and change the culture of drivers to be more aware of their surroundings when using the village roads.
- Traffic management is not within the remit of the Parish Council and residents are urged to report all incidents to the police.
- A record of 'near misses' is to be compiled and residents are urged to pass on any information with as much detail as possible (date, time, vehicle details, issue etc.).
- Test Valley Borough Council have been asked to look at signage and street furniture.
- The RSTG are planning an event for the National Road Safety Day. Details will be published in due course.
- Appleshaw School are supportive of the road safety project.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

Notice Board – The refurbishment of the notice boards is now complete.

WALNUT TREES – Cllr Mr T Burden had no further information on the replacement trees.

PLANNING.

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

FINANCE.

June and July 2023.

INCOME.

Allotment Rents	£ 30.00
	<u>£ 30.00</u>

EXPENDITURE.

R. N Waterman	Admin – June/July	= £ 600.00
K Baynes	Grass Cutting	= £ 1757.53
DA Cook	Tractor Repair	= £ 1290.59
P Reynolds	Audit	= £ 290.00
L Harris	Notice Board	= £ 150.00

Simon Nightingale	F.S.S.	= £ 293.58
Brian Pearce	Grass Redenham	= £ 90.00
TVBC	Dog Bin Emptying	= £ 1275.72
		<u>£5,747.42</u>

Summary of Accounts 2023/2024

Opening Balance	1 st April 2023	= £ 1,346.45
Plus Income – April and May		£ 7,195.18
	June and July	£ 30.00
		= <u>£8,571.63</u>

Less Expenditure		
	April and May	= £1,722.75
	June and July	= £5,747.42
		= <u>£7470.17</u>
		= <u>£1,101.46</u>

FUNDS AVAILABLE

Allotments	=	£ 514.00
Parish Council	=	£ 587.46
	=	<u>£ 1,101.46</u>

VAT REFUND SUBMITTED FOR £ 1,954.06

PLAY AREA.

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council is undertaking a refurbishment of the Play Area. The Play Area equipment will get a fresh coat of paint and wood preservative where relevant. The dead tree will be felled and the overhanging branches of the neighbour's tree will be trimmed back (permission has been given by the neighbour).

Mr Owen Mills offered to fell the tree if help was on hand to load it onto his truck. Mr Mills said he would need confirmation from a tree surgeon that the tree is dead before he commences any work. This was noted. The Chairman thanked Mr Owen Mills for his generous offer.

VILLAGE HALL.

Mr Justin Holder reported the following:

With effect from the 1st of August 2023, The Appleshaw Village Hall Charity, registered charity number 1049974 and The John Ward Memorial Playing Field, registered charity number 301726 will in future be operating as one charity: a newly established charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) called The John Ward Memorial Playing Field and Appleshaw Village Hall registered charity number 1203258.

The incorporation will be affected by the transfer to the CIO of the activities, assets and liabilities of the existing Village Hall Charity and Playing Field Charity.

The change is the result of a modernisation and regulation exercise to ensure that the existing charities operate (a) under the auspices of a modern 'state of the art' constitution and (b) in accordance with best practice recommendations, thus helping to

facilitate good governance. The amalgamation of the two charities will not in any way affect the services provided and the rights and benefits of service users.

It was proposed that the new CIO would take effect from the 1st of August 2023.

The Chairman thought this excellent news and thanked Mr Holder and his fellow trustees for all the work they have done to bring this together.

PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

CLLR MR T BURDEN spoke at length about village grass cutting and its increasing cost. It was agreed that at the end of the grass cutting season, the Parish Council will look at the grass cutting contract and consider ways of reducing the cost to the parish. This will be agreed before the Parish Council agrees its budget for 2024/2025.

CLLR MR B HODGSON reported that the weeping beech tree outside the church on the village green has been pruned. Work on keeping footpaths open and clear has been completed. A branch from a tree has fallen across the ditch opposite West Park and was catching passing cars; this will be removed.

The Chairman reported that there are many community activities planned in the village over the summer holidays. The drop-in coffee mornings at the village hall are proving popular. Help is required to man the stalls at the fete. If anyone was able to spare an hour to man a stall on the day, it would be greatly appreciated.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Issues raised included:

- The 'rota' flashing speed sign – the Clerk gave a brief history of why that particular sign was purchased and is shared between four Parish Councils, all installing it for three weeks on a twelve-week roster. The Clerk stressed that the sign is a 'reminder sign' rather than a speed indicator.
- Installing wooden bollards on the village green to stop cars driving across the green as a short cut. This was noted.
- An increase in dog fouling on the Playing Field was reported.
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CLOSE OF THE MEETING

Cllr Mrs S Smith thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

13th of September 2023.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS.

- Road safety
- Walnut trees