

Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th of November 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
Cllr Mrs C Wootton
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Members of the Public – 10

Apologies: Cllr Mrs D Hodgson, Emma Moss, HR Manager. Pilgrim's UK, County Councillor Mr C Donnelly and Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook.

WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

The Chairman stated that members of the public have an opportunity to address the Parish Council as an item on each agenda. The Chairman understood that not everyone is comfortable about talking in public so, with this in mind, there will now be paper and pencils available at each meeting and a sealed posting box so that issues can be raised.

The Parish Council will try to address any issues they receive but, failing that, will pass onto the relevant authorities.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

The Chairman declared an interest in the village hall.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY.

The Chairman proposed Mrs Carole Wootton be co-opted onto the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Mr M Watts. All agreed. Mrs Carole Wootton was co-opted onto the Parish Council and signed the 'Declaration of Office'.

PILGRIM'S UK.

The Chairman wished to thank Emma Moss and Pilgrim's Foods for their continued support of the village events.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

- ENVIRONMENT – The Chairman wished to thank Mrs Jenny Hopkins for her continued work as Flood Warden. Mrs Hopkins reported that the ground water levels have risen rapidly by two metres over the last few weeks. An email has been sent to residents whose cellars flood, alerting them to the increase in ground water levels. The Environment Agency is due to cut and clear the ditch through the parish in November 2023. Mrs Hopkins thanked the Parish Council working party that's kept the gullies clear.

- **HIGHWAYS** – The Chairman wished to thank County Councillor Mr C Donnelly for his support. Cllr Donnelly is taking to HCC level the provision of signage to alert vehicles that there are pedestrians on the road from the White House to the Village. Concerns have been raised about the safety of the children exiting the school bus at the drop-off stop at Greensey. It has been suggested that the bus stop is moved to a safer position. The Chairman and Cllr Mrs C Wootton will pursue this with the help of Cllr Donnelly.
- **CHURCH** – The Rev Sarah Sharland reported that there will be a Remembrance Service at all five Parishes on the 12th of November at 10.50am. The recent All Souls Service was successful. Details of the Christmas and Advent programme would be circulated soon. Annette Duckett said she'd be happy to publish the programme on social media.

ALLOTMENTS.

Cllr Mr M Watts reported that three animal troughs have now been donated to the allotments by parishioners. There was no other news to report.

PLANNING.

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

FINANCE.

Financial Statement **October and November 2023.**

INCOME. Nil

EXPENDITURE.

R. N Waterman	Admin – Aug + Sept	= £ 600.00
K Baynes	Grass Cutting	= £1,276.96
M. Watts	Expenses Refund	= £ 126.00
T. Burden	Fuel for mowing	= £ 55.47
Mrs S Smith	Poppies	= £ 50.00
Brian Pearce	Grass Redenham	= £ 180.00
P. Childs	Grass Cutting	= £ 70.00
HCC	Street Lighting	= £ 120.00
Mr N Futcher	Grass Cutting	= £ 250.00
Gallager	Insurance	= £ 1,081.27
		<u>£3,809.70</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
	August and September	£ 9,517.45
	October and November	NIL
		= <u>£ 18,089.08</u>

Less Expenditure

April and May	= £1,722.75
June and July	= £5,747.42
Aug and Sept	= £1,822.29
Oct and Nov	= £3,809.70
	= <u>£13,102.16</u>

= **£4,986.92**

FUNDS AVAILABLE

Allotments	=	£ 398.00
Parish Council	=	£4,588.29
	=	<u>£4,986.92</u>

VILLAGE HALL.

Dr G Legg reported that the Village Hall committee have not met since the last Parish Council meeting and he had nothing to report.

WALNUT TREE COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMITTEE.

Mr Simon Bloyce and Annette Duckett reported:

- The recent scarecrow event was a great success.
- The next events are the lighting of the Christmas Tree and the Santa Dash. Registrations to take part in the Santa Dash are starting to be submitted.
- The WTEC would like to thank Pilgrims for their continued support.
- The Andover Advertiser and Castle Down Radio have been very supportive of the events held in the village and there has been a lot of positive coverage.
- Volunteers are required on the day for the Santa Dash. Anybody available was asked to contact the committee.
- Full details for both events will be posted on social media and around the village.

FETE.

The Chairman reported that the Fete Committee is looking at the requests received for funding from village organisations.

ROAD SAFETY – Report from Mr Andrew Smith.

SUMMARY - A clear mandate exists from residents to address the issue of danger and safety on the village roads. Potential accident 'black spots' have been identified. A majority prefer a lowering of the speed limits on some of the local roads. Clear recommendations are outlined for lower speed limit zones, pedestrian refuge areas, educating and influencing drive behaviour, signage and visibility.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATION.

- Safe refuge area for pedestrians between the Andover/Ludgershall Road and the village.
- Lobby to reduce speed limit between Andover/Ludgershall Road and the village.
- Lobby for 20mph in areas identified as high risk and with no pavements.
- Long term improvements to the junction with the Andover/Ludgershall Road.
- Influencing behaviour of drivers from high density village organisations (Pilgrims and St Peters School) at start and finish times.
- Improving frequency of hedge trimming.
- Seek funding for a 'smiley' traffic calming camera for rotational use at high-risk spots in the village.
- The Parish Council will continue to liaise with TVBC and HCC.
- Consider a Road Safety event in 2024.

PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

CLLR MR B HODGSON – Reported that Pilgrims donated ten of the large poppies that have been put up around the village for Remembrance Day. The Parish Council have also donated a further ten.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

The issue of anti-social behaviour was raised. The method of reporting incidents does not work; the police need to look at this and proper guidance issued. Disappointment was voiced on the lack of follow-up from the PCSO on an anti-social behaviour incident. The Chairman stated that she will pass this comment on to the Village PCSO.

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council is continuing to work with the police and another Beat Surgery is planned for 2024. It was felt that young people need to be targeted and holding a Beat Surgery during the day means it would clash with school attendance. This was noted.

Mrs Caroline Tomlinson spoke about PCC plans to erect a smaller notice board on the Village Green side of the church wall. The new notice board could be shared by the Parish Council to display notices etc.

The Parish Council had no objection after confirmation of the land ownership.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

10th January 2024.