

**Minutes of the Appleshaw Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday the
12th of November 2025 in Appleshaw Village Hall at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr Barry Hodgson – Vice Chairman
Cllr Denise Hodgson
Cllr Carole Wootton
Mrs Emma Moss – Pilgrim's Europe HR Manager
Members of the Public - 5

Apologies: Cllr Jenny Hopkins – Chairman, Cllr Tony Burden, County Councillor Mr C Donnelly and Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook.

WELCOME

Cllr Barry Hodgson chaired the meeting.
The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest recorded.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman signed the minutes of the July meeting as a true record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

Cllr Barry Hodgson read out the following report from Cllr Jenny Hopkins – Chairman.

We are most grateful to the Fete Committee for their generous donation of £500 to fund the hire of a trenching machine for the allotments water connection. Southern Water had confirmed they would fund the connection provided we did the pipework installation, so Barry duly got on with it brilliantly and he will give you more information later on. We are also very grateful to Owen Mills for digging out a particularly stoney area of the ground.

The large poppies which are displayed on our roadside posts to commemorate Armistice Day are provided by Pilgrim's Europe, and we are very grateful to them for supplying more for this year. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the last litter pick which yielded a lot of rubbish at the A342 end of the village. Sadly, there was more to pick up only a day or so later, but your efforts are much appreciated. Our thanks also to those of you who regularly collect the odd bag or two as you go on your way. It all helps.

Primary School Parking: following issues with parking in Ragged Appleshaw, our thanks to the headmaster of the primary school for writing to all parents to request them to park sensitively in a residential area, and to remind that the car park at Pilgrim's is open to them for school drop off and collection times to save parking on the road.

Southern Water Verges: the reinstatement of the verges is ongoing – although some have been completed, we are trying to engage FMS over a site in Ragged Appleshaw and the verge opposite the church where a tanker was deployed during the last 2 winters. The work to reline the pipes including private sewer laterals has been put back to mid-November, so we are keeping fingers crossed. *They will start upstream in Redenham and work their way down to Penton Mewsey and the result should mean no more tankers for us. Ditches from the Penton boundary to the Horns in Redenham are due to be cut through soon. We have asked HCC for confirmation of

ownership of the roadside ditches from the Horns up to Biddesden so that we can get them cleared. The level at the Clanville bore is markedly down on last year's level so we should not have groundwater running through the ditch this time.

Trees: Parishioners with trees hanging over roads or where people walk are encouraged to check periodically for dead and dying branches.

Walnut Tree Pub – good news that TVBC has accepted the nomination to include the pub on its register of community assets for the next five years so that the village retains a little control over the building's future should Admiral Taverns wish to put it on the market. We now have permanent tenants once again in Tom and Terry Robinson.

Draft Local Plan - Some of you may have received the mailshot from Bloor Homes about a development of 400 dwellings to the east of the A342 at Ludgershall. A presentation will be on display in Ludgershall on Thursday (tomorrow). I reiterate this development is as yet only an aspiration in the Draft Local Plan – the next consultation will be in the Spring to Summer next year with the eventual adoption of the Plan aimed for December 2027.

This does, however, confirm that the idea of extra development in our villages has by no means gone away. The allocation of sites in the Plan is still up in the air, with new sites being added by landowners to the TVBC stock during the last 2 consultations. Responses to the Regulation 18 round in early 2024 are on the TVBC website. We are aware of an alternative entitled 'Weyhill Vision' which proposes different sites in Weyhill further away from the A342. Sustainability in promoting 'Active Travel' and '15-minute cities' is driving the design of the new areas.

For this reason, and the consequent increase in traffic movements, the A342 Working Group of 9 parishes is looking at how to improve the road so that its significance as a major route is understood by HCC. The group is also looking at how to advise the improvement of public transport, including rail.

Neighbourhood Plans: Under the amended National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) guidelines, communities with published Plans are in a better position to control development. Appleshaw Parish Council chose to protect the distinctive characteristics of the villages by publishing a Village Design Statement in 2015 which provides guidelines to developers on what they can and cannot do. The purpose of the VDS is to 'help control development that will complement the character of the immediate setting. VDS have the status of a Supplementary Planning Document and are a material consideration when determining planning applications. There was no cost to the community to produce the VDS. Neighbourhood plans have become significant in the last few months in the planning process and are a more in-depth and expensive version: they can set aspirations for future growth in their area, for example. These plans can take up to 3 years to complete and cost between £15,000 and £50,000 owing to the formal consultation process.

Aster Group- sale of garages at Greensey. Leaseholders of garages 2-8 were given notice to quit them last Sunday (9th November). The property, including the land with the bus stop and shelter, will be sold on 11th of Decembre by Clive Emson auctioneers. The car park behind the garages is not being sold. We will keep an eye on the sale. This represents yet another sale of community property by Aster (along with a flat which came on the market a couple of weeks ago), we are in correspondence with their Head of Asset Appraisal who has confirmed the block has a covenant on it to

ensure any application for change of use must go through Aster. It is company policy to sell in blocks and no applications to buy individual garages will be accepted. Aster has stated there are no plans to sell the car park. The first garage and the land it stands on is owned privately and will not be part of the sale. We are trying to find out who the owner is.

VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

Cllr Barry Hodgson reported that all the pipe work has been installed for the six water troughs. Southern Water are due to connect the allotments to the Water supply on Wednesday the 19th of November 2025.

PLANNING.

Cllr Carole Wootton reported that Planning Application 25/01914/CLPN – construct temporary hard standing and mobile accommodation – The Old Laundry, Biddesden Bottom Road, Redenham has been withdrawn.

FINANCE.

October and November 2025

INCOME.

Fete Grant towards Allotment Water	= £500.00
Allotment Rents	= £280.00
	= <u>£780.00</u>

EXPENDITURE.

R. N Waterman Admin – Oct and Nov	= £ 600.00
SBPC Storage	= £ 20.00
Lloyds Bank Charge	= £ 9.50
DA Cook Mower Repair	= £ 80.03
Simon Nightingale FSS Maint	= £ 319.08
C Wilkins Maintenance	= £ 400.00
M Lovell Mower Repair	= £ 234.98
Allotments – Provision of Water	= £ 1,237.94
HCC Street Lighting	= £ 161.83
R.N. Waterman ½ Year Exp and OA	= £ 175.00
PGPC Defibrillator Pads	= £ 86.00
	<u>£ 3324.36</u>

Summary of Accounts 2025/2026

Opening Balance 1 st April 2025	= £3,785.80
Plus Income – April and May	£10,536.72
Aug and September	£11,770.56
Oct and November	£ 780.00
	= <u>£26,873.08</u>

Less Expenditure

April and May	= £3,599.52
June and July	= £2,856.87
Aug and Sept	= £7,781.19
Oct and Nov	= £3,324.36

= **£17,561.94**

Total = £ 9,311.14

FUNDS AVAILABLE

Allotments	=	£ 738.00
Parish Council	=	£ 7,973.14
Play Area	=	£ 600.00
	=	<u>£ 9,311.14</u>

VAT to be reclaimed £415.09

WALNUT TREE EVENTS COMMITTEE.

The Walnut Tree Events Committee have had a good first half of the year. The October Scarecrow event and BBQ was a great success.

On the 22nd of November there is a Santa Cricket Match, BBQ and Bar. The popular Santa Dash and the lighting of the Christmas Tree will be held in December. Pilgrims UK and the Parish Council were thanked for their continued support. The Fete have given a grant to the Santa Dash to enable free entry for children taking part in the Santa Dash.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no issues raised.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

Cllr Barry Hodgson thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 7.35 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14th of January 2026

*(Post-meeting note – Southern Water now intend to start the pipe relining work downstream at Penton Mewsey in the first week in January 2026 and will make their way up to us.)