

APPLEFORD-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Appleford on Tuesday 25th November 2008.

Present: Cllrs G Duffield (Chair), A Sharp, D Alcorn, P Horton
In attendance: J Beck (Clerk)
Apologies: County Cllr Colin Lamont

08/114 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Lamont (County Councillor) had sent apologies.

08/115 Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

There were none.

08/116 Co-option to vacancy

A notice of vacancy had been advertised on the village noticeboard and in the Pressings. As there had been no requests for an election, the council resolved to co-opt Mr Christopher Martin to the vacancy. Mr Martin signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the Clerk and was given the Register of Interests to complete within 28 days.

08/117 Public Participation

There was none.

08/118 Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2008

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting, and Cllr Duffield signed accordingly.

08/119 Matters Arising and Matters of Urgency

- a) Incinerator. Cllr Alcorn informed the meeting that the proposal had been rejected by the Vale with 12 major objections. The protest group Sutton Courtenay Against the Incinerator (SCAI) continues, but is looking for more input from other local parish councils. Meetings had been held with County Councillor Colin Lamont. The Oxfordshire County Council planning meeting is scheduled for 12th January.
- b) Reservoir. Cllr Duffield informed that meeting that GARD is working on alternative ways to supply the water required. The deadline for 5 November has been extended until February 2009.
- c) Green Lane Agreement. Cllr Alcorn presented the agreement to the meeting and Cllr Duffield signed on behalf of the council. Cllr Alcorn will take the agreement around to the other signatories.
- d) Gates and Signage. The clerk has confirmed with Oxfordshire County Council that white gates at the railway bridge entrance to the village are not practical because of impaired visibility for traffic. The Clerk to contact Oxfordshire Highways again to install 30 mph signs on Main Road, and replace the missing 30 mph sign at The Knapp.
- e) Hill Farm. The Vale of White Horse District Council is progressing this matter.

- f) Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. This item was postponed to the next meeting.
- g) Fields in Trust. The Clerk reported that the Deed of Dedication had now been completed and a copy returned to the council for its records.
- h) Chain to fence off Recreation Ground
The council agreed that Cllr Sharp would purchase a chain and install it to prevent unauthorised vehicular access to the village hall.

08/120 Freedom of Information Scheme

It was resolved to adopt the new Model Publication Scheme. The council will review the types of information and means of publication contained within the Information Guide for the parish council at the next meeting.

08/121 County and District Councillor Report

County Councillor's Report.

There was none.

District Councillor's Report.

Cllr Duffield reported on a number of issues, including:

- Hill Farm
- Didcot and Grenoble Road
- Hanson Gravel
- Waste collection contracts will be renewed soon – weekly food collection, fortnightly collection for other waste. Arrangements for hazardous waste will continue as normal.
- Vale of White Horse Community Flood Groups. It was agreed that there was no immediate need for a group to form in Appleford, but the Clerk will reply to the Council to be kept informed in future.

08/122 Appleford Community Project

It was proposed that the ACP account should be closed and the money transferred to the parish council reserve account and ring-fenced. Cllr Alcorn will liaise with the ACP.

08/123 Liaison Meetings

- No meetings had been held recently, but Cllr Horton will attend the next WRG meeting on 3 December, and a meeting with the Environment Agency on 1st December to discuss the complaints hotline and complaints received. An update will be published in the Pressings.
- Cllr Duffield has requested figures from WRG on water consumption by Didcot A plant.

08/124 Correspondence

This had been circulated on a regular basis since the last meeting and items are listed on file.

- The council had received a request from the Parish Trust to plant a Magnolia Galaxy tree on the Knapp, to which the parish council agreed. The Clerk will check with Oxfordshire County Council as to any legal liability incurred, and confirmation of the tree's suitability from the District Council's Tree Officer.

08/125 Planning

None.

08/126 Finance

a) Village Hall

- The Womens Institute had written to the council to complain about the state of the path and access to the village hall, and lack of lighting. Cllr Alcorn is arranging for the path to be laid with tarmac. The grass will be repaired when the final grant from Oxfordshire County Council is received.
- Mrs Gotch has written on behalf of the village hall management committee to request the parish council contribute to the electricity bill, which has increased considerably whilst building work has been underway. It was agreed to make a contribution, but the amount will be decided at the next meeting. Cllr Alcorn will update the Village Hall Management Committee at its meeting on 26 November.
- The Village Hall Management Committee has requested the parish council dispose of the old white line machine currently stored in the hall. The Clerk to invite bids from any interested parties.

b) Appleford Parish Trust

The parish council noted the Trust's accounts for the financial year ended 30 September 2008.

c) Recreational Allotments

The rent for the recreational allotments fell due at the end of September. It was agreed to request £70 rent from the lessee and review the agreement when it was next due.

d) Finance Update

Accounts

Current and Reserve Account to 19 November 2008

1.4.08	C.fwd	17632.88
	Less Payments	28291.55
	Add Receipts	15945.64
	Balance	5286.97

Of which ring-fenced

PAP 1406.99

Appleford Community Project

Balance 5844.27

Receipts banked

The following were received since the last meeting:

	£
Pressings	7.50
VOWHDC Precept	3100.00
OCC Grant Bus Shelter	1797.00
Interest	48.92
Total Receipts	4,953.42

Projected Receipts

Jan 09 Football Field	500.00
Jan 09 VAT refund	661.29
Village Hall Grant OCC	9000.00

e) Payments

The following payments had been authorised since the last meeting:

<i>Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>£ detail</i>	<i>£ total</i>
864	Queensbury Shelters	Bus Shelter	2,439.00	
		VAT	426.83	
		TOTAL PAYABLE		2,865.83
865	J Beck	Website Expenses	14.97	
		VAT	2.62	
		Recreation Ground	51.60	
		Clerks salary & allowances	167.92	
		TOTAL PAYABLE		237.11
		TOTAL PAYMENTS		3,102.94

The following payments were authorised.

<i>Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>£ detail</i>	<i>£ total</i>
866	J McCarthy	To clear hedge at recreation ground for bus shelter	30.00	

		TOTAL PAYABLE	30.00
867	J Beck	Recreation Ground	64.00
		Clerks salary & allowances	239.30
		TOTAL PAYABLE	303.30
868	Enterprise	Gang mow Recreation Ground - Invoice no: 19 - 19.11.08	54.46
		VAT	9.53
		TOTAL PAYABLE	63.99
		TOTAL PAYMENTS	397.29

f) Budget 2009-2010

Provisional figures for the budget were discussed. It was agreed that the football field should generate as much income as possible to contribute towards the cost of cutting the grass. The budget will be set at the next meeting.

08/127 Parish Action Plan

The report is almost finished and expected to be approved shortly by the PAP group. The report will be presented to the council for approval.

08/128 Date and Venue of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Tuesday 20th January 2009 in the Village Hall commencing at 7.00 pm.

08/129 Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.54 pm

Signed Date