

APPLEFORD-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall,
Appleford on Tuesday 10th March 2009.

Present: G Duffield (Chair), D Alcorn, P Horton, C Martin,
A Sharp
In attendance: J Beck (Clerk)
Apologies: Colin Lamont (County Councillor)
Members of the Public: 3

09/21 Apologies for Absence

County Cllr Lamont had sent apologies.

09/22 Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

There were none.

09/23 Co-option

No applications had been received. It was agreed to re-advertise the vacancy with a view to co-opt at the Annual General Meeting.

09/24 Public Participation

- a) Football Pitch
Representatives from St Edmunds Football Club requested the council to formalise the present agreement for hire of the football pitch. A period of 5 years was suggested, with any increases in rent set out. The council assured the club that the current fee of £1000 to cover all activities on the pitch is not expected to rise for the foreseeable future, and proposed a continuing agreement with a 12 months notice period for any changes.
The club agreed to take action regarding mud brought into the village hall, and that tape used at matches should be taken away.
The council was asked to consider the use of portable floodlights for football matches, but storing such lights and gas cannisters in the village hall presents difficulty. Cllr Alcorn agreed to investigate options. Spectators at football matches are urinating by the trees. The club will ensure correct signage to ensure spectators use the toilet facilities in the hall.
- b) A request had been received from Ameys to use the football pitch for six matches until the end of the football season. This was agreed if Ameys could liaise with St Edmunds to ensure no clash of fixtures.
- c) Mr Bray has offered to clear the rubbish around the back of the village hall and the council accepted with thanks.
- d) Cllr Sharp has a No Dogs sign for the childrens' play area. It was agreed to purchase another sign so there will be one on each entrance gate.

09/25 Minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2009

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

09/26 Matters Arising and Matters of Urgency

- a) Incinerator. Cllr Sharp requested that the council write to Oxfordshire County Council as the revised planning application was now made. It was agreed that the council would write to object to the proposal again. Cllr Alcorn will draft the objection. Cllr Sharp is attending the Didcot Community Forum next week, and will report back if objections are raised there. It was noted that Cherwell district council has agreed to support people through a court process if necessary for objections to the incinerator, and that this council should write to the Vale to request similar endorsement.
- b) Thames Water reservoir. Cllr Duffield reported that the proposal is not going through, but he was concerned that Thames Water did not take into account other suggested options, e.g. water transfer from Wales, or re-using water more effectively. Cllr Duffield will attend the Thames Water meeting in Steventon on 17th March.
- c) Cllr Alcorn gave an update regarding the composting facility at Sutton Courtenay, as WRG has stated that polytunnels will not now be installed.
- d) Fly ash. Mr Paul Horton will continue to represent the council at WRG meetings. The amount of fly ash falling on the village will be monitored informally.
- e) Traffic Calming. Mr Stuart Fisher had previously been asked by this council to take the lead with traffic calming measures for the village, but a planned meeting with the previous chairman had never taken place. The council proposed that Mr Fisher could again progress traffic issues on behalf of the council, and a way forward will be reviewed at the annual parish meeting in April.
- f) Freedom of Information Council Information Guide. This has now been completed and will be posted to the website.
- g) Appleford Village Website. The clerk has updated the website and it was agreed that the site should be maintained for publishing information for the village. The clerk will provide an estimate on how many hours per month are required for ongoing maintenance.
- h) Council Standing Orders. The revised standing orders were adopted. The council expressed its thanks to Cllr Sharp in preparing the document. Cllr Alcorn will create a copy in booklet format for each councillor.

09/26 County and District Councillor Report

There was no report from the County Councillor.

Cllr Duffield reported on various matters as District Councillor, including:

- a) WRG Liaison meetings. Cllr Duffield proposed an amendment to the meeting's standing orders, so that chairmanship should not always rest with the county councillor, but that the chairman should live locally to WRG, i.e. in Appleford or Sutton courtenay. The parish council agreed with this proposal.
- b) Abingdon Air Quality Consultation. A response has not been sent on behalf of the parish council, but from individual councillors.
- c) Vale of White Horse Local Plan: core strategy. Cllr Duffield, together with Cllrs Martin and Alcorn had attended a presentation in Abingdon.
- d) Housing policy for villages – Cllr Duffield asked whether Appleford would wish houses to be built in the village. It was agreed that further review of the Parish Action Plan should identify the wishes of the village. It was also noted that there are plans to develop north of Ladygrove towards Appleford.

9/27 Appleford Community Project

The ACP are considering how the balance of £5,888 could be spent to best effect for the village, and it was suggested that the zipwire and playground surface might require maintenance work. Cllr Sharp will contact PlaySafety Ltd and attend the next scheduled safety inspection in August.

9/28 Liaison Meetings

Power Station : Cllr Martin reported that charitable work through this meeting is mostly directed to South Oxfordshire locations, and has suggested this should be directed towards locations within the Vale of White Horse.

9/29 Correspondence

Correspondence has been distributed since the previous meeting and a list of items kept on file. Councillors were requested not to remove items from the pack before it had been distributed to all.

9/30 Street Lighting.

Oxfordshire County Council is consulting with parish councils on whether street lights could be turned off on rural traffic routes from around midnight to 5.30 am. It was agreed that in Appleford the lights on Main Road could be turned off, but lights by the railway bridge must stay on all night for safety reasons.

09/31 Planning

New application:

Oxfordshire County Council: Application No: SUT/APF/616/60-CM

Location: Sutton Courtenay Landfill

Description: Energy from waste incinerator (EFW) infrastructure plus that for combined heat and power (CHP), incinerator bottom ash (IBA) processing plant with outside storage area, and air pollution control residue (APCR) treatment and disposal facilities, visitor and office accommodation and landscaping

Consultation: Observations by 30/03/09

09/32 Village Hall and Recreation Ground

The Village Hall Management Committee is concerned that vehicles coming onto the grass up to the hall are damaging the ground. It was established that the lease does grant a right of access to the hall across the recreation ground - this to be a route from time to time determined by the Lessor (Parish Council) at their absolute discretion. Concerns were raised about vehicles driving past the childrens playground. Cllr Duffield agreed to investigate obligations to provide access under disability legislation. It was agreed to review this item further at the next meeting.

The council noted the valuable contribution made by Paul Horton to complete the village hall refurbishment project.

09/33 Parish Action Plan

The draft parish action plan was distributed for review. The council thanked Mrs Greenwell for her work in compiling the document, and agreed to discuss the content at the next parish council meeting.

09/34 Finance

a) Receipts

The following were received since the last meeting:

	£
Pressings	18.00
Interest	3.75
TOTAL RECEIPTS	21.75

b) Payments

The following payments were authorised since the last meeting:

<i>Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>£ detail</i>	<i>£ total</i>
879	J Beck	Website hosting	53.94	
		VAT	8.09	
		TOTAL PAYABLE		62.03

880	HSD Ltd	Litterpicker tool and gloves	20.86	
		VAT	3.95	
		Delivery	5.49	
		TOTAL PAYABLE		30.30

The following payments were authorised :

<i>Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>£ detail</i>	<i>£ total</i>
881	J Beck	Recreation Ground Clerks salary & allowances to 31.03.09	38.40 428.20	
		Website maintenance	70.37	
		TOTAL PAYABLE		536.97
882	Berinsfield Community Business	Hedge-cutting at the Recreation Ground	208.00	
		VAT	31.20	
		TOTAL PAYABLE		239.20
TOTAL PAYMENTS				<u>776.17</u>

c) Grass Cutting

It was agreed to continue the contract with ISIS Accord for the financial year 2009-2010.

09/35 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 27th April, starting at 7pm in the Village Hall. The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Monday 18th May.

09/36 Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.14pm.

Signed Date