



# Appleton Parish Council

Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, Appleton, Warrington,  
Cheshire WA4 5EQ

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**Minutes of the monthly Parish meeting of Appleton Parish Council held on  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm at Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green  
Road Appleton WA4 5EQ**

**Present:** - Councillor S Harris (Chairman)

Councillor K Arnett, Councillor B Axcell, Councillor J Bilsland, Councillor P Walker,  
Councillor J Walker Councillor G Skentelbery and Councillor J Wheeler.

Mrs. I Derbyshire (Assistant Clerk), Dave Mahon (PCSO) and three members of the  
public.

## **1. Welcome and apologies for absence**

Councillor S Harris welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

Councillor S Harris reminded all the Parish Councillors and members of the public that  
the use of mobile phones was prohibited during a meeting and all Parish Councillors  
were asked to use the microphones when speaking.

Apologies were received from Councillor S Benger (ill) Councillor I Axcell, Councillor  
T Stansfield (holiday) Councillor G Palmer (holiday)

No apology received from Councillor J Price.

Councillor Harris thanked the council for the card and flowers she had received  
following her recent operation.

## **2. Members Code of Conduct**

Councillor B Axcell declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the Parish Hall fees  
for Appleton Independent Methodist Church as he was a member of the Church. As  
such he did not take part in the discussion or recommendation in relation to item 9.

Councillor G Skentelbery declared a pecuniary interest in relation to the sponsorship  
of the 'What's On' column in the Village Life Magazine as such he left the room and  
did not take part in the discussion or recommendation in relation to item 18.

## **3. PCSO / Police report**

PCSO Dave Mahon was in attendance and reported the following:

There had been some criminal damage to picnic tables so patrols had been increased especially later at night.

Some cars had been broken into in the area, by offenders trying car doors.

Youths riding bicycles with no lights, so parents had received letters.

An incident of cold calling had happened regarding roof repairs and a large amount of money had been handed over by a vulnerable person (Cobbs area).

A lighted cigarette had been posted through a letterbox and a man had been arrested.

6 road traffic accidents. The Tru-Cam is out weekly.

Surgeries are still being held at Broomfields.

Councillor Arnett reported that he had witnessed a cyclist being attacked by a dog on Lyons Lane and Councillor Harris advised that she was not sure if this was a related incident but her son had also been attacked by a bulldog and his nose was split. The PCSO said he would investigate as all dogs should be on a lead.

#### **4. Public Participation.**

A member of the public addressed the Parish Council. He first of all thanked the council for their help in managing to stop a wedding being held at a particular venue. He then advised that he had been approached by Ineous who had offered him £250 for them to use seismic machines on his property. He believes this is related to fracking. Apparently Ineous do not need planning permission or otherwise from the Borough Council. Another member of the public commented that it is worrying but would think it doubtful that there is any oil as Cheshire is sited on salt plains but it does need to be taken seriously. He also suggested that the three Boroughs need to come together and work with each other. Councillor Wheeler asked if he had approached Antrobus and Great Budworth Parish Councils and the member of public said he would.

The assistant clerk was asked to write to Antrobus Parish Council and also Warrington Borough Council to ascertain what they know about this.

A member of the public addressed the meeting. She advised she was a trustee for Appleton Thorn Village Hall and had applied for a grant from the council to help with installing a defibrillator in Appleton Thorn. She had managed to obtain some money from the British Heart Foundation but required approximately another £1500. She had tried to involve the choir and get the pub involved with fundraising but was being met with some negativity. She had also tried to educate the local residents of the benefits of a defibrillator. Councillor Harris thanked the trustee and said it would be discussed later as it was item 19 on the agenda.

A member of the public addressed the meeting. This was regarding the Local Plan/Neighbourhood Plan and asked that the council put some effort into the plans. There needs to be co-operation between the residents and the Parish Council. He also requested that we need to liaise closely with Michael Bell (Planning Policy & Programme Manager, Warrington Borough Council). Councillor P Walker advised that as a parish we own the plan and the initiative needs to come from us. Councillor Harris stated that the Parish Council can be fully relied on for support.

## **5. Minutes of last Parish Council meeting and matters arising**

**RESOLVED** that;

The Minutes of the Parish Council's monthly meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor P Walker reported on the meeting duly held at Stockton Heath Parish Council with the PCSO's, who gave a presentation. He suggested that we might want to invite them to an Appleton Parish Council meeting as the PCSO's are shared. Councillor Bilsland stated that we need to be joined up. Councillor Arnett commented that in the local press it was suggested that the PCSO numbers may be reduced in this area but Councillor Walker advised that there was no suggestion that this may happen. The Assistant Clerk was asked to invite them to the April meeting for a similar presentation.

Councillor P Walker also advised that the lady who had been fined for driving in a bus lane had had her appeal upheld due to the date being Christmas day and buses were not running on that day.

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the Walton Lea Project has collected some unwanted items from outside the Parish Hall.

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator at the phone box on London Road/Lyons Lane had been installed and was now registered with NW Ambulance Service. A light had been ordered for the Cobbs Lane telephone box but unfortunately was never delivered. Therefore another light will be ordered from a different supplier as soon as possible.

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that a representative from Manchester Airport will be attending the Parish Council meeting in March.

## **6. Minutes of Finance and General Purposes meetings**

**RESOLVED** that:

The Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes committee.

Councillor J Walker asked that the description of budgets was looked at, which will need to be done via the Standing Orders.

## **7. Quarterly Budget**

Following the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

The quarterly budget was noted and signed and dated by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

**8. Accounts Accounting Software/spreadsheets**

Following the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

The parish council purchase a tailored made spreadsheet for the accounts at a cost of £300.00.

**9. Parish Hall hire fees for 2019/2020.**

Following the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

The hall hire fees for 2019/2020 to remain, with no increase as follows;

Main hall                    £18.00 per hour / £36.00 per session

Small Hall                 £21.00 per session.

Parties/Socials         £56.00 per session.

Appleton Independent Methodist Church will continue to have the small hall rate of £21.00 for the choir and the coffee morning.

To look at standardising all fees for users other than the church.

There would be no additional charge for storage and for use of the new projector.

*Councillor B Axcell declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to the Parish Hall fees for Appleton Independent Methodist Church as he was a member of the Church. As such he did not take part in the discussion or recommendation in relation to this.*

The clerk was asked to send a letter to all Parish Hall users to confirm the situation with regards to fees once this had been approved by the Parish Council.

**10. Textile Collection point**

Following the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

That the Parish Hall car park was unsuitable and there were other local collection points available for such items.

## **11. Planning**

The recommendations of the Planning Committee on applications received since the last meeting were accepted and it was

**RESOLVED** that;

The following recommendations be forwarded to the Development Control Manager, Environment and Regeneration, Warrington Borough Council.

No Objections to the following applications –

2018/34142, 11 Dale Lane, Appleton, WA4 3DE. Householder - Proposed Demolition of the existing conservatory and erection of a new single storey rear extension.

2019/34217. The Willows, St Matthews Close, Appleton, WA4 5DE. Full Planning - Proposed demolition of existing single storey detached 2 bedroomed bungalow and construction of new two storey detached 4 bedroomed house.

2019/34255, 6 Wrights Green, Lumb Brook Road, Appleton, WA4 3HN. Householder - Proposed single storey extension to replace conservatory.

2019/34294, 52 Kingsley Drive, Appleton, WA4 5AF. Householder - Proposed re-modelling of existing bungalow including dormers to front and rear plus new entrance porch and widening of the existing garage.

2018/33839, 3 Waveley Avenue, Appleton, WA4 3BN. Householder - Proposed single storey side and rear extension. 7 DAY COMMENT. Amended plans-

2019/34331, 7 Beechways, Appleton, WA4 5EL. Householder- Proposed remodelling and alterations to roof space to create 1st floor accommodation with dormers to front and rear including extension to the front of property to increase existing porch area.

2019/34350, 48 Willow Lane, Appleton, WA4 5EA. Householder. Proposed Single storey side/ rear extension.

2019/34383, 36 Willow Lane, Appleton, WA4 5DZ. Householder - Proposed single storey side extension.

The Parish Council was unable to comment on the following application due to the inadequacy of the plans supplied by Warrington Borough Council. Warrington Borough Council have been advised.

2019/34375, 451 London Road, Appleton, WA4 5DP. Householder - Proposed two storey bedroom and bathroom extension to side elevation and single storey kitchen/family room to rear.

***Due to Councillor J Wheeler and Councillor P Walker being members on the Warrington Borough Council Development Control Committee, they did not participate in the planning discussions or the recommendations agreed.***

For information, only –

2019/34247. Bawming Tree, Opposite St Cross, Appleton Thorn. TPO- Application for tree works to Hawthorne Tree. Information only.

2019/34282, Treetops, Cann Lane North, Appleton, WA4 5NF TPO - T2 Oak - Fell for safety, T4 Oak - Crown lift to crown break. carry out approximately 10-15% crown thinning to increase wind and light permeation. Remove deadwood. Information Only.

2019/34234 16 Wrights Green, Lumb Brook Road, Appleton, WA4 3HN. Lawful Development Certificate (Section 192) Replacement of existing conservatory and new flat roof to entire single storey element. Information Only.

2019/34237, 6 Thorntree Green, Appleton, WA4 4QU. Lawful Development Certificate 192 - Proposed single storey rear extension. Information Only.

2019/34420, 28 Warren Road, Appleton, WA4 5AG. TPO - Lime - Proposed crown reduction by 20% overall to 1.5-2m below previous pollard point to suitable junctions, reduce epicormics shoots to suitable branch framework. Information Only.

2019/34405. Land to the East of Stretton Road, North of Pepper Street, Appleton Thorn, WA4 4TF. Discharge of Condition - Proposed discharge of Conditions 4 (Affordable Housing.) and Condition 16 (Forced ventilation strategy) on Application 2017/31848. Information Only.

2019/34289, 362 London Road, Appleton, WA4 5PW. Lawful Development Certificate Section 192. Proposed single storey rear extension. Information Only.

2019/34340, 17 Wood Lane, Appleton, WA4 3DB. 42 Day Householder Prior Approval - Proposed single storey rear extension measuring 4.5metres beyond the rear wall, 4metres in height and height of the eaves is 2.9metres. Information Only.

After a presentation by NJL Consulting it was

**RESOLVED** that

The Parish Council raise an objection.

2018/33662, Stretton Airfield, Arley Road, Appleton, WA4 4RG. Full Planning (Major) - Proposed Single dwelling with construction of subterranean car storage facility and landscaping and associated works accessed from Crowley Lane. Notwithstanding paragraph 79, which allows isolated homes to be built in the countryside subject to certain requirements, the Parish Council would still like to raise an objection to this application as it is inappropriate to build on green belt land.

## **12. Clerk's Report and Accounts**

The February 2019 statement of accounts for the Financial Year 2018/2019 was noted, and the Members noted the Bank Statements as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

**RESOLVED** that;

Payments were to be made in accordance with the payment schedule for February 2019.

The bank reconciliation and bank statements were both signed by the Chairman.

The clerk confirmed that the passbook from the Mansfield Building Society had not yet been returned as the account required 30 days before the bank transfer would be undertaken, so no interest is lost. The passbook will be returned after 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

The assistant clerk informed the Parish Council that the existing contract with BT was due for renewal. This has been renewed for two years with a fixed tariff of £59.00 plus VAT. This includes unlimited calls but included an upgrade to fibre and a new router. The old charge was over £60.00 per month. There were issues with installation and the clerk had to get IT assistance as everything was pointing to the old router and there was no internet access at all. The cost of this IT support was £45.00. However following a complaint to BT, they have stated that the charge of £45.00 will be deducted from the next phone bill.

The clerk had received an email dated 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 regarding a consultation for the Red Lane Allotments. Although owned by Stockton Heath Parish Council, the site is in the Appleton Parish Council boundary. Stockton Heath Parish Council is trying to list the allotments as assets of community value. Appleton Parish Council can make a formal representation if they want and the reference number of the application is 2018/34033.

A vote was taken that the Assistant clerk is to write a letter to Stockton Heath Parish Council offering Appleton Parish Council's support.

The assistant clerk informed the Parish Council that the AGM for Lumb Brook Millennium Green Ltd will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at St Mary Magdalene' s Church, Bridge Lane, Appleton, starting at 7.30pm. Council Wheeler advised she would be attending.

## **13. Replacement posts at Appleton Thorn**

The clerk and Councillor S Bengier had met with a member of public and a contractor to have a look at the posts in Appleton Thorn. Both the posts around the triangle and the posts around the war memorial needed repair and/or replacement. The cost of this would be £540.00 including labour, material and remove of rubbish.

After perusal of the quote, it was decided that the clerk obtain two more quotes for this work for comparison.

#### **14. Drop Kerb**

The clerk confirmed that Warrington Borough would not provide an estimate for a drop kerb at the Parish Hall. The clerk had asked three companies for a quote for a drop kerb and for the removal of the garden edging (now painted white). Two quotes have been provided. One is £2677.00 plus VAT and the other one is £595.00 plus VAT.

After discussion and because of the vast difference in the two quotations, it was recommended to contact the company of the highest quote and ask if this could be modified. The council require the work to be functional and safe. Also to try and obtain two more quotations.

#### **15. Appletots grant application**

The clerk has received a grant application from Appletots, which is the toddler group using the Parish Hall on a Friday morning. After a lengthy discussion and perusal of all documents provided, it was

**RESOLVED** that;

The Parish Council is unable to provide a grant at this time due to no proper Accounts, no Proper Officers and the Constitution is lacking.

It was felt that if they wish to continue as a viable concern, then they need more help and guidance.

The Assistant Clerk was asked to respond to the grant application as above but also offering suggestions on who might be able to help them for example, The South Neighbourhood Team. Also, Councillors Harris and Bilsland would be happy to offer advice, should they wish.

#### **16. Litter bins**

The clerk had contacted the Street scene manager at Warrington Borough Council regarding additional bins. He has confirmed that the charge for a new bin plus installation would be £300.00 per bin and that once installed Warrington Borough Council would empty the new bins on a regular basis.

Councillor Wheeler commented that the wider issue is that Warrington Borough Council do not collect as often as previously. As the exact positions were not known at present it was agreed that the item be deferred to the March meeting.

#### **17. Electrical Work**

- a) The clerk has received complaints regarding the lack of external lighting at the front of the Parish Hall. One external sensor light has been requested above the noticeboard near the office window and another one near the boiler room window. The cost for each light would be £298.00 plus VAT.

**RESOLVED** that;



The Parish Council has two external sensor lights installed at the front of the Parish Hall at the cost of £298.00 plus VAT each.

- b) The clerk reported that the external sensor light above the kitchen door was broken. The cost of repairing this would be £110.00 plus VAT.

**RESOLVED** that;

The Parish Council get the kitchen sensor light repaired at the cost of £110.00 plus VAT.

- c) The clerk informed the Parish Council that the cost of supplying and fitting a disabled call alarm to the disabled toilet would be £280.00 plus VAT.

**RESOLVED** that;

The Parish Council installs a disabled call alarm system at the cost of £280.00 plus VAT.

#### **18. Village Life sponsorship of 'What's On' column.**

Councillor G Skentelbery declared a pecuniary interest in relation to the sponsorship of the 'What's On' column in the Village Life Magazine as such he left the room and did not take part in the following discussion or recommendation.

At the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 the Parish Council were concerned regarding the size of the wording of the column as the print was very small. Orbit News Ltd have sent two drafts of the proposed amendments to the column.

**RESOLVED** that;

The Parish Council continues to sponsor the 'What's On' column for the Village Life Magazine at the cost of £180.00 plus VAT per year. That draft two be used (logo) but the wording "supported by" to be enlarged.

#### **19. Grant application for defibrillator at Appleton Thorn**

The clerk has received a grant application from Appleton Thorn Village Hall for the installation of a defibrillator.

Appleton Thorn Village Hall have requested a grant of £1449.00 towards the cost of the installation of a defibrillator.

The Parish Council was impressed with the efforts of Appleton Thorn and what they had tried to do to obtain funding.

**RESOLVED** that;

A grant of £750 is given to Appleton Thorn Village Hall for the installation of a defibrillator.

## **20. Broomfields Youth Project**

The assistant clerk reported that the Parish Council had received a request to continue to sponsor the all-weather pitches hire for the Broomfields Youth Project at the cost of £1900 on a Friday night. The annual provision is £10,584 if charged at the normal community club rate.

**RESOLVED** that;

To sponsor the hire of the all-weather pitches for the Broomfields Youth Project at the cost of £1900.

## **21. Standing Orders**

Councillor J Walker proposed that the Parish Council set up a working party to re-write item 4 of the Standing Orders in view of all the changes which have happened. The Working Party to be Councillor J Walker, Councillor J Bilsland, Councillor S Harris and clerk J Monks. Councillor J Walker was asked to liaise with other members of the Working Party to set up a meeting.

## **22. Parish and Borough Councillors Reports**

Councillor J Walker reminded everyone that the next Environment Meeting would be Tuesday 26 February. The Assistant Clerk need not attend.

Councillor Walker also advised for information purposes, that Great Sankey had increased their precept for 2019/20 by 33%.

Councillor Wheeler advised of the Broomfields Residents' meeting on 7 March. Councillor Bilsland would also be attending.

Councillor Skentelbury asked if everyone was aware of the Stobart meeting on the 27 February. He would be attending.

Councillor Bilsland - on behalf of the Media Committee, asked how many editions of the newsletter would the parish council like each year? It was agreed that two would be ideal. However there had still been a problem with all households in Appleton not receiving the December edition and Councillor Bilsland will email all councillors for suggestions/ideas on future delivery of the newsletter.

## **23. Date and time of next meeting**

Tuesday 19th March 2019, Planning Committee meeting 7pm followed by the Monthly Parish Council meeting 7.30pm.