



Appleton Parish Council

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

Telephone 01925 268153 Email clerk@appletonpc.org.uk

Minutes of the monthly Parish meeting of Appleton Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th September 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: - Councillor J Wheeler (Chairman)

Councillor K Arnett, Councillor B Axcell, Councillor I Axcell, Councillor S Benger,
Councillor R Johnson, Councillor J Price, Councillor P Walker, Councillor J Walker.

Mrs. J Monks (Clerk)

Part One – This part of the meeting was open to the press and members of the public

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Councillor J Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting. The clerk confirmed that the meeting was being recorded by zoom. Councillor T Stansfield sent his apology for the meeting.

2. Members Code of Conduct

None declared.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

4. PCSO / Police report

The clerk had asked the PCSOs for a report however no report had been received. Councillor J Wheeler reported that the PCSOs were undertaking Open Door surgeries in the area.

5. Minutes of last Parish Council meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the Parish Council's monthly meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2020 (copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The clerk confirmed that she had contacted the PCSOs and the Woodland Trust regarding the bikes in The Dingle. The PCSOs had confirmed that they would increase patrols in the area and the Woodland Trust have confirmed that they gave ordered some large permanent signs to be erected.

6. Minutes of Finance and General Purposes committee meeting and matters arising.

The Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on Thursday 3rd September 2020 (copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chairman.

7. Parish Hall and Covid-19

The clerk had produced a report regarding re-opening the Parish Hall. Decisions needed to be made with regards to types of bookings to accept, cleaning, use of kitchen facilities, reopening toilets, hall capacity limits, risk assessments, operation of the Parish Hall library, PCSO surgeries, additional costs and hall hire fees, conditions of hire, new Covid-19 Risk Assessments and the creation of isolation facilities.

Concerned was expressed regarding the new 'Rule of Six' and there was concern regarding the new increase in Covid-19 cases in Warrington and there had been a press release from Warrington Borough Council regarding Covid-19.

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Hall remains closed for the time being and that this would be reviewed on a monthly rolling basis.

The clerk will contact all Hall users to confirm the current situation.

8. Christmas Trees

The clerk received an email from Warrington Borough Council regarding the costs of installation of Christmas Trees. The cost per tree is approx. £3,136 per tree. This however does not include any lights.

The clerk was asked to obtain other quotes and to establish how much it would be to connect the lights to a street column and to put this as an agenda item for the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.

9. Planning

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 30th July 2020, 13th August 2020 and 27th August 2020 (copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor P Walker and Councillor J Wheeler took no part in the decisions of the Planning Committee as they are members of the Development Control Committee at Warrington Borough Council.

10. Clerk's Report and approve of accounts and payments

The July and August 2020 statement of Receipts and Payments for the Financial Year 2020/2021 was noted and the Members noted the Bank Statement as at 31st July 2020 and at 31st August 2020.

RESOLVED that;

Payments were to be made in accordance with the payment schedule for August and September 2020 and the updated budget was accepted.

The clerk confirmed that she had received an acknowledgement and thank you from Brampton Lodge Care Home regarding the £100 donation.

The Company Secretary of Pewterspear Green Trust Ltd send a letter dated 10th August 2020 confirming that the Annual General Meeting will be on 6.30pm on Wednesday 30th September. The Parish Council confirmed that Mr Webster is the nominated member and Mrs J Wheeler the elected member.

The clerk confirmed that an additional bank account had been opened and a bank transfer of £50,000 will be undertaken on 17th September from the current account.

The clerk stated that the Cheshire SLCC branch meetings were now held by zoom and the clerk and assistant clerk would be attending the next one on Wednesday 16th September.

11. Training, courses, and conferences

The clerk reported that the Roles and Responsibilities training course had been rearranged for Wednesday 30th September at 6pm at Appleton Parish Hall.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was requested to cancel the Roles and Responsibilities training course.

Cheshire Association of Local Councils are having a one-hour free zoom session on the Local Council Award scheme.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk and assistant clerk could attend this free session.

There is a free scribe conference which the clerk would like to attend on Wednesday 7th October.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk could attend the free scribe conference.

12. Parish and Borough Councillors Reports

Councillor J Walker confirmed that she had contacted All Seasons regarding the planting at Bridge Lane shops. Councillors had expressed disappointment with the current contractors and an Environmental Working Group meeting would be set up to discuss options for next year.

Councillor K Arnett asked regarding planning conditions regarding the Shearings site at Appleton Thorn. Councillor J Wheeler reported that as had not been any planning permission submitted, there were no planning conditions to be made. There was concern about the increase in traffic and the clerk was asked to put this as an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor B Axcell informed the Parish Council that former Parish Councillor B Smith had sadly died. The clerk was asked to send a letter of condolence to the family.

Councillor R Johnson raised a query regarding the pathway from the Bloor Homes site to Arley Road. The clerk was asked to investigate this matter.

Councillor J Price reported that there were ongoing issues with bikes using pavements instead of the roads. This issue was also raised by Councillor K Arnett. The clerk was asked to contact the PCSOs and schools regarding this.

Councillor J Price asked if Warrington would be put into lockdown following the rise of Covid-19 cases. Councillor P Walker and Councillor J Wheeler confirmed that this would have to be decision Central Government and was not in the control of Warrington Borough Council.

Councillor J Wheeler confirmed that Broomfields Leisure centre remains closed and Live Wire were planning to re-open in November but the long-term proposals for the site were unknown.

13. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 20th October 2020 at 7.30pm.

Part Two – This contains confidential information and only Councillors and reporting officers were present

14. Staffing matters

This item was confidential and as such has been removed.

15. National Pay Award 2020/2021

This item was confidential and as such has been removed.

Meeting ended 8.20pm