**Minutes**

**Appleton with Eaton Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall,**

**Monday 11th September 2017 at 7.15pm**

Susan Blomerus – Parish Clerk –25.09.17

**Present:** Mr John Adams,Mrs Susan Blomerus (Parish Clerk), Mrs Mary Carey, Cllr Anda Fitzgerald-O’Connor, Mr James Mansfield (Chairman), Dr Mark Richards, Mr Tony Sibthorp, Mrs Anna Yalci

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Mrs Liz Gilkes
2. **Declarations of interest:** Mrs Mary Carey declared in interest in agenda item 17/115 Comet Bus Service, as she is a member of the Comet Bus Group. Mr James Mansfield declared an interest in the planning application for 96 Netherton Road as he is an employee of applicants.
3. **Public questions and statements:** Mr Mansfield read an email, copied below, from Mr David Gow regarding agenda item: **17/114 Lock Access Group**:

‘*We are happy to report that over the summer we have experienced less trespass around the fields, (though some is still occurring), and dog mess has been minimal. Our thanks to the Lock Road Access Group and others for supporting us over this. Apart from the first weekend in June, the lock road has been open to villagers from 1pm Friday to 6pm on Sunday for free access every weekend in June, July and August, plus the first weekends in September and the end of May Bank Holiday weekend. We are planning similar free weekend access in 2018 .It has been nice to see that some villagers have made use of this access, but not that many. We were informed by the LRAG that people were confused by the current opening times and were worried about walking down at the wrong time. Unfortunately, we have to agree that the notice placed by LRAG was unclear as to when access was permitted so we replaced it with one of our own notices on 25th July. A copy was also given to the shop which they were grateful for.*

*Those that wish to have additional access can buy a winter, summer or annual permit.*

*Winter permit: 1st October - 30th March - £15.00 (58p/wk)*

*Summer permit: 1st April – 30th September - £15.00 (58p/wk)*

*Annual permit: 1st October - 30th September - £25.00 (50p/wk)*

*All proceeds split equally 3 ways between:*

*a Farming Charity*

*b Conservation Charity*

*c Appleton village Club/group*

*We have no plans to install a pedestrian gate at the top of the Lock road, which was a request forwarded by the LRAG. Please note that, under s.31 Highways Act 1980 there is no intention to dedicate a public right of way.’*

Lock Access Group: Statement to the parish council:

Following LAG’s statement at the meeting of 10th July 2017, we are here, as agreed, to give you an update with regard to progress with negotiations over access to the river via Lock Lane. It has always been our remit to negotiate a way forward with AH Cornish that works for both them and the whole of Appleton with Eaton Parish. We have never given up on this objective since we formed this group last November, and taking into account the busy lives of all concerned.

We have always stated that the road way is private and that we expect the community to respect this fact.

Some background information:

Following consultation with members of the community, it is clear that people do not feel the permit system is workable in its present format. The perception is that it is unfair that members of Appleton community are required to have a permit, but anyone else who crosses the river and comes up the hill does not need one. There is no warning to people coming up the hill to indicate that a permit system is in place. Furthermore, the consensus is that if we are to have a permit system in place, it is priced too highly. This is reflected in the poor uptake.

At the last meeting we were hopeful that we were on the verge of making a significant step forward. However, we are unable to give you news of any resolution. We know that you will be disappointed with this outcome, as we are. We have been keen to negotiate a resolution that meets the needs of the community at large and that is also acceptable to A H Cornish.

We believe the progress has been made:

* We have established a dialogue with AH Cornish
* The lock road has been open during camping weekends, and extended to a later time on a Sunday afternoon
* With agreement from AH Cornish we have advertised that the lock road was open at these times
* Initially we were responsible for signage at the top of the hill and outside the shop
* We have kept people informed by putting notices in the Advertiser and the village shop
* There is a LAG email, which people have been using to contact us with their views and suggestions. This has been a very useful way of communicating with members of the community who specifically asked for regular updates.
* People who purchased permits last November had them extended beyond the April date through to September without extra charge.
* A permit to cover the dates from May to September was made available by AH Cornish at a cost of £15

Where possible we have offered to:

* Help with signage at both ends of the Lock Lane
* Research alternative permit schemes
* Provide a link between the community and AH Cornish in determining a more workable permit system
* Provide a pedestrian gate at the top of the lock lane to present people climbing over the gate and damaging it and to stop unauthorised vehicles.
* Help with checking that walkers are following the countryside code
* Help with informing members of the community about the countryside code
* Promote a wildlife blog, to inform the community of why the field margins are important
* Redistribute dog mess bins to encourage dog owners to dispose of mess

We have closed the gap in the Tennis Club hedge, which initially seen as s ticking point of negotiations. We have not been able to move the process any further, despite we believe, meeting the demands of the original letter placed by David Gow as Director of AH Cornish in the Advertiser in October 2015.

* Members of Appleton community when permitted are now keeping to the Lock Lane and are not walking the field margins.
* Dog owners are being more responsible in cleaning up after their pets.
* We believe there has been a significant improvement in attitude by the local community.

It is disappointing to bring you this news. We still believe that a negotiated settlement benefits both the community and AH Cornish and we feel frustrated that despite strenuous efforts on our parts and a genuine attempt to resolve this situation, we have been unable to come to a solution that suits both parties. We have listened carefully and taken on board AH Cornish’s grievances, but we have not been able to convince AH Cornish of the merits of working to resolve this problem. Regrettably, LAG feels it has no option but to disband and hand this matter back to the parish council.

**17/116:LED 30mph signs:**

Feedback from parishioners present at the meeting:

* Movable LED cameras have more validity
* LED 30mph signs don’t’ have the same impact in a village due to the fact as it is the same people who are passing the signs daily.
* The sign will be outside a parishioners house
* Don’t need an increase in street furniture in the village
* Aesthetically it is not good
* Movable signs will have more impact
* Safety should override aesthetics

**17/119 parking complaint:** It was mentioned that the pavements in the village are for pedestrians only and people should not park their cars on the pavements. The community campaigned for many years before they were successful and the footpath in Netherton Road was built.

1. **Reports from District and County Councillors:**

**1: Changes to daytime support:** Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) is introducing a new daytime service. From 1st October 2017 OCC’s Health and Wellbeing and Learning Disability Daytime Support Services will be replaced by a new Community Support Service. This will be delivered from the following centres: Abingdon, Banbury, Bicester, Didcot, Oxford, Wallingford, Wantage and Witney. Everyone with eligible care needs for daytime support is guaranteed to receive a service and can choose to receive this from OCC. For further information go to [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/news/2017/mar/changes-daytime-support](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/news/2017/mar/changes-daytime-support)

**2: Household Waste recycling centre:** OCC has signed a new Household Waste Recycling Centre contract that secures all seven sites in the medium term, with no changes to the site opening hours or days.

**3. Safety concern along Oaksmere:** Mr Lee Turner OCC has not responded to Cllr Anda Fitzgerald-O’Connor emails. The clerk was asked to email Mr Lee Turner and copy in the Cllr Ian Hudspeth (Leader of Oxfordshire County Council)

**4. Communities fund for projects.** In February 2017 the council agreed one-off funding of £250k to set up a Communities Fund, for communities to bid for matched funding schemes or projects to supplement services following changes/reductions in council-funded services. There is a meeting coming shortly if the parish council has any need for funding. The application form is available on the website.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the 10th July 2017 parish council meeting and the 24th July extraordinary parish council meeting were signed as a true record.
2. **Matters arising from the previous meeting and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:** None
3. **Clerks report:** The clerk had nothing further to add to the report
4. **Lock Access Group:** Read agenda item 17/109. With the outcome of LAG’s report, it was agreed that the parish council will look into pedestrian access to the Lock. Mr James Mansfield and Mrs Susan Blomerus will explore.
5. **Comet bus service:** It was agreed that the parish council will donate £300 to the Comet Bus Service to keep the service operating.
6. **LED 30mph sign:** Feedback from the parishioners was mixed. The cheapest option is £1300. It was agreed that parish council will purchase one LED movable sign for the village.
7. **Road closure for Remembrance Day:** The parish council agreed to apply for permission to the Vale of White Horse District Council to close the roads during the 2 minute silence. The parish clerk has permission to apply for this annually.
8. **To consider requests for donations** from The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Home Start, Clean Slate and Be Free YC charity: It was agreed that at this point in time the parish council will not donate to these charities. From now on the parish council will not consider non village funding requests, unless specifically requested by a parishioner.
9. **Parking complaint:** The parish council received a complaint regarding an access issue to a lane in Appleton due to a car parked adjacent to the entrance of the lane. The parish council resolved that it is not in their remit to tell people not to park their vehicles outside their house. The parish council believe that individual disputes between neighbours should not be brought to the parish council for arbitration. The clerk was asked to thank the complainant for the email.
10. **Assets of community value:** The clerk was asked to respond to the letter from the Vale of White horse.
11. **War memorial repairs:** The parish council approved spending to repair the chain hook that has been broken off
12. **Planning**

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| **(i)** | **P17/V2339/FUL** | Land at Netherton Road Appleton Abingdon OX13 5QW | Proposed erection of an L-shaped stable block for non-commercial use.  The Appleton with Eaton Parish Council objects on the following grounds:  • Planning history: The applicant has applied for the erection of a storage barn for hay, feedstuff, machinery, including stable space (P15/V2133/FUL), then the applicant applied for a multi purpose storage barn (P16/V0469/FUL) and later amended the application (P16/V0469/FUL). Now the applicant is applying for a stable block. What is it that the applicant would like to achieve on this piece of land?  • The site is currently rented and the horses currently in situ on the field are not owned by the applicant.  The parish council has a strong belief that this application (and agricultural application P17/V2317/AG that has been withdrawn) will ultimately result in ribbon development along Netherton Road, joining Appleton with Appleton Common. |
| **(ii)** | **P17/V2069/FUL** | 96 Netherton Road Appleton ABINGDON OX13 5LA | Planning application seeking enlargement to No. 96 Netherton Road (As per householder enlargements already approved under applications P16/V0144/PDH and P16/V0074/HH) and subsequent subdivision into two self-contained two bed dwellings (each with 2no. car parking spaces and private amenity space.)  **No objections to this planning application** |

**Agricultural:**

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| **(i)** | **P17/V2317/AG** | Rosehill Netherton Road Appleton ABINGDON OX13 5QW | Calf rearing unit  **Planning application withdrawn** |

**Permitted development:**

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| **(i)** | **P17/V2204/PAR** | Agricultural buildings and land at and to the east of 104a Eaton Road  Appleton Oxfordshire OX13 5JJ | Change of use and conversion of agricultural buildings to C3 dwelling houses |

**Decisions:**

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| **(i)** | **P17/V1480/LB** | Hunters Moon 7 Eaton ABINGDON OX13 5PR | En-suite bathroom floor raised. Rendered masonry garden wall demolished and rebuilt due to poor structural condition.  **Planning permission has been granted** |
| **(ii)** | **P17/V1495/LB** | Maytree Cottage 51 Eaton Road Appleton ABINGDON OX13 5JH | Install a woodburning stove in living room of cottage. Remove late 20th century copper hood. No other alterations or changes.  **Planning permission has been granted** |

1. **Finance**

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| **Invoices previously approved** | | | |
| **402** | **Ady Podbery:** Gang mow and strimming sportsfield | £234.00 | |
| **403** | **Roger Gilkes:** Petrol and vacuum cleaner bag for sportsfield | £55.98 | |
| **404** | **Get Mapping Plc:** Mapping system to support the Neighbourhood Plan | £57.60 | |
| **405** | **Newitts:** Goalposts for U13 Appleton Football team | £1461.37 | |
| **406** | **Archer Signs & Panels Ltd:** Sign for exercise equipment at the playground | £116.22 | |
| **Invoices** | | | |
| **407** | **Clerks Salary and expenses:** August 2017 | See attachment **approved** | |
| **408** | **Ady Podbery**: Gang mow the sportsfield | £234.00 **approved** | |
| **409** | **Gillian Woodley:** Cleaning the sportsfield pavilion | £30.00  **approved** | |
| **410** | **James Mansfield:** Gravel boards and pegs for playground slide. | £14.23  **approved** | |
| **411** | **The Play Inspection Company**: Operational inspection report for playground and sportsfield | £90.00  **approved** | |
| **412** | **Claire Salmon:** To reimburse from Chairman’s allowance for the purchase of flowers | £16.99 **approved** | |
| **413** | **Appleton Community Shop:** Stationary | £9.91 **approved** | |
| **414** | **Came and Company:** | £1’384.92 **approved** | |
| **Direct Debits** | | | |
| **Castle Water**: water supply for the sportsfield pavilion | | | £29.57 |
| **ICO:** Data protection registration | | | £35.00 |
| **Income received** | | | |
| **Jubilee Playground:** income raised from the Appleton Night Market 14th July 2017 | | | £145.00 |
| **Appleton Cricket Club**: Ground hire | | | £500.00 |
| **Vale of White Horse District Council:** Precept 2017/18 second half | | | £9244.00 |

1. **Publications and correspondence**

* Letter from Vale of White Horse District Council regarding assets of community value

1. **Matters for report:**

* Proposal to install a bench at Fettiplace brook - to go on October’s agenda

1. **Date of the next meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Monday 9th October 2017 at 7:15 in the village Hall.

*Meeting closed at 8:58pm*