



Appleton Parish Council

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

Telephone 01925 268153 Email clerk@appletonpc.org.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Appleton Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 7pm at Appleton Parish Hall

Present: -

Councillor S Brookes, Councillor M Browne, Councillor K Critchley, Councillor G Chapman, Councillor M Delaney (up to 8.10pm left before agenda item 16), Councillor M Jervis, Councillor B Kidley, Councillor P Lewenz, Councillor P Walker and Councillor J Wheeler.

Mrs J Monks (Clerk).

Agenda

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

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Councillor S Brookes welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. and Councillor M Marshall and Councillor C Critchley sent their apologies for the meeting.

2. Members Code of Conduct

Councillor M Jervis and Councillor J Wheeler declared that they were members of the Development Management Committee of Warrington Borough Council. Councillor P Walker declared that he was a substitute member of the Development Management Committee of Warrington Borough Council.

Councillor G Chapman declared a pecuniary interest in relation to item 9, Local Plan Expenditure as she had submitted a bill to Lymm Parish Council for reimbursement of expenses which was part of the cost of the invoice received.

3. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

4. Preparation for co-option in February

The clerk had circulated the extract from the Standing Orders which detailed the co-option procedure.

RESOLVED that;

This procedure for co-option was confirmed by the Parish Council.

The clerk had circulated a list of questions and scoring sheet which had been previously used by the Parish Council for co-option of Parish Councillors.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was asked to make amendments to the current questions and scoring sheet for candidates and circulate these for the attention of all Parish Councillors.

RESOLVED that;

the Co-option will be undertaken at the Parish Council meeting in March, rather than the Parish Council meeting in February.

The clerk will contact all the applicants after the closing date and invite them to the Parish Council meeting in March.

5. Minutes of last Parish Council meeting and matters arising

The clerk reported that there is a Police and Crime Commissioner meeting on 23rd January 2023 at 6.15pm at Warrington Town Hall. Councillor S Brookes will represent the Parish Council. Councillor P Walker confirmed that he was attending as a representative of Stockton Heath Parish Council. Councillor M Browne confirmed he was also attending to represent Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council.

The clerk reported that there was a virtual Parish Council Liaison meeting with Warrington Borough Council at 5pm on Wednesday 18th January and that she would be attending. Councillor K Critchley may also be available to attend. The clerk will resend the link for the meeting via email if anyone wishes to attend.

Councillor J Wheeler reported that St Cross Church in Appleton Thorn had received the Parish Council's letter regarding the Remembrance Sunday service, and they would be in touch to arrange a meeting to discuss.

RESOLVED that;

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 13th December 2022 (copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chair.

6. Planning

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the Planning Committee on Tuesday 13th December 2022 and Thursday 5th January 2023. (Copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chair.

7. Accounts for 2022/2023 and Payments Schedules

The December 2022 statement of Receipts and Payments for the Financial Year 2022/2023 was noted, and the Members noted the Bank Statement as of 31st December 2022.

RESOLVED that;

Payments were to be made in accordance with the payment schedule for January 2023.

8. Quarterly Banking Reconciliation and banking checks

RESOLVED that;

Councillor M Browne will undertake the verification of the bank reconciliation for all accounts as of 31st December 2022.

9. Local Plan Expenditure

The clerk confirmed at the Parish Council meeting on 15th March 2022 the Parish Council approved a maximum spend of £7,000 for 2022/2023 for Appleton's contribution towards the Local Plan costs.

The Parish Council has committed a further maximum amount of £7,000 for Appleton's contribution towards the Local Plan for 2023/2024.

Councillor G Chapman declared a pecuniary interest in relation to item 9, Local Plan Expenditure as she had submitted a bill to Lymm Parish Council for reimbursement of expenses which was part of the cost of the invoice received. Councillor G Chapman remained in the room but did not take part in the vote on this matter.

RESOLVED that;

The expenditure of £2528.99 was approved for Appleton Parish Council's share of the expenditure for the Local Plan group for the period September 2022 to December 2022.

10. Six56 Planning application public inquiry

Councillor M Jervis confirmed that the Parish Council has received notification that the planning application number 2019/34799 known as the Six56 development was being called in by the Secretary of State and would be determined by public inquiry.

Councillor M Jervis confirmed that there was a meeting of the South Warrington Parish Liaison Group (SWP) on Wednesday 18 January and the Group wanted a financial commitment from the Parish Council towards funding SWP participation at the forthcoming Six56 Public Inquiry.

RESOLVED that;

The expenditure of up to £7000 was approved for Appleton Parish Council's share, based on 2023/24 precept charges, of the contribution towards the South Warrington Parish Liaison Group (SWP) costs for 2023/24 for South Warrington Parish Liaison Group (SWP) participation at the Six56 Public Inquiry.

11. Grant application for £500 from Warrington Open Door at Christmas

The Finance and General Purposes Committee looked at the grant application at the meeting on 1st December 2022 and asked for additional information. Further information has now been supplied.

RESOLVED that;

The information provided to date was not sufficient and the clerk was requested to ask for further information in support of the grant application.

The clerk was also asked to invite them to the next Parish Council meeting to undertake a presentation and to answer any questions which Parish Councillors have.

12. Format of meetings

RESOLVED that;

The format of meetings still to be flexible. The temporary delegation to the clerk and assistant clerk as agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 18th May 2021 should continue.

This delegation will continue until the Parish Council meeting in May 2023, when it will be reviewed.

13. PCSO / Police report

The clerk had circulated the PCSO report to all the Parish Councillors for their attention. There were no PCSOs in attendance.

14. Parish Councillor reports and feedback from other meetings

Councillor P Walker reported that Warrington Foodbank needed financial assistance. Councillor P Walker will provide details and put together a report and send this to the clerk so this could be considered as an agenda item for a donation.

Councillor P Lewenz reported that a Dingle and Fords Rough meeting had taken place on Monday 16th January. Councillor P Lewenz reported that Warrington Borough Council had verbally granted permission for some tree work to be undertaken at the Dingle. Councillor P Lewenz asked the Parish Council to request Section 106 funds for the Dingle and surrounding woodland if there was any future housing development in Appleton. The clerk confirmed if the Woodland Trust or Warrington Borough Council wanted financial assistance with a project, they could apply for a grant via the grant application procedure.

Councillor P Lewenz reported that there was information regarding the proposed planning changes from Central Government which had been circulated on a recent Cheshire Association of Local Councils bulletin. The clerk was asked to re-circulate this information by email for the attention of all the Parish Councillors.

Councillor K Critchley reported that there were ongoing crime issues on Firs Lane and around Fox Covert cemetery which were being investigated by Cheshire Police.

Councillor J Wheeler reported that the proposed plans for refurbishment work on Stockton Heath swing bridge had halted as Warrington Borough Council are in dispute with the bridge owners.

15. Dates and time of next meetings

Thursday 2nd February 2023, 9.30am Planning Committee meeting.

Thursday 2nd February 2023, 9.45am Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.

It was proposed and seconded to move the Parish Council meeting from 21st February to 14th February.

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Council and Planning Committee meeting in February was to be moved to Tuesday 14th February 2023, Planning Committee meeting at 6.30pm followed by the Parish Council meeting at 7pm.

Councillor M Delaney left the meeting at 8.10pm.

Part Two – This contains confidential information and only Parish Councillors and the clerk were present

16. Nomination for MBE

This item was confidential as such the contents have been removed.

17. Staff review

This item was confidential as such the contents have been removed.