



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 12th December 2023 at 7pm at Appleton Parish Hall

Present: - Councillor L Booth, Councillor K Critchley, Councillor C Critchley, Councillor G Chapman, Councillor L Chapman, Councillor M Delaney, Councillor M Jervis, Councillor P Lewenz, Councillor M Marshall, Councillor H Speed and Councillor J Wheeler from 7.10pm.

Mrs J Monks (Clerk).

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor L Chapman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Councillor P Walker, Councillor C Critchley and Councillor M Browne sent their apologies for the meeting.

2. Members Code of Conduct

Councillor M Jervis declared that he was a member of the Development Management Committee of Warrington Borough Council.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

4. Minutes of last Parish Council meeting and matters arising

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the Parish Council's monthly meeting on Tuesday 21st November 2023. (Copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. Minutes of Finance and General Purposes committee meeting and to consider approving the recommendations and any matters arising

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on Thursday 30th November 2023. (Copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chair).

RESOLVED that;

The following were approved further to the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on Thursday 30th November 2023.

- (a) The Parish Council give a grant of £400.00 towards the running costs of the Open Door at Christmas project.
- (b) The Parish Council refuse a grant of £9,921 for Stockton Heath Tennis club as it is not a community facility and there are no charitable elements to the tennis club.

6. Budget and precept for 2024/2025

RESOLVED that;

The precept for 2024/2025 is £178,957 and this would result in a nil percentage increase and mean that the Band D payable would remain at £35.09.

Parish Council reserves would be utilised to keep the Band D payable for 2024/2025 at the same level as 2023/2024.

The budget for 2024/2025 is as follows;

Payments	Budget 2024/2025
-	
Staff Costs	130500
Maintenance of Parish Council Assets	2000
Utilities	15000
Insurance	2000
Office Supplies	4000
Annual Subscriptions	500
Elections	4000
Website	500
Grants	10000
Chairman's allowance	100
Training	1000
Refuse Collections	1200
Window cleaning	800
Equipment	1000
Parish Hall Improvements & maintenance	10000

Bank charges	250
Environmental Working Group	4000
PCSO	20000
Ranger costs	4000
Events Committee budget	1000
Total Payments including staff costs	211850

Receipts	Budget 2024/2025 nil increase
Precept	178957
Bank Interest	6000
Parish Hall	22000
Other	0
reserves	4893
Total Receipts including precept	211850

Councillor L Chapman stated that the employer's national insurance contributions will remain the same rate in January 2024 and are not due to be reduced. As such £4893 would need to be utilised from the Parish Council reserves in order to balance the budget.

7. Planning

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the Planning Committee on Tuesday 21st November 2023 and Thursday 30th November 2023. (Copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chair).

Councillor J Wheeler arrived at 7.10pm.

8. Accounts for 2023/2024 and Payments Schedules

The November 2023 statement of Receipts and Payments for the Financial Year 2023/2024 was noted, and the Members noted the bank reconciliation of 30th November 2023.

RESOLVED that;

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

9. Environmental Working Party

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the environmental working party meeting on Thursday 23rd November 2023 were approved.

RESOLVED that;

The terms of reference for the Environmental Working party were approved.

10. RAAC concrete survey for Appleton Parish Hall

The clerk confirmed that the window cleaner had cleaned out the gutters and removed all the leaves from the flat roofs at the Parish Hall.

The assistant clerk is in the process of obtaining quotes for additional loft insulation.

RESOLVED that;

It was noted that there was no RAAC concrete in the Parish Hall. The Finance and General Purposes Committee will follow up on any recommendations.

11. PCSO / Police report

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

12. Parish Councillor reports and feedback from other meetings

Councillor L Booth reported she had received a complaint regarding the Parish Hall car park light shining into the back of a bungalow on Willow Lane. The clerk will investigate this complaint and see what action could be taken.

Councillor H Speed reported that she would be attending a meeting regarding the route of the number ten bus around Appleton due to speeding issues.

Councillor K Critchley reported that he was looking into the possibility of average speed cameras in Appleton Thorn. The clerk informed the Parish Council that Warrington Borough Council had received Section 106 funds for speed cameras for Appleton Thorn. The clerk will circulate copies of the Section 106 agreements for the housing developments to all Parish Councillors.

Councillor K Critchley reported that he has attended a meeting with Torus regarding their management of the Cobbs estate in Appleton.

Councillor M Jervis reported that there was flooding from the Dingle onto the main road and bridge as the leaves were blocking the drains.

Councillor J Wheeler reported that there was a consultation regarding the supplementary information for the Local Plan from Warrington Borough Council which commences on 13th December. The consultation period from Warrington Borough Council however is only six weeks which includes the Christmas period. Councillor J Wheeler has requested an extension of time for comments. The clerk confirmed that she had also requested an extension of time for comments to Warrington Borough Council and she had contacted the clerk of Lymm Parish Council to ascertain if there

was going to be a meeting of the South Warrington Parishes group. Councillor G Chapman reported that the Ward members had been invited to briefings on the project.

The clerk was requested to put Appleton Cross phase two on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting agenda for January. Councillor H Speed reported she and Councillor M Browne had been invited to a meeting with regards to the Grappenhall Heys housing development.

Councillor M Marshall reported he had attended a meeting of the Pewterspear Green Trust and whilst they have signed a new contract with the football club and the business who uses the pavilion, they were looking to cut costs including maintenance costs.

Councillor P Lewenz reported that he was liaising with the Public Rights of Way Officer at Warrington Borough Council with regards to the surface of section of Old Pewterspear Lane in Appleton used by vehicles. The Public Rights of Way Officer had arranged for the potholes to be filled this year and in previous years, it is however in the opinion of the residents that it now requires a more permanent surface which will be both more durable and cost effective.

13. Dates and time of next meetings

The Dingle and Fords Rough Working party meeting Friday 15th December 2023 at 2pm via teams.

Thursday 21st December 2023, 9.15am Planning Committee meeting.

Tuesday 16th January 2024, 6.30pm Planning Committee meeting.

Tuesday 16th January 2024, 7pm Parish Council meeting.