



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 19th March 2024 at 7pm at Appleton Parish Hall

Present: - Councillor L Booth, Councillor G Chapman, Councillor K Critchley (from 7pm to 7.15pm only), Councillor L Chapman, Councillor M Delaney, Councillor M Jervis, Councillor P Lewenz, Councillor M Marshall and Councillor P Walker and Councillor J Wheeler.

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 C Critchley and Councillor H Speed 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.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

4. Minutes of last Parish Council meeting and matters arising

The clerk was asked by the Parish Council to make a minor amendment to the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 20th February 2024 as such the minutes were not approved. The clerk will amend and re-circulate the minutes for approval at the next Parish Council meeting in April.

The clerk advised the Parish Council that she will investigate recording meetings in the future.

Councillor M Jervis reported that the Six 56 inquiry has been adjourned to June 2024 and the costs were unknown. Councillor J Wheeler stated that terms of reference for the South Warrington Local Plan would need to be established as the Local Plan had now been adopted.

Councillor K Critchley left the meeting at 7.15pm.

5. Minutes of Finance and General Purposes committee meeting

The clerk was asked by the Parish Council to make a minor amendment to the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting on Thursday 7th March 2024 as such the minutes were not approved. The clerk will amend and re-circulate the minutes for approval at the next Parish Council meeting in April.

6. Planning

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the Planning Committee on Tuesday 20th February 2024 and Thursday 7th March 2024 (Copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chair.

7. Accounts for 2023/2024 and Payments Schedules

The February 2024 statement of Receipts and Payments for the Financial Year 2023/2024 was noted, and the Members noted the bank reconciliation of 29th February 2024.

RESOLVED that;

Payments were to be made in accordance with the payment schedule for 21st March 2024.

The payment schedule for 28th March 2024 will be circulated by email and will be on the statement of payments for March to be approved at the Parish Council meeting in April.

8. Minutes of Dingle and Fords Rough Working party meeting on Friday 1st March 2024

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of the Dingle and Fords Rough Working party meeting on Friday 1st March 2024 were approved.

9. Minutes of the Environmental Working Party meeting on Thursday 29th February 2024

RESOLVED that;

the minutes of the Environmental Working party meeting on Thursday 29th February 2024 were approved.

10. Environmental improvements Appleton Thorn

RESOLVED that;

the expenditure of up to £500 for village improvements/planting for Appleton Thorn volunteers for the Parish Ranger to purchase items as and when required from the Environmental Improvement budget for 2024/2025 was approved.

Councillor J Wheeler asked if photos from the Parish Ranger could be send to all Parish Councillors.

11. Response from Parish Hall users regarding increase in Parish Hall fees

RESOLVED that;

Any complaints and queries regarding the increase in the Parish Hall fees from 1st April 2024 has been dealt with as the clerk. The clerk had explained the reasoning behind the decision to increase costs which was due to inflation, particularly heating costs and that the Parish Hall was heavily subsidised by the Parish Council and the hall made a substantial loss each year.

12. Society of Local Council Clerks Cheshire Branch meetings

RESOLVED that;

the clerk and assistant clerk can attend the Society of Local Council Clerks Cheshire Branch meetings in March, June and December 2024.

13. Parish Hall car park

The Parish Council noted the further complaint regarding the Parish Hall car park.

The clerk had provided one quote for additional lighting in the car park. The clerk was asked to obtain a further two quotes and ask advice from Warrington Borough Council regarding the lighting in the car park.

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Council would not consider the installation of CCTV cameras for the Parish Hall car park as there was no evidence that this was required at this present time.

14. Response from the Mansfield Building Society

RESOLVED that;

the response to the formal complaint raised by the Parish Council was upheld by the Mansfield Building Society and receipt of £50.00 gesture of goodwill payment was noted.

15. PCSO / Police report

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

The clerk confirmed that the funding for the PCSOs would be considered by the Parish Council in May due to the purdah/pre-election period.

16. Dates and time of next meetings

Thursday 4th April 2024, 9.15am Planning Committee meeting.

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

Tuesday 16th April 2024, 7pm Annual Parish Meeting followed by Parish Council meeting.

Councillor M Marshall reported that he was not able to attend the Parish Council meeting in April and that he would not standing for re-election in May.