

*Minutes to be approved on 29 June 2023*

Minutes of the Appleford Parish Council held on Thursday 9 May 2023 in the Village Hall starting at 8.30 pm and finishing at 9.45 pm

Present: Greg O'Broin (GOB), Victoria Shepherd (VS), Manu Mavrikis (MM), Sandrine Philipot-Gasc (SPG), Dominic Grigg (DG)

Graham Warrington (GW) (Clerk)

Members of the public present: Frances Reid, Heather Isaac

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Councillor O'Broin was elected Chair and Councillor Shepherd (Vice Chair)

2. Declarations of Acceptance of Office

Declarations of acceptance of office made and signed by Councillor O'Broin, Councillor Shepherd, Councillor Mavrikis, Councillor Philipot-Gasc and Councillor Grigg; received and counter signed by the Clerk.

The declarations would be held by the Clerk.

3. Declarations of Interest

Greg O'Broin	Member of the Parish Trust Committee and Village Hall Committee
Victoria Shepherd	Member of the Parish Trust Committee

4. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March were approved and signed.

There were no matters arising.

5. Finance

(a) Invoices paid since the last meeting as set out below were noted

JB

Item 7b Appleford Parish Council Meeting 9.5.2023

Invoice ref no.	Invoice date	The following invoices have been paid since the last meeting: and were noted		Amount £	Notes
3088	10.4.2023	Creative Badger	Website hosting	£430.00	
3089	5.5.2023	J Drewe Landscaping	Grounds Maintenance	£280.00	
3090	24.4.2023	Pet Waste Solutions	Dog bins 20001	£47.52	
3091	4.3.2023	Damascus	Grass Cutting	£297.00	
3092	16.5.23	HMRC Cumbernauld	Overdue tax Month 9 & 10 2022	£235.20	£161.60 + £73.60
3093	30.5.23	G Warrington	Clerks salary May 2023	£161.85	Reduced to reflect incorrect payment 12/22
3094	30.5.23	HMRC Cumbernauld	PAYE May 2023	£80.80	
3095	25.4.23	Vale of White Horse Dis	Admin fee - uncontested election	£200.00	
3096	10.5.23	Pet Waste Solutions	Bins 20459	£47.52	
3097	26.5.23	Pet Waste Solutions	Bins 20705	£47.52	
3098	3.5.22	V Shepherd	Expenses	£67.94	
3099	15.5.23	Crosscut	Tree surgeon work	£350.00	

VS advised that the recent quinquennial church inspection had highlighted a number of maintenance issues.

GOB confirmed that although he would be personally minded to support the Church with reasonable funding where possible such financial support, it would be better to seek wider affirmation from the village and its residents and was something that could be undertaken as part of the proposed 20mph village survey.

#### 6. County and District Councillor Report

Councillor Webber had been unable to attend. In his absence the meeting congratulated him on his re-election as district councillor.

GOB advised that he spoke to Councillor Webber periodically on local issues particularly planning issues which were covered in Minute 7 below.

Agreed to post Councillor Webber's monthly update reports on the Notice Board, online and in the Pressings, when issued. N.B. still working to streamline village communication channels, focusing on website, and noticeboard, supported by Facebook, WhatsApp and the Pressings, where possible. Marketing/ communication people sought to support village communications.

#### 7. Planning Applications

##### *HIF Planning Application*

GOB advised that a second Regulation 25 consultation had been undertaken. Consisting of 60 plus documents, comments were required by 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Further discussions with the 5 Neighbouring Councils Group were planned with one of the primary points being proposed reduction in the construction period for the scheme from 36 months to 30 months, with little to no justification.

No date had yet been finalised for consideration of the application by the County Council's Planning & Regulation Committee although late June could be a possibility.

##### *Other Planning Applications*

GOB advised that 8 planning applications for local operations had been lodged with Oxfordshire County Council by Hansons and FCC.





The situation was extremely complicated involving 4 different case officers at County Council level.

*Application MW.0004/20 – Hanson – Bridge farm Quarry - Section 73 application for a new stockpile area and to allow transport of material by vehicle.*

Consensus against vehicles transporting material across the road at peak times. Agreed to revise the objection to prevent vehicles crossing the road and request that the travelator under the road be repaired and reinstated.

No objection to the storage element of the application.

*Application MW.0008/22 – Hanson – Section 73 application to remove stockpile by road and Application MW.0067/22 – Hanson – Section 73A application to extract sand and gravel without complying with conditions 2 and 42 to extend date for restoration*

GOB to submit further clarification to OCC, objecting to a long-term extension for restoration period, on traffic disruption if permitted to haul gravel over the road, when Hanson should restore the under road 'travelator' and remove the need to store gravel at the wetlands.

*MW.0033/22 – Hanson – Section 73 application to extend arrival and working times for 150 occasions pa for 5 years*

*MW.0034/22 – Hanson – Section 73 application to allow train delivery and loading and unloading times to be extended on 150 occasions pa for 5 years*

Agreed to restate Appleford Parish Council's strong objection and request deferral of both applications for 3 months to enable the Parish Council to undertake independent noise surveys and monitoring.

*MW.0066/23 – Hanson – Erection of a covered store at Appleford sidings*

Agreed to submit a response noting continued nuisance noise at the sidings but no fundamental objection to this application.

*MW.0034/22 – FCC- Section 106A application to remove the existing waste catchment area restriction and amendment to permissive path at Sutton Courtenay landfill site*

Noted that Didcot Town Council and Sutton Courtenay Parish Council had objected. Agreed to confirm Appleford Parish Council's provisional objection on the grounds of increased traffic levels and failure to disclose meaningful information on movements, tonnage and fill rate and FCC's longstanding delay in meeting its obligations under previously agreed conditions regarding permissive paths.

*Note APC & SCPC objections were subsequently upheld with a decision to defer approval pending receipt of further information.*

#### 8. Noise Monitoring Update

Noise had been and continued to be a perennial problem for residents, notwithstanding the current number of planning applications for sand and gravel and associated operations, together with the HIF1 application: the situation would only deteriorate. With that scenario in

mind and in order to ensure the best possible response to these pressures and a more comprehensive picture going forward it was felt that noise survey and monitoring work should be carried out and also carried out over a longer period of 21 days rather than 14 as originally proposed.

Noted that Chris Hancock would be seeking an alternative proposal to that end.

It was agreed to allocate up to £5,000 towards the costs of survey work in addition to a contribution of £2,000 from County Councillor Webber and potentially the Parish Trust.

9. General Items for discussion

*20 mph survey* – proposed to arrange for a leaflet drop and survey to include proposals for safety improvements at entrances to the village and along Main Road.

*Trees* – A quote of £350 from Crosscutter Trees to remove 2 dead poplar trees at the recreation ground was accepted with work due to be carried out within the next few weeks. If any requests were received for wood from this work it was suggested that a donation be made to the church or local charity.

A survey of remaining trees around the recreation was planned in a year's time, with Crosscut Tree Surgeons providing quarterly walkarounds to provide peace of mind, and check nothing urgent following storms, etc. Volunteers to support Rec. maintenance and management still sought.

*GWR Liaison* – potential for meeting with Station Manager to discuss issues of lights shining into properties; possible retention of some bus services once line had been reopened; platform access and longer-term plans for the station including car and bike parking and safety issues in the areas of the bridge and Chambrai Close.

MM undertook to investigate an application for funding via the GWR Customer & Community Improvement Fund

DG offered to support work with the Appleford Railway Liaison Group. Particular problem of Network Rail staff parking on Chambrai junction

An increase in Village Hall rental rates was noted. It was agreed this was a matter for the Village Hall Committee.

Signed.....  
Chair

Date of signing.....