

Appledore Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting on 19th October 2015 at 19.30 hrs Appledore Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllrs: James Perkins (Chairman), Terry Blaney, Helen Hennig.
Clerk: Mary Philo.

1. FORMALITIES

- i. The Council was Quorate.
- ii. Apologies.
 - a) Given and accepted for Cllr Morgan.
 - b) Cllr Telfer was delayed due to issues with the train service, joining the meeting in time for Item 6 – Planning.
 - c) Borough Cllr Burgess had relayed his apologies.
- iii. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.
None.

2. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES

It was resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd October 2015 as a true record.

MEETING ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- i. Community Warden, (CW) - Jo Voss.
Jo deals with abandoned vehicles, neighbourhood disputes, fly tipping, (reports can be made via the ABC web site), restorative justice (this is the new regime for minor convictions e.g. burglary and shop lifting, where in addition to a punishment of fine or imprisonment, CW's help the victim reach closure through the perpetrator making amends) The CW role also involves making visits to local groups (recently to CARM and the Parent and Toddler Group at the Recreation Ground Pavilion). Jo has currently been assisting a resident that had fallen victim to a scam.
Contact details for Jo are 07980 770578 or joanna.vos@kent.gov.uk.
- ii. Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) - Gary Carr.
Gary has been a PCSO, (no powers of arrest), for 4 years. Appledore was included within his responsibility in August: now 12 villages.
As PCSO, Gary deals with low level crime such as burglary and criminal damage (vandalism). There had been two crimes reported this month: a burglary near the bus station and a vehicle had been "keyed" on Heath Road.
He had also recently carried out a speed patrol in Appledore. In spite of having to be visible, he did have some success at village locations.
The reduction in funding for the police force and passing on of minor services eg to the Community Warden, has led to the Police becoming more of an emergency service.
- iii. Ben Walgate CEO of Gusbourne Estate Winery re Planning Application.
The estate consists of 350 acres, with 105 acres under vine and 14 full time employees
Wine production takes some 8 years: 4 years to grow and 4 years resting. This means that the storage requirements will continue to steadily increase. The bulk of current storage is at a separate location, underground.
The current application is a request to remove the condition/restriction, which limits certain aspects of an earlier facility expansion application.

Concerns were raised about the impact on neighbouring properties and the increase in heavy goods vehicle traffic on local country roads.

iv. Appledore Surgery Closure.

The property will be for sale with the expectation that the site will be developed for residential purposes if not sold for commercial purposes. Dr Colleridge is expected to attend the APC Meeting when the planning application would be considered.

Disappointment was expressed that the surgery has not been fully operational for some time reportedly due to poor computer linkage between the two practices.

A representative of Hamstreet Surgery is to attend the next scheduled APC Meeting, (16th November 2015), to advise on the continued service to residents.

MEETING RECONVENED

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

It was suggested by the Clerk that this item was no longer included on the agenda. Cllr Hennig was not in favour.

4. MINUTES OF PUBLIC SESSION AND REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Proposed by Cllr Perkins and seconded by Cllr Blaney. It was resolved to add the following to Appledore Parish Council Standing Orders to Section 3.5

"vii A record of a public participation session at a meeting shall be included in the minutes of that meeting

viii A record of reports made by outside bodies, borough councillors and county councillors at a meeting shall be included in the minutes of that meeting"

5. FINANCES

i. Financial Report by Parish Clerk.

The Council had received all expected large sums, £29,605, for the year. So far Council expenditure had reached £12,043. It was anticipated that the Clerk's salary would exceed that budgeted due to the increase in the number of hours required to undertake the responsibilities and required duties.

Some other unbudgeted expenditure is anticipated regarding training and Council administration, however, there would be a saving against the sum budgeted for the Public Works Loan repayment for the Village Hall acquisition. The running cost for a Street Cleaner was almost covered by the Street Cleaning Grant. The budgeted spending to income left an unallocated sum to spend of around £7,000. Previous years accounts demonstrated that substantial donations and grants were given to local organisations. It is forecast that the whole precept will be spent.

ii. Cheques Drawn.

03.10.2015	£380.00	Salaries
	£297.62	HMRC – Income Tax
	£55.00	T Blaney – Outstanding Refund re Clerks Laptop
	£4.41	G Morgan – Council Banner Accessories
19.10.2015	£9.99	KALC – Local Council Explained
	£240.00	PKF Littlejohn LLP – External Audit Fee
	£264.65	M Philo – Reimbursement for Council Administrative Expenses including Software for Laptop, Storage Cabinet, Media Course
	£20.29	T Blaney – Speed Watch Posters

iii. Cheques to be Drawn.

		Salaries
	£5,487.50	Direct Debit for Public Works Loan – 2nd Annual Payment

iv. Assets.

The Clerk is still compiling information. The Village Hall Management Committee advisor had brought the ownership of the Village Hall into question. The Clerk will be attending training on charitable trusts to assist with the task.

6. Planning

- i. Cllrs Perkins, Telfer and Blaney attended an Ashford Borough Council hosted Planning Training Session. Strategic Planning (large scale infrastructure and development) included new junction 10A on the M20, a Dance Academy, Elwick Place development into an entertainment zone, business development around Ashford, 7,500 Chilmington housing development and Tenterden Housing Development. A review of day to day management of planning application was provided. ABC's stance on applications was to be approachable and conciliatory. Those seeking information should refer to their website. The opportunity for villages/town to propose a development area through a neighbourhood plan had been taken up by Wye and Bethersden but these were still in progress.
- ii. Decisions Received.
 - a) 15/00878/AS: Land South of the Old Dairy, Heath Road – Proposed new dwelling. ABC Permitted.
 - b) 15/00115/TC: Court Barn, Court Lodge Road – Felling of various trees. ABC Raised No Objection.
 - c) 15/00153/TC The Quillets Garth, Court Lodge Road – Reduction of Bay Tree. ABC Raised No Objection.
 - d) 15/01133/AS: The Plateau, 66 The Street – Replacement 5 bedroom detached dwelling with integral double garage (Resubmission of 14/00346/AS). ABC Permitted.
 - e) 15/00605/AMND/AS: Gusbourne Estate Vineyard, Kenardington Road – Non-material minor amendment to add solid timber insulated lining behind external wall timber battens. ABC Permitted.
- iii. New Applications.
 - a) 15/01134/AS: Gusbourne Estate Vineyard, Kenardington Road – Removal of condition 19 on permission 15/00605/AS to allow the winery building permitted under 11/00229/AS to be built in addition to the extension permitted on 15/00605/AS. APC Majority Supported Application.

7. Highways & Byways

- i. Update on Meeting with KCC Highways.

Cllr Blaney briefly summarised the meeting and advised that a report will be published in due course.

 - a) The site of each of the Key Issues identified by our Parishioners was visited.
 - b) An indication of priorities was assigned.
 - c) Some possible solutions were reviewed, which will be the subject of the next phase of our contact with KCC Highways.
- ii. KCC Highways had formerly acknowledged APC's collaborative approach.
- iii. Verge Posts.

Installation of additional posts had been completed and had already been agreed with funds obtained from ABC.
- iv. Traffic Monitoring Programme.
 - a) Volunteers are being sought, to assist with a Community Speed Watch Initiative. Posters are to be displayed with volunteers requested to contact the Parish Clerk.

- b) Guy Rolinson had been contacted to arrange training and site selection.
- c) Investigations continue on the type and prices of appropriate equipment as well as the opportunity to collaborate with other local Parish Councils.

8. Surgeries

Cllr Blaney advised that participation by Parishioners was minimal, it was unanimously decided that the experiment be brought to an early conclusion and an appropriate announcement made.

9. Website

Cllr Blaney commented on a successful meeting with Donal Sheridan and Chris Vane, regarding the Community Web Site and the APC Web Site but requested that this item be deferred due to the meeting running over time.

10. Noticeboards/Signage/Flower Troughs

- i. It was reported that the owner of the Village Shop had been approached by the Parish Clerk and expressed willingness to allow APC use of the exterior wall for the display of a suitable Notice Board.
- ii. A great deal of discussion took place without Councillors achieving a conclusion, except to approach John Mundy to confirm our acceptance of his offer to replace the framework for the historical sign located by the church.

Cllr Blaney requested that discussion on the balance of the items be deferred due to the meeting running over time.

11. Public Toilets

Mr Wickens has been contacted to repair the wooden handrail by the steps, outside the toilets. Estimated cost £75.00.

12. Parish Plan Update

Cllr Blaney requested that this item be deferred due to the meeting running over time.

13. Parish Council Logo/Brand

- i. Cllr Blaney requested that Chris Vane undertake the role of Lead Judge and that he engage Donal Sheridan and Graham Edwards as fellow judges.
- ii. The winner will be announced at the APC Meeting on 16th November 2015.

14. Street Lighting

A member of the public advised that the lights in Appledore did not belong to KCC; the Clerk will investigate and clarify to Councillors.

15. Fundraising by the Parish Council

The Clerk had established that it is not usual for Parish Councils to engage directly in fundraising as its revenue is raised by precept. Individual Councillors are often engaged in fundraising for specific causes.

16. Any Other Business

None.

17. Date of Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 21.45Hrs. The next meeting will be held on Monday, 16th November 2015 at 19.30Hrs.