

APPLEDORE PARISH COUNCIL



5th February 2024 Minutes of the Meeting 19.30 Village Hall

Present

Cllr Roger Hiskey (Chairman), Cllr Gary Kinsley, Cllr Paula Thornton, Cllr Kevin Nicol, Cllr Roger Kimber

In attendance: Cllr Mike Hill (District Councillor) Cllr Johnny Shilton (District Councillor), Julian Kenny (Parish Clerk)

Apologies

Cllr Sharon Marsh. Cllr Chester Lusk

Members of the Public: 5

1. Formalities

I) Quorum

The council was quorate.

II) Apologies and Reasons for absence. It was **RESOLVED** that all apologies be accepted.

(LGA 1972 schedule12, 12)

III) Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

(Code of Conduct)

Cllr Kimber declared an interest in 3.1.5 (Maple Place)

2. Approval of Draft Minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2024 as a true record after correcting the figures for the allotments.

Proposed by Cllr Thornton, seconded by Cllr Kinsley - agreed unanimously

(LGA Act 1972 schedule12,19.1)

Adjournment of Meeting for Reports and Public Questions

County Councillor Mike Hill

Budget setting is set to be confirmed on 19th February. This year's budget currently has a £25m gap. Savings will have to be found in next years budget. The reserves can be used, but only as a temporary measure.

The Council will keep going, but some unpalatable savings will have to happen with cuts in different areas. All statutory minimums will be covered.

Unaccompanied asylum seekers still are a serious issue for KCC. A recent ruling has declared that the government is not acting effectively as there is currently no dispersal for unaccompanied young migrants.

In October new regulations at the Port of Dover will mean that all vehicles will need to be checked. This will obviously cause delays and cause impacts on the local road network.

Resident Questions

- What is KCC doing about pot holes? The roads must keep roads safe but KCC can't currently afford long term maintenance. The budget for potholes is currently 1% of budget, approximately £1m. 72% of budget is spent on social care

Borough Councillor Johnny Shilton

The budget is currently being reviewed at ABC. Residents are encouraged to go online and look at budget as comments are welcome. Cllr Shilton will be doing surgeries in coming months. He has just completed one in Kenardington. It is an important way for residents to engage with Borough Councillors.

Cllr Shilton is interested in hearing from residents about Ashford Parks Association and the condition of social housing. Residents are requested to contact him with comments. He also reminded Councillors that bids are currently open for Rural Prosperity Fund grants.

Public Questions 19.45

1. A resident asked about building control for flooding at Elm Lodge.
It was decided to answer this question under 3.4 enforcement updates

The meeting reconvened at 19.47

3. Planning

(Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 schedule 1/2010)

3.1 Planning Decisions by Ashford Borough Council

No decisions

- 3.1.1 NOT/2023/2285 Proposed Barn Conversion 25m South of Hornes Place Barn, Kenardington Road, Appledore. Prior approval for the change of use of 1no. building and land from agricultural to Class C3 (1no. dwellinghouse) with associated operational development. Prior Approval Is Given

NB NOT/2023/2286 Proposed Barn Conversion 25m South of Hornes Place Barn, Kenardington Road, Appledore Prior Notification for the change of use of agricultural

building and land within its curtilage to a dwelling house and associate,. Is still listed as under consultation. **Under Consultation**

- 3.1.2 PA/2023/2291 3 Canal View, The Street, Appledore, Ashford, Kent TN26 2BQ. Lawful Development Certificate - Existing solar panels on the south western facing roof slope. Existing Use/Development Is Lawful
- 3.1.3 PA/2023/2282 3 Canal View, The Street, Appledore, Ashford, Kent TN26 2BQ. Lawful Development Certificate - Existing solar panels to side elevation roof. Existing Use/Development Is Lawful
- 3.1.4 PA/2023/2181 13, Old Way House, The Street, Appledore, TN26 2DB
Lawful development certificate - Proposed - To replace kitchen window with a bi-fold door and to block up the existing kitchen door. **Proposed Use/Development Would Be Lawful**
- 3.1.5 NOT/2023/2271 Maple Place, Appledore. 5 day Notification - T5 - Sycamore - Cavity with probable Ganoderma resinaceum. Approve with Conditions
A second tree may need to be taken out

3.2 Planning Applications Considered

- i.) PA/2024/0067 66 The Street, Appledore, Ashford, Kent TN26 2AE. The excavation of a 150m2 wildlife pond to promote the breeding of Great Crested Newts in the area, funded by Natural England's District Level Licensing Scheme.
Comment – This may disrupt an archeological site and there may be issues with the boundary.

3.2.1 For Noting

- 3.3.1** NOT/2024/0121 49, The Street, Appledore, TN26 2BU Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area T1 Magnolia - prune back to previous points. T2 Crab apple - prune back to previous points.
- 3.3.2** OTH/2024/0069 Land North of Baileys Place, Heath Road, Appledore, TN26 2Aj
Details submitted pursuant to conditions 2 (materials) and 8 (surface drainage) of planning permission NOT/2022/2899

3.4 Enforcement Updates

- i.) ENF/2024/0023 Appledore Post Office and General Store
ABC is reviewing whether a wall in the conservation area needed to have planning permission before being altered/removed
- ii.) Elm Lodge, Tenterden Road
Enforcement found no issues with the changes of entrance, however, Councillors felt that new entrance is dangerous. Cllr Kinsley will liaise with KCC Highways on behalf of the Council as the water run off/mud is a danger to motorists.

4. Finances

4. 1 Balances at 5 January 2024

Current	£19,806.49
Deposit	£82,097.93

4. 2 January salaries

Salaries	£1,479.60
Expenses	TBC

4.3 Draft Budget 2024-2025

It was decided to review this at the next meeting when a new Clerk will hopefully be in place.

4.4 Creation of a new reserve account to ensure all assets are protected

As the current holding of the Parish Council are over £85,000, it is hoped that the work on the Pavilion could be started to reduce the current holdings.

5. Parish Council Owned House

Cllr Hiskey and Cllr Kinsley are looking into details of the charges for the new house. ABC are looking into the letting process. It may be better to rent via Town & Country as the other houses are being let through them.

6. Funding for new noticeboards and maintenance of hanging baskets

Hanging baskets were placed on the village gates last year and volunteers currently manage them. The current baskets are not deep for some plants and they don't hold enough earth. It was requested that new baskets, along with compost and plants be purchased at maximum cost of £150. It was suggested that bulbs could also be planted at the village gates. Agreed unanimously

The current noticeboards are falling into disrepair and taking on water. They need repairing or replacing. Simon Honnor has kindly offered to repair the middle board between the village shop and the Village Hall at a cost of £1.

7. 106 Funding application updates

a. Playground + Tennis MUGA

Applications have been submitted. The playground application includes replacing playground equipment, purchasing and installing new equipment and seating for adults, The tennis/MUGA application includes updating the courts so that they can be used for other events as well, including seniors' football.

In order to move funds across more efficiently (see 4.4) it was suggested to ask Cllr Kinsley to administer the work on behalf of the Council to ensure that all VAT can be reclaimed.

Applications have been submitted.

b. Allotment

The application is near submission. It has changed slightly as ABC have requested that maintenance is now highlighted in the application.

The Allotment Society has been accepted for a Woodland Trust for 8 meters of hedging and 8 trees, including rowan silver birch and dog rose. The Allotments do need a link to the water supply, this cost in the region of £15,000, but some of the Allotment Society members are willing to do some of the work themselves. The cost of the new allotments will be £35pa per allotment.

The allotment beds on the far side will be put into pasture and it may be possible to apply for the 106 green spaces grant

i. Allotment funding

As the allotment 106 funding has been delayed, Council are requested to make a temporary payment of £1,000 to the Allotment Society to allow them to start working and make the area ready for use this year rather than waiting a year. As soon as the funds are received from ABC, £1,000 will be returned to the Council from the 106 grant. Proposed by Cllr Nichol, seconded by Cllr Kimber unanimous

8. New Clerk

A pack has been created to send to applicants for the Clerk's position. The Personnel Committee request delegated authority with the hiring process.

A recommendation will be brought back to full council

Proposed Cllr Kevin Nichol, seconded Cllr Roger Kimber - unanimous

9. Parish AGM and Annual Parish Meeting

The suggested dates for 2024 Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council AGM dates are Annual Parish Meeting 21st March – using the big hall

Parish Council AGM 16th May

10. Information for Councillors

Repton Community Trust has pop up shops and could visit Appledore every 2 weeks. A basket of goods with a maximum value of £20 will be on sale for £6 Pavilion. The plan is to start on 28 Feb 10.30am-11.30am and open every other week.

Car park sign – Roger Kimber is liaising with Highways as the signs were supposed to be up by 8 Jan. The initial job was cancelled because of staff sickness. The Highways contact is on leave until 12 Feb, so there will be no action until then.

11. Items for the March agenda

Parish Council house

Charging points

10. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 4th March 2024, 7.30pm, Appledore Village Hall