

DEERHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 26 January 2022 in Apperley Village Hall

Present: Len Attard – Chairman
Laura Bromberg
Ben Oldham
Jim Pollard
John Rutter
A Wilkes
Heather Mclain
Fiona Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: 0

1 APOLOGIES: CC Awford, Councillor Smith

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday, 24 November 2021, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR AWFORD:

- My work has been dominated by the GCC Budget including a five and a half hour Scrutiny session for Members on Thursday last week . Given a better than anticipated RSG settlement from Government the budget will be £520M and based on just a 2.99% increase in Council Tax made up of a 1.9% increase in Council Tax and 1% increase for Adult Social Care . This equates to £42.14 on the typical Band D property
- Obviously Adult Social Care and Children’s Services remain key priorities for GCC together with Highways and Climate Change
- There are nine strategic priorities in all as we face up to the ongoing issues and increasing demand , for example 848 children are looked after in Gloucestershire together with 28,600 adults over 65 needing Care Services
- Locally and helpfully there will be an increase in the Elected Members Highways Local Funding of £10k per annum which will help bring some of the local schemes forward
- That said , I have to spread this £30 K a year across the whole division and will seek to bring forward schemes given GCC investing another £100 Million in improving our highways with more focus on Rural roads together with nearly £10 million going into the pothole action fund
- Other highlights are investment in Rural bus services and £300,000 into identifying 20MPH zones together with a commitment to plant 1 million trees to aid the challenges around climate change and carbon reduction
- Anyone interested can view the Scrutiny session on the link on the GCC website

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MCLAIN:

- Recent full council was short and non-contentious
- There are various grants available
- TBC are producing a new website which will be more user friendly and easy to navigate around
- Improvements are being made in planning and TBC are currently recruiting

- Following a highly critical report of the planning department that was presented to TBC's Executive committee on 17 November the Borough Council considered at a meeting on 7 December whether to reduce the ability of parish/town councils to have their representations brought to the attention of the planning committee. The motion was voted against, and it was agreed that a full consultation was required with parish/town councils

It was agreed that the Clerk should promote the grants available from TBC on the community facebook page

5 PUBLIC COMMENT: None present

6 PLANNING:

6.1 Applications:

Applications considered prior to the meeting:

21/01084/FUL Oak Cottage, Deerhurst Road, Apperley:

Access the TBC website for the comments

21/01443/FUL Old Farmhouse, Lower Apperley: Installation of solar panels and a double EV charging point. Removal of existing hard standing and swimming pool and replacement of an existing pedestrian gate

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has no adverse comments to this application

21/01504/FUL Thuya House, School Road, Apperley:

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has no adverse comments to this application

Applications considered at the meeting:

21/01538/CLE Puddle Barn, Court Drive, Apperley:

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has no adverse comments to this application

21/00318/FUL Land Adjacent To Apperley House School Road Apperley: Erection of 3 single storey dwellings including associated landscaping, parking and access

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

Deerhurst Parish Council remains concerned about the following:

1. Preservation of Locally Important Open Spaces
2. Preservation of Protected Trees
3. Risk of Surface Water Flooding to Pink Cottage
4. Effectiveness of Site Drainage
5. Intrusion to Privacy of Pink Cottage
6. Road Safety
7. Start/End of Day Access to Primary School
8. Risk of Disruption to Bus Service
9. Preservation of and Risk of Damage to The Green, Apperley During Construction
10. Risk of Damage to the War Memorial During Construction
11. Site Management During Construction
12. Application of NPPF

The Green is one of the few remaining designated important open spaces in Apperley and the protected trees, between Apperley House and Pink Cottage, are an essential element of its setting. Pink Cottage is one of the oldest buildings at The Green and, together with Green Farm and Holy

Trinity Church are important and much valued assets of this important location. In 2007, surface water from higher ground to its rear flooded part of Pink Cottage.

Although the site plans show contours of the undeveloped land, there is no indication of the ground level heights of the proposed three dwellings, the access road or the drainage pond behind to know how water would drain into the pond and how both the drainage and the privacy of Pink Cottage would be affected. Drawing sections through the site, buildings and pond is recommended to clarify these important considerations.

Between Pink Cottage and The Green is one of the narrowest parts of School Road used by local and through traffic, including the local and school bus services. The junction of School Road and Court Drive is widely used for turning at the start and end of the school day. Both roads are also used regularly by pedestrians (including with children and dogs), cyclists and horses with riders. Only the grass on The Green provides refuge because neither road has a footway. Construction vehicles parked on School Road would close the road. If diversions were found to be necessary, the local bus service would by-pass Apperley, as in the past.

Pink Cottage has a short front garden, and the boundary hedge is at the roadside. School Road falls in both directions from a crest at Pink Cottage. The visibility splay on the site map, from a point 2.4 metres back from the road, is drawn from the proposed access road past Pink Cottage but passes through the hedge belonging to Pink Cottage.

The proposed three dwellings are of a similar design and layout to the dwelling nearing completion adjacent to Green Farm. This provides an insight into the quantity, frequency and size of vehicles requiring access and parking during construction. Vehicles included a mobile crane to erect structural elements on site and articulated lorries parked on the road to deliver materials. It has to asked how such large vehicles as these could gain access to the site without protected trees being removed or damage being caused to The Green, possibly even to the War Memorial. What undertakings have been given to prevent, insure against and make good any damage caused during construction?

The following paragraphs of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, July 2021 version) are relevant:

- 72: protection of assets of particular importance
- 174, including footnote 58: preservation of best and most versatile agricultural land (Class 1)
- 71: resistance to development of residential gardens
- 85: use of local roads and public transport

6.2 Decision: 21/01224/FUL Lark Rise, Wick Lane, Lower Apperley - Granted

6.3 Appeals: Dippers Cottage, Gabb Lane, Apperley: Installation of a balcony, window and Erection of an outbuilding to be used as an office/playroom – Appeal for the failure to determine planning permission. It was agreed no further comments would be sent

Appeal Decisions: None

6.4 Neighbourhood Plan (NP): Councillor Bromberg reported the draft plan had been presented to the Parish Council and was now out for community consultation.

7 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

7.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

	Item	Expenditure	Income	Comment
1	Clerk's salary – January	348.07		Paid – £363.07 less £15 tax
2	Inland Revenue	15.00		Paid
3	Wa+erplus	62.92		Paid
4	Renewal of Apperley and Deerhurst Community Website domain name – 5 yrs	71.94		
5	Gordon Playground Inspections Ltd: Annual ROSPA Inspection	150.00 <u>VAT 30.00</u> 180.00		

	Total	£677.93	£0.00	
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7.2 Financial Statement: Circulated with the agenda - the Chairman signed this.

7.3 Budget 2022/23: The Clerk circulated a second draft following discussion at the November meeting. It was agreed that the precept for 2022/23 will be £9,100. **Clerk to email TBC.**

8 MATTERS ARISING

8.1 Apperley Village Hall: Councillor Oldham reported:

- Starting to get busier with bookings
- Jen Jenkins and Chris Freeman are managing the bookings
- Hall has been decorated by a group of volunteers and looks good
- The treasurer will be applying for a Covid Grant as they are looking at replacing the front doors, refresh the toilets – the Covid grant can cede money to enable the Committee to secure other grants
- BMX track is to be removed and the soil will be spread around the pond area

Allotment: Nothing to report.

Play area: Councillor Oldham reported that several quotes had been obtained to fix a few of the issues that were raised at the Annual Inspection

Carpark: The PC had been approached by Fabionis pizzas to use the carpark. The Clerk had contacted Gumbie's Piazza who confirmed that they would no longer need to use the carpark. Councillor Oldham said he would meet with Fabionis. **Clerk to email Fabionis with Councillor Oldham's contact details.**

The Chairman had been approached by a parishioner who is getting married and would like to erect a marquee in the playing field for their wedding reception on Saturday, 20 August. Councillor Oldham said they would have to hire the Village Hall and obtain a temporary event licence. The Chairman said he would make further enquiries with the parishioner.

8.2 Highways:

Gullies: Some gully work on School Road has taken place and the gullies have been cleared down the B4213

Pole: This has not been mended yet and the detritus from the accident is still in the verge

Potholes – Sawpit Lane: Several potholes had been marked but some had not - hopefully the worst ones would be filled soon.

8.3 Public Rights of Way: Councillor Pollard said he had spoken with the Footpaths Officer about the Footpath behind the Chairman's house and she had spoken to the landowner.

9 CORRESPONDENCE:

9.1 TBC Housing Strategy 2022-2026: Councillor Pollard had submitted a response

9.2 Severnsider contribution of material: The PC had been asked if it would contribute editorial for the magazine as editorial matter was getting a little sparse. Copy deadline is the 15th of the month. It was agreed the Clerk would promote the Arts Grant to support communities with celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. **Clerk to draft an article for the Severnsider and liaise with the Chairman.**

Any Other Correspondence:

Apperley and Deerhurst Community Website: Domain Name Renewal for the next 5 years is £71.94. It was agreed the Parish Council would pay this cost. **Clerk to inform Ann Wiseman and reimburse her.**

10 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Platinum Jubilee: On 6th February this year Her Majesty the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms, and the Commonwealth.

To celebrate this unprecedented anniversary, events and initiatives will take place throughout the year, culminating in a four-day UK bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. The bank holiday will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate the historic milestone. Gloucestershire Community Foundation is managing a fund locally on behalf of Arts Council England. Grants will be awarded up to £5,000 (larger grants may be available) to support a wide-range of creative community projects including music, theatre, dance, visual arts, literature, combined arts - including festivals and carnivals, museum and library activities. Projects will be expected to culminate in a community event in June to mark the jubilee. Parish/Town Councils are eligible to apply for a community project that involves the wider community. **Clerk to promote on the Community Facebook Page and in the Severnsider.**

11 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 23 February 2022 at 7.15pm

Close of meeting 8.44pm