



Minutes of the Meeting on 4th March 2019 at 19.30 hrs Appledore Village Hall

Present

Councillors: James Perkins (Chair), Helen Hennig, and Chris Vane.
In Attendance: Borough Councillor. Mick Burgess and the Clerk Mary Philo.
Members of the Public: 15

1. Formalities

- I) The council was quorate (LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12/28/45).
- II) Apologies had been received from Councillors. Hill, Hiskey, Jenkins, Wilkinson and Winter (LGA Act 1972 sch12, 12).
- III) Declarations of interest and dispensations: None (Code of Conduct).

2. Approval of Draft minutes

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 4th February and 25th February 2019 as a true record. Proposed Councillor. Perkins and seconded Councillor. Vane (LGA Act 1972 sch12,19.1).

The meeting was adjourned at 19.38 hrs.

Report by Friends of Appledore Train Station

The group is dealing with the following main issues at the station: car parking; platform improvements and the main building. The car park will be managed by Indigo and penalty tickets will be issued for parking incorrectly in the bay and not displaying a ticket. Charges will not be introduced before July. The advertising barrow for Station Antiques is a hinderance and danger to those using the parking area. A volunteer working party is being organised to assemble and paint and then plant up new planters for the platforms. It was believed that the main station building had been sold to the company 'The Arches'. Contractors spent 5 days installing the new cameras for the level crossing although the planning application public consultation had only just been issued. The work would be completed before the application was considered by Planning Officers.

Public Questions

'People in Road' sign by Griffin Cottages – In response to query this sign had been in place for several years now.

Residential enabling car park – There will be a further public consultation on the plans as a result of a few minor changes that had to be made in consideration of the mound of archeological interest at the site. The consultation would only be on these alterations.

Public Questions on the Sale of the Council Field – February update leaflet distributed to residents

The following comments and questions were raised:

Linear park – Concern expressed that the areas planted with bulbs would look untidy while waiting for the bulbs leaves to die down.

Public consultation on plans – There will be a three day public consultation with the plans in the village hall in April.

Division of funds received from the sale – The field had been sold for £775,000 of which the council would receive £70,000 in cash to be dedicated speed and traffic improvements to Appledore roads; a three bedroom semi-detached house (discounted price £250,000) which would be rented and provide a small income; the remainder in refurbishment work to the village hall, public toilets, play area swings resurface, repainting lines to tennis courts/Muga.

2 bedroom homes on the residential development – Disappointment was expressed that the semi-detached 2 bedroom home had been replaced by 3 bedroom semi-detached house. This had been altered to allow the council a discount to be able to acquire one semi-detach home: the developer would build both sides of the semi to have 3 bedrooms and some of the increase in profit being returned to the council. Initial investigation showed that an annual income of around £12,000 might be made but much deeper investigation would be needed.

Anticipated build time – It was currently planned that the residential development and refurbishment works would be carried out together so it was expected to take between 6 and 8 months. The village hall would be contacting all hall hirers and advising of the alternative accommodation arrangements. These were still being finalised.

Field valuation – The Valuer had carried out a red book valuation.

Price of affordable housing in Appledore – Concern was expressed that smaller homes were too expensive for young people from the village.

Prudence – A request was made that any moneys now spent should be prudently spent. The council would be looking into developing an investment strategy.

Recreation ground – The ground committee would be looking into the future development of the ground and pavilion and how much it would cost.

The meeting was reconvened at 20.40 hrs.

3. Finances

I) Bank Accounts: As at 31st January 2019 £38,507.35; as at 28th February 2019 £ 39,393.42

II) Income Received:

£ 65.41 Public donations from the toilets

£1,939.68 Vat Refund from HMRC from October 2018 to December 2019

III) Cheques raised since the last meeting:

£ 25.00 H Parish: refund for leaving gift for Appledore Stores Keeper from Chairman's allowance

£ 971.58 February salaries

IV) Agreement of cheques to be drawn:

£ 220.00 Appledore Parish Magazine (LGA 1972 S111)

£ 50.95 Peter Caro – repair work to Heathside Parish Council Noticeboard (LGA 1972 s111)

£ 65.58 M Philo Admin Costs: Room £30, Car £23.40, rubber gloves £1.00, Disinfectant £1, Wallets £3.43, Paper £2.75 and laminating £4.00 (vat refund £2.03)

£ 9.12 Pett PC: Mobile Phone

£45.00 Refund C Vane: Leaflet on council field (LGA 1972 s111)

4. Planning (Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 sch1/2010)

I) Ashford Borough Decisions Advised:

- a) 18/00889/AS Prospect House School Road: Proposed new dwelling and the construction of a new access to serve existing house – Permitted
- b) 18/01608/AS Land rear of 66 The Street: Proposed siting of traditional stable and hay store/sheep shed, with small enclosed yard, and the change of use of the site and adjacent land for the keeping of horses – private use – Permitted
- c) 18/01859/AS School Cottage, School Road: Proposed single storey front/side extension and alterations including windows and rooflights (following approval of conversion to dwelling under 16/00331/AS) - Permitted

II) New applications for A.P.C. to consider and vote on:

- a) 19/000221/AS Pear Tree Cottage, School Road: Roof extension incorporating two storey rear extension, single storey side extension, change to facing materials. It was resolved to support the application. Proposed Councillor. Perkins and seconded Councillor Vane.
- b) 18/01687/AS The Gate House Appledore Station: Installation of two red light safety cameras at Appledore Level Crossing together with ancillary signage. A resident to the location had forwarded photos of the completed work. The council expressed concern that this work had been finished prior to the end of the public consultation period. Clerk to write to the planning officer.

5. Discussion of the History Society's survey regarding a war memorial

The History Society is intending to distribute the survey via the magazine. Possible locations suggested for the memorial: the Pill Box on the Military Canal, and the Recreation Ground. Restoration of the pill box and creation of a garden would bring new life to the area and turn it into an asset for the village. The survey might get a better feed back if a visual of the pill box restoration and garden was included. English Heritage and Natural England would need to be consulted for any approvals and permissions. The Environment Agency had stated that they were in favour of the idea.

6. It was resolved to employ a contractor to clean road signs at £10 per hour. Public Liability cover to be provided (Highways Law 1980).

7. Highways and Byways

A meeting was scheduled for the 18th March to review the costings for the various proposed schemes. A pedestrian crossing was not included within these schemes but will be mentioned at the next meeting

8. Information for Councillors

Parish Meeting 18th March at 7.30pm –Request to invite Carm.

Churchyard tidy – Thanks were given to the 20 volunteers that help to weed, trim, edge and rake the churchyard.

9. Date of Next Meeting

1st April 2019, 19.30hrs in the village hall. The meeting closed at 21.15 hrs.