

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 2014 AT 7.30PM IN THE PARISH HALL

PRESENT: - Mrs. S J Benger (Chair)
Mrs. D Edwards (Deputy Chair)
Dr. I Axcell, Mrs. V P Davies, Mrs. S A Harris and Mrs. J M Walker
Messrs. K J Arnett, B P Axcell, J L Price, B K Smith, T M Stansfield and P J Walker
Mrs. L E Parker (Clerk)

1. Apologies

All Parish Councillors were in attendance.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest and to consider requests for Dispensations

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensation were made at the start of the meeting.

3. Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)/Police Report

PCSO Dave Mahon (DM) in attendance.

a) Reported incidents in Appleton for the period to 20 January:

3 burglaries (dwelling), 1 theft from motor vehicle, 1 theft of diesel from motor vehicle, 1 drugs, 1 suspicious persons, 1 doorstep crime and 7 reports of anti-social behaviour.

DM recommended to contact 101 if any suspicious persons seen in the area for example door to door sales/hawkers as Trading Standards need to be made aware. If any incidents of companies telephoning re PPI or claiming to be from a bank, do not give pin / bank details / credit card information but advise Cheshire Police Fraud Department.

b) The Police are investigating the installation of an ANPR camera to be installed on Grappenhall Lane at the entrance to the Trading Estate to film vehicles entering / leaving the Estate.

Acting Beat Sergeant Becky Stokes also in attendance to introduce herself to Members as Inspector Sarah Heath's replacement during her 5 month maternity leave. Inspector Heath had a baby boy, Bradley, weighing 9lbs and 1 oz on 7 January and a congratulations card was circulated for signing from the Parish Councillors.

Mr. J L Price reported two vehicles parking on Red Lane near the "pinch" point with registration numbers previously forwarded to the Police. DM advised that the PCSOs were inspecting the area and would attempt to make contact with the owners involved.

Following a complaint from resident(s), Dr. B P Axcell referred to problems at the Walton Road end of Hillcliffe Road caused by several cars regularly parking there making it visually difficult for drivers to pass. It was wondered whether this was considered an obstruction and Sergeant Becky Stokes agreed that the PCSOs should investigate.

As the PCSO/Police were required elsewhere, Mr. P Carter (a resident in attendance) at this juncture, enquired as to the crime statistics for crimes committed / reported but Inspector Stokes confirmed that the crimes committed were as reported and recorded. "A crime committed must be reported."

4. Broomfields Youth Project (BYP)

John Harper (JH), Manager, Broomfields Youth Project (BYP) in attendance to discuss Planning Application 2013/22414 and representation by the Parish Council in a Stakeholder / Partnership Agreement.

JH thanked the Parish Council for allowing him to attend the meeting and for the support given during the BYP planning application. JH explained the difference between a Stakeholder and a Partner wishing the Parish Council to become a Partner in BYP.

JH circulated a draft Board of Directors chart and a Management Structure, Roles, Responsibilities and Financial Controls document for the BYP.

Specifically JH referred to the new role of Resident Representative from Appleton Parish Council. The representative will provide any relevant feedback to meetings from monthly Parish Council meetings, from residents' surgeries held by Councillors and attend local Neighbourhood Watch meetings as appropriate. This new role would be confirmed at the BYP meeting on 23 January.

Financial Controls being introduced by BYP include:

- External accountants appointed.
- Treasurer appointed.
- Bank mandate will require 2 authorised signatures for any expenditure over £500.
- Five possible signatories on the bank account.
- External accountants will provide advice as necessary.

Resolved that the Parish Council become a Partner in the BYP Partnership and Mrs. S A Harris be the appointed representative.

JH advised that following a meeting with the architect there is no timescale as yet "for putting the building down." However the LiveWire Area Manager has made investigations on the 'gate/fencing' provision and it has now been confirmed that the Neighbourhood Action Board funds should be in BYP's account within a couple of days. (See Min No. 8.2 below.)

Mrs. S A Harris left the meeting at this juncture, as previously advised to the Clerk, due to family ill health.

5. Public Participation

No member of the public wished to speak.

6. – 8. Planning

6. Current Planning Applications

The recommendations of the Planning Committee on applications received since the last meeting were accepted and it was Resolved that the following recommendations be forwarded to the Development Manager, Warrington Borough Council (WBC):

Planning applications to 21 January 2014

a) NO OBJECTION to the following applications:

2013/22369 Mr. A Bramhall - Householder - Proposed construction of a detached garden store and potting shed at Longwood House, Cann Lane North, Appleton.

2013/22460 Mr. Barry Edwards - Advertisement - Proposed replacement of existing signs x4 non illuminated fascia signs and x4 non illuminated wall mounted fascia signs at Bridgewater High School (Upper Site), Broomfields Road and (Lower Site), Hall Drive, Appleton.

- 2013/22743 Mrs. N Anandan - Householder - Proposed porch, gable features to main roof and garage roof to front elevation, 1st floor balcony to rear elevation and new pedestrian access from existing footpath at 14 Lyons Lane, Appleton. (*Application deregistered - additional information re tree survey now received.*)
- 2013/22898 Mr. Ben Swain, Zero Gravity Safety Ltd - Change of Use - Proposed change of use of tower to a 15m 'working at height' training tower at Unit 3B (2), Lyncastle Way, Barleycastle Trading Estate, Off Barleycastle, Appleton Thorn. *Proposed erection of 15m high training tower (10/1/14 amended descripton.)*
- 2013/22955 Mrs. Jayne Cottam – Householder – Proposed two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and extension to front drive at 33 Dingleway, Appleton.
- 2013/22972 Mr. I Jones - Full Planning - Proposed Single Storey Rear Extension at Whitegates, Firs Lane, Appleton.
- 2014/22999 Mr. Demetrious Loizou - Householder - Proposed loft conversion with three pitched roof front dormer and rear crown roof dormer to form bedroom and bathroom in roof space at The Coach House, Cann Lane North, Appleton.
- 2014/23011 Mr. Ian Wood - Change of Use - Proposed change of use from existing A2 office building to a residential dwelling including a proposed new ground floor single storey extension and garage at Dennow Farm, Firs Lane, Appleton.

As a neighbour, Mr. J L Price did not participate in any discussions.

- 2014/23015 Mr. Richard Crawford, Diocese of Shrewsbury - Minor - Proposed construction of a single storey extension to the school's main entrance in order to provide additional / enhanced reception area and improve entrance safeguarding at St. Monica's School, St. Monica's Close, Appleton.
- 2014/23034 Mr. Mike Carlin - Full Planning - Proposed construction of new detached dwelling at 2 Burley Lane, Appleton Thorn.
- 2014/23040 Mr. M Walton - Householder - Proposed first floor extension and internal alterations at 19 Henley Close, Appleton.
- 2014/23056 Mr. Stephen Lowndes - Householder - Proposed dormer constructions to front and rear of existing attached garage at 29 Hatfield Gardens, Appleton.

b) CONCERN to the following application:

2014/22995 Mr. Ian Seabury - Full planning - Proposed two storey extension, garage conversion including insulative render at 21 Delphfields Road, Appleton.

The Parish Council is unsure from viewing the plans as to the effect of the extension on the neighbours to either side of the property.

The proposal description does not appear to mention the widening of the driveway and the extension to the front of the property - the plans show a glassed front addition to the original property.

The Parish Council would wish to support the resident opposite at no. 18 Delphfields and that if permission is granted, a condition is included that contractors do not block the access to their property.

c) OBJECTION to the following application:

2014/23005 Mrs. Christine Nichols - Full Planning (Change of Use) - Proposed part conversion of existing garage to create canalside coffee shop at 16 Birchdale Road, Appleton.

The proposal as a result of the location of the property relative to nearby residential dwellings and the activity associated with that use from customers and deliveries/refuse collection will cause a loss of amenity to nearby residents by way of additional noise and disturbance.

Due to this loss of amenity, the application would be contrary to Policy QE6 Environment and Amenity Protection of the emerging Warrington Local Planning Framework - Local Plan Core Strategy.

The proposal, by virtue of no car parking provision within the site, will result in significant levels of on street parking on the unclassified cobbled Birchdale Road and in the vicinity of the development, to the detriment of the free flow of traffic and pedestrian / vehicular safety. The proposal is contrary to policies HOU7, DSC1 and LUT20 of the Warrington Unitary Development Plan, PPG6, PPG13, Policy CS1 of the emerging Warrington Local Planning Framework - Local Plan Core Strategy and the Warrington Local Transport Plan due to the impact of parking on the surrounding streets.

d) For INFORMATION purposes only – specific comments are not necessarily being sought from the Parish Council by WBC:

2013/22943 Mr. Mike Ashley - Variation of conditions - Application for variation of condition as per previously approved application 2012/19382 - in relation to condition 8 (Schedule of Listed works) at vacant barn to the west of Walnut Tree Farm, Walnut Tree Farm Barn, Stretton Road, Appleton Thorn.

Due to Dr. B P Axcell being a substitute member on the WBC Planning Applications Sub Committee/Development Control Committee, he did not participate in the planning discussions or the recommendations agreed.

7. **13/05223/FUL – Mr. John Blackshaw - Installation of a single wind turbine, associated infrastructure and access route at corner of Occupation Lane New Road, Antrobus, Northwich.**

Email dated 10 January received from Friends of Whitley Reed advising of the above planning application from Cheshire West and Chester. As the wind turbine is very close to the Appleton parish boundary and could affect residents, it was agreed that the Parish Council should consider the application.

Resolved that Appleton Parish Council should lodge objections to Cheshire West and Chester Council, with a copy to WBC, on the following grounds:

The Parish Council has concerns on visual amenity due to the height of the 41.8m wind turbine and the location within the 30km consultation area of Manchester Airport. The Parish Council refers to a previous Warrington Borough Council planning application 2009/15408 in a nearby location on Barley Castle Lane, Appleton which was refused by Warrington Borough Council on the grounds that the location, height and nature of the development proposed is such that it poses an unacceptable risk to the safe operation of aircraft and air traffic control at Manchester Airport. The proposal conflicted with Policy LUT24 of Warrington Borough Councils' Unitary Development Plan.

It was noted that Liverpool Airport and Manchester Airport had been included in the consultation document list but it was questioned whether Hawarden Airport, Aviation Park, Flint Road, Chester, Saltney Ferry CH4 0GZ and City Airport (Barton Airfield) & Heliport, Liverpool Road, Eccles, Manchester M30 7SA also needed consulting. As military planes/helicopters fly low over the area, it was also questioned whether the site was on the military flight path from Holcombe Moor, Hawkshaw, Nr Bury, Lancashire to Shawbury, near Shrewsbury, Shropshire and whether consultation was required with the appropriate authority. As moss land this area is subject to excessive fog and this should be a consideration when reviewing the application.

The application in this greenbelt designated site appears contrary to the emerging WBC Local Planning Framework – Local Plan Core Strategy and Policy CC2 Protecting the Countryside as the development does not respect local landscape character from distant views.

The application in this greenbelt designated site also appears contrary to the emerging Chester West & Chester Council Local Plan Part One: Strategic Policies December 2013 –Objective S010 Protect the environmental quality and character of Cheshire West and Chester through maintaining the general extent and character of the North Cheshire Green Belt and Cheshire countryside and STRAT 9 Green Belt and countryside – Development must be of an appropriate scale and design to not harm the character of the countryside.

Searching the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal November 2013 report, no mention is made to bats and therefore it would be concluded that insufficient information has been submitted with the planning application to allow the Local Planning Authority to conclude that a UK Priority species (bats) would not be adversely affected as a result of the proposed development. The application would be contrary to advice contained within Planning Policy Statement No. 9 (Biodiversity and Geological Conservation).

Concern is also raised on the noise emanating from the turbine and the affect not only on residential amenity but to wildlife.

8. Previous Planning Applications

8.1 Enforcement

ENF/13/04144 Alleged unauthorised shed at 8 Bridge Lane, Appleton.

8.2 WBC Planning Applications Sub-Committee 8 January 2014

2013/22414 Broomfields Youth Project – Full Planning - Proposed temporary structure to comprise of an open cafe style space, small store and toilet to accommodate the Broomfields Youth Project (BYP) on a Friday night at Broomfields Lesiure Centre, Broomfields Road, Appleton.

At the Planning Applications Sub Committee meeting held on 8 January, the BYP Pod was granted planning approval with a number of conditions primarily Condition 5:

The development...shall not be occupied until details of a pedestrian gate to be installed...have been submitted to and approved...The gate shall be installed...and thereafter retained. No access will be permitted through the gate on those occasions when the BYP is in operation. (See Min. No. 4 above.)

8.3 Appeal APP/M0655/A/13/2201665

2011/19244 3C Waste Limited - Proposed extension of operational life of Arpley landfill facility to 2025 including re-profiling, revised sequence of landfill phasing and restoration works, extension of operational life of existing leachate treatment facility and landfill gas utilisation plant and other ancillary developments including offices, weighbridges, wheel washes, fencing etc. associated with the operations of the landfill at Arpley Landfill Site, Forrest Way, Warrington WA4 6YZ.

Letter from WBC dated 8 January advising that the Planning Inspectorate has received an appeal in respect of the site following the refusal decision by WBC. The appeal will be dealt with by way of a Public Inquiry, followed by a site visit, and a decision will be made by the Secretary of State following the appointed Inspector's written report. The Inquiry will commence on Tuesday 18 February at 10:00 am in The Jubilee Suite, Orford Jubilee Hub (formerly Orford Park), Jubilee Way, Warrington, WA2 8HE. Interested parties may attend the Inquiry.

**9. Warrington Local Planning Framework
Statement of Community Involvement (Revised 2013) &
Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document Consultation**

Email dated 16 December attaching a letter from the Planning Policy and Programme Manager in relation to the consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement and Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document forwarded to Members by email. The documents can be viewed using the consultation portal:

http://warrington.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/consult_dec_13/

The consultation runs until 10 February 2014.

9.1 Statement of Community Involvement (Revised 2013)

The Members raised concerns that a permanent site had still not be allocated to travellers in Warrington.

9.2 Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document

The Members welcomed the Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document however it was questioned:

- Why no reference was made to the Cumulative Impact Policy in the WBC Appendix 1 - Statement of Licensing Policy - Licensing Act 2003 where it states at 6.7 Conclusion: - "Special consideration should therefore...be given to applications for take away premises."
- No reference made to Policy SW 1 of the emerging Warrington Local Plan Core Strategy.
- Whether the shops on the A49, London Road, Stretton should be included on the map on page 37 - 8 Appendix 1: Location of defined centres within the borough?
- How and will the policies be enforced?

10. – 11. Clerk's Report

10. Accounts

10.1 Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Financial Year 2013/2014

The Members noted the Statement as at 31 December 2013 with the reconciliation to the Bank Statements undertaken by the Chair.

10.2 Financial Cover

The Clerk advised that following Mr. K J Arnett's comment at the December Parish Council meeting regarding financial cover for monies held by Parish Councils, contact had been made with the banks concerned and Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) Limited. In response, NatWest Bank Ltd have advised that the Parish Council accounts are not covered, Santander UK plc have indicated small businesses are covered and Nationwide International Limited have confirmed there is cover up to £20,000 through the Isle of Man Depositors Scheme. However it has now been clarified by FSCS that on the basis that a parish council is regarded as a local or municipal authority, Appleton Parish Council is excluded for protection under the UK Financial Services Compensation Scheme - Comp 4.2.2(6).

The Clerk reminded Councillors that the Parish Council funds were spread between NatWest, Nationwide and Santander thus spreading the 'risk' but suggested that when the WBC Precept was received to again review the matter.

The Clerk reported email response dated 14 January from Community First detailing that Zurich has advised:-

"Our policy doesn't provide any kind of financial compensation for losses due to investment or other organisations folding."

Dr. B P Axcell added that WBC had moved its money out of Santander due to its poor credit rating. It was agreed that this matter would be investigated and considered at the next Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting.

11. Correspondence/Communication

The following was noted and resolutions made where appropriate:

- a) Email dated 19 December attaching the minutes of the 88th meeting of the Pewterspear Green Trust Management Committee held on 25 November 2013.
- b) Email dated 23 December from the Church Treasurer, St Mary Magdalene's Church acknowledging with great thanks receipt of the cheque for £1,000 from Appleton Parish Council to help fund repairs to the car park at St Mary Magdalene's Church. The works have been completed and should now keep the car park in reasonable order for some time.
- c) Email received attaching a letter dated 3 January from the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) inviting a Parish Council representative to a meeting on Tuesday 4 February. Mrs. D Edwards & Mr. P J Walker confirmed they would be attending on behalf of the Parish Council.

Following PCC meeting on 1 October, Action Point for Appleton and Stockton Heath Parish Council – arrangements will be made for the Youth Ambassador to attend the Friday night Broomfields Youth Project and enquiries will be made if the Youth Ambassador has visited.

- d) Email sent 6 January from the WBC Public Rights of Way Officer attaching the minutes of the Public Rights of Way Forum on 28 August and the agenda for 15 January meeting. Mr. K J Arnett, following his attendance at the meeting, advised:

Appleton 21 path Dudlow Green Road to Old Pewterspear Lane - now complete and
Appleton 38 path Dudlow Green Road to Longwood Road - work will commence on
3 February however only a section will be done not the complete length.

- e) Email dated 7 January from the Assistant Land & Property Manager, Woodland Trust concerning Allardices Wood, London Road, Appleton advising that the Trust has owned and managed the wood for a number of years. However, Woodland Trust are currently reviewing its portfolio of over 1,000 woods and have identified a number where there may be opportunities for them to be managed by third parties, either community groups or individuals. The Trust will continue to own the woods but are seeking to lease them on to alternative managers.

Woodland Trust is therefore making enquiries of the Parish Council if it might wish to consider taking on the site, or alternatively might know of some other group or individual who might? Email dated 8 January added that the costs involved would in effect be all costs associated with managing the wood, for instance: insurances, tree safety works (next to a main road) and general woodland management practices such as path/hedge cutting if necessary in parts of the wood. This wood is exceptionally small at 0.99 acres and it is envisaged costs would therefore be kept to a minimum. The Woodland Trust would essentially relinquish all involvement for the term of the lease, except of course retaining the freehold.

Mr. J L Price raised concerns on encroachment of the land by parked vehicles thus spoiling the woodland.

It was agreed that:

- a) The Woodland Trust should be thanked for their offer however advised that the Parish Council did not have the resources to “take on the site.”
 - b) Woodland Trust be requested to keep the Parish Council informed of any changes.
 - c) The Clerk makes enquiries with WBC to any existing tree preservation orders in the woodland.
- f) Neighbourhoods Monthly Bulletin for January 2014.
- g) Letter dated 8 January from the Electoral Services Manager, WBC advising that in accordance with legislation, that as previously advised WBC is conducting a review of the Borough’s polling districts and polling places and has now produced proposals for final consultation. It was agreed that the Parish Council had no comments.
- h) Email dated 16 January from Democratic Services advising that WBC has established a working group to mark the commemoration of WWI. The Working Group is enquiring if any events have been planned in the parish so that a coordinated programme can be developed without being duplicated. Responses required by 31 January.

The Clerk has made enquiries of St. Cross Church however they are still awaiting a replacement Vicar so WWI commemorations are unknown. Mrs. D Edwards advised that poppies would be planted behind the War Memorial later in the year.

12. Parish Council Vacancy – Cobbs Ward

Email dated 16 January from the Head of Electoral Services, WBC advising that following publication of notice of vacancy in respect of the Cobbs Ward, a valid request for an election has been received. Following consultation with the Returning Officer the election will be held on Thursday 13 March 2014, subject to sufficient nominations being received.

The Notice of Election will be published on Thursday 6 February 2014. Nomination packs will be available from the first week in February.

The Clerk confirmed that polling cards had been requested, as in the past, at a cost of £600.

13. Parish Remuneration Panel – Allowances for 2014/15

Letter dated 24 December including at Appendix A - Model Members' Allowances Scheme from the WBC Principal Democratic Services Officer forwarded to Members by email advising of the following:

The Panel is considering that there should be no increase in allowances above the levels of allowances paid to parish councillors set by parishes in 2013/14.

The Panel is also considering recommending a tiered system of allowances with the maximum allowance linked to the total precept for the parish. For Appleton Parish Council, Tier 2 applies with a maximum amount of Chair's allowance of £850.

The Parish Council is being consulted about the proposals prior to the Panel making its final recommendations on 4 February.

A response is required no later than 3 February on the proposed recommendations not to increase parish allowances and the proposed tiered system.

The Panel has also undertaken some work to develop a model scheme of allowances for parish councils.

As Appleton Parish Council does not currently pay allowances (expenses only) and is not proposing to do so for 2014/15 - the agreed Budget for Chair's Allowance for Expenses remains at £500 and Councillors Allowances/Staff Expenses continues at £500 - it is confirmed that no action is required by the Parish Council.

The Parish Councillors had no comments to add on the proposed recommendations not to increase parish allowances and the proposed tiered system. However it was agreed that a Members' Allowances Scheme should be adopted by the Parish Council using the model scheme as a template for use if circumstances arise for Parish Councillors claiming travel and subsistence expenses.

It was agreed in principle that:

- The model Members' Allowances Scheme should be adopted.
- A proposed document for Appleton Parish Council be submitted for consideration at a future Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting for subsequent approval by the Parish Council.

14. Committee Reports

14.1 Environment

Mr. K J Arnett advised of a meeting on 9 January with Cllr. Walker, the Clerk and WBC Highways Inspector of the following:

i. Planters

Discussions have been ongoing regarding the provision of planters outside the Bridge Lane shops which had previously been agreed in principle at the Parish Council meeting on 16 July 2013. At 19 March 2013 Parish Council meeting, Members agreed to earmark £4,000 from the Environmental Improvement Scheme 2012/13 to cover the costs of planters including labour and soil / plants / watering.

Following a meeting with Golden Gates Housing Trust (GGHT) and the Clerk on 21 January, letters from GGHT will be sent to the shopkeepers advising of the installation of the planters. A permission agreement and terms form will also be required between GGHT and the Parish Council.

ii. Roadside verge outside no. 39 & 41 Bridge Lane

The WBC Highways Inspector had already requested hardcore to be installed on the verge and agreed that the Parish Council could replant 2 cherry trees.

Resolved in principle that the planters and tree works be approved and that the Chair of the Environment Committee and the Clerk liaise to complete both schemes within the Environmental Improvement Scheme budget including 2012/13 earmarked funds.

14.2 Finance and General Purposes

Parish Hall Broken Window

The Clerk advised on recent discussions with PC Hughes that he had spoken to the boy and his mother about reimbursing the Parish Council for the costs of the boarding up / replacement window. It has been suggested that the youth makes a financial contribution of £100 in £25 installments towards the costs and undertakes 'community work' at the Parish Hall e.g. painting the side wooden fencing with the Parish Council purchasing the materials/equipment. PC Hughes will arrange a time for the Police to meet with the youth and his mother at Stockton Heath Police Station as part of the procedures on such incidents.

Mrs. S J Bengler and Mr. K J Arnett both volunteered to attend at the Police Station with the Clerk.

15. Minutes of Last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 December 2013 (copies of which had been circulated to each Member) were approved and signed by the Chair.

16. Matters Arising for Updating and Noting Only

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council 17 December 2013

16.1 Garden Waste – Doods Lane

Email dated 6 January from the WBC Enforcement Officer, Development and Public Protection Services forwarded to Mr. B K Smith advising that following speaking to a Sergeant at Arpley Street Police Station, any further reports should be sent to the Police for sending onto the relevant area.

16.2 Speed Enforcement – B5356 Grappenhall Lane, Appleton Thorn

Speed enforcement carried out by the Police on Sunday 22 December between 13:00 and 13:50 however the Clerk has asked for enforcement to be carried out on weekdays at peak times following the forthcoming highway resurfacing works.

16.3 “Healthy Ageing” Strategy

The Clerk advised that a notice board and hook had been purchased at a cost of £31.65 excluding VAT for use as part of the Health Awareness Board initiative and has been placed in the small hall.

Following a request from Barbara Parratt, South Area Board Manager an invitation has been extended to attend the February Parish Council meeting and the Clerk has asked that for clarification she explains the relationship of the Health Improvement Practitioner as this appears to be a new initiative.

16.4 Christmas Lights

The Clerk advised that contact had been made with City Illuminations, the Christmas light supplier used by the Parish Council, who have agreed to meet later in the year, with Members of the Environment Committee, to discuss other areas in Appleton suitable for Christmas Lights. It was suggested that the Appleton Thorn tree and the trees outside the Dudlow Green Shops adjacent to the Parish Hall, with maybe a request to the Co-op for a contribution towards the costs, be considered.

16.5 Grant Request – Warrington Community Transport ‘Dial-A-Ride’ Service

Mrs. J M Walker advised that the charity was very grateful for the funds agreed.

16.6 B3536 – Junction of Broad Lane to A50 roundabout

Mrs. D Edwards referred to the litter problem on the B5356 and Dr. B P Axcell agreed to follow up the issue with WBC.

16.6 Footways on Kingsley Drive

Dr. I Axcell enquired if information had been received for any work to be done to the footways on Kingsley Drive. Mr. P J Walker also advised that he had received several complaints on the poor surfaces of footways in Appleton. Following a conversation with the WBC Highways Inspector, Mr. P J Walker suggested that Councillors forward the names of the roads where footway resurfacing was necessary to the Clerk for sending to the Highways Inspector and the Asset Maintenance and Street Works Manager.

16.7 New Lane

Email from Public Realm Manager (Asset and Flood Risk), WBC dated 18 December forwarded to Mr. B K Smith advising that “Visually, they can be seen but the ripples do not appear physically. Hard to explain why the ripples can be seen, without being a bit scientific and complicated.”

Due to the bumpy / rattling nature of driving on New Lane, Dr. B P Axcell requested the Clerk to enquire on the “scientific” detail.

17. Parish and Borough Councillor Reports

- a) Mrs. S J Benger’s report included the following:
 - i. Thanks to Mrs. Dot Edwards and Syd Edwards for all their hard work in undertaking Speed Watch in the Appleton Thorn area over the last 10 years and Councillors gave a round of applause.
 - ii. A thank you letter had been received from Stockton Heath Flower Club for the invitation to attend the Parish Council Christmas event.
 - iii. As Chair has accepted an invitation to attend the Parish Hall on Friday 7 February between 12 and 2pm when the WI will be commemorating one hundred years with the WI Federation Centenary baton making a stop at the Parish Hall.
 - iv. A meeting was held including the Clerk on 20 January with the ‘new’ Manager, Co-operative Food Store, Dudlow Green Road to discuss the litter issue around the store.

The Manager advised a daily clean of the perimeter of the car park and to the front of the shops was being undertaken including the emptying of the litter bins by the Co-op cleaner.

The Manager suggested more bins be installed with the Co-op to fund and suggested locations at the Willow Lane entrance to the shops and in the rear car park near the Scout Headquarters' fencing. However the Clerk advised that as the ownership of the car park and the surrounding area was with Osborne and Co. (Warrington) Ltd, the Co-op would need the landlord's permission to install additional bins.

Concern was also raised on the Co-op advertising 'A' boards blocking the Dudlow Green Road footway and the Highways Inspector, WBC has been subsequently contacted. However on 21 January it was noted that the 'A' boards had been moved from the footway onto the grass.

Due to the muddy grassed area to the front of the shops and the result that mud is being walked into the Co-op, the Manager advised that he would make enquiries to have the front grill / gully unblocked to take the rainwater.

The Manager advised that the Co-op wished to install a small 'shipping' storage container 22ft x 8ft to the rear of the shops however the Clerk advised that a planning application would probably be required.

Councillors raised concerns on the visual impact to residents of a shipping container to the rear of the shops.

- b) Mr. J L Price reported on the poor road surface and the narrowing of Hough's Lane / Park Lane.
- c) Mr. K J Arnett raised concerns on the visual impact of the previously owned Beers site in Latchford by the Cantilever Bridge. The Clerk advised that contact would be made with WBC Planning Enforcement and Environmental Health.
- d) Mr. B K Smith enquired if contact could be made with the Woodland Trust to request one tonne of hardcore to be laid at the entrance to Fords Rough, Doods Lane as it muddy and precarious for pedestrians.
- e) Dr. I Axcell complained on the slippery footway on London Road from Warren Drive down into Stockton Heath.
- f) Mr. T M Stansfield enquired as to the Grappenhall Lodge, Cartridge Lane, Grappenhall site and Mrs. D Edwards provided a short summary.

The meeting ended at 8.53pm.