

CLERK: Michael Atherton
ADDRESS: 53 Beechfields Way
Newport
Shropshire
TF10 8QA

Tel: 01952 820241
Email: churchaston@gmail.com



Minutes of the meeting of Church Aston Parish Council held at 7.40 pm on Monday 2nd July 2018 in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Church Aston.

Present: Councillors: **S. Stacey (Chairman)**
P. Evans (Vice-Chairman)
F. McKeown
P. Sansom
M. Revill
J. Pay
B. Richards

In attendance: M. Atherton (Clerk)
Rachael Oakley (Smartwater Ltd) - part

(02/07/18)

Item 1 - Apologies:

Cllr Mike Stansfield (holidays), Cllr Billie Knight (health), and borough Cllr A. Eade

Item 2 – Declarations of Interest:

Members were reminded of a need to declare their interests in any matter appearing on the agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

Item 3 – Public Session:

No members of the public present at the meeting

Item 4 – Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th June 2018

It was proposed by Cllr B. Richards and seconded by Cllr P. Evans that the minutes of the June 2018 meeting be accepted and agreed as a true record. All members present were in favour.

<p>Resolved: minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2018 to be signed by the Chairman, as a true record.</p>

Item 5 – Matters Arising:

- (a) **Boundary Review:** the Clerk circulated an outline of a draft consultation response to the boundary review being carried out by T&WC.

Members discussed context and specific content of the draft document before authorising the Clerk, in consultation with Cllr Pay, to finalise and submit a formal response in the name of the Chairman.

- (b) **Heart of the Village:** it was noted that the channels along Greenvale and Pinewoods had been swept with most of the decaying tree foliage now removed. Members commented on verge encroachment along Greenvale and excessive weeds along the channel lines of St. Andrew's Way. **Action:** Clerk to report to T&WC.
- (c) **Wellington Road:** the Clerk provided brief feedback to Members following contact with Adrian Corney (T&WC) about hedge and verge encroachment of the footway. **Agreed:** to maintain a watching brief
- (d) **SIDS:** the Clerk apologised for not having progressed this matter in light of the extent of active business undertaken since the last meeting.
- (e) **Silent Soldier Initiative:** the Chairman adjourned the meeting for approximately 10 minutes to enable Members to review locational options for siting of the RBL "Silent Soldier" which had been delivered recently.

Following consideration of a number of centrally located options Members agreed a prominent position for siting the figure on the front face of the bus shelter adjacent to the Church Hall.

Upon reconvening the meeting Members unanimously agreed the preferred location and authorised the Clerk to contact David Balme (T&WC) as a matter of courtesy to inform him of the preferred position, with the Clerk to make necessary arrangements for fixing of the figure to the bus shelter.

- (f) **Community (formerly 'Civic') Sunday:** proposed arrangements and timings for Community Sunday were noted. The Chairman volunteered to do a reading on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk, Mrs Atherton and Cllr Knight are to provide refreshments in line with previous years.

Members briefly discussed Worthy Citizen awards with a number of potential nominations being suggested. Following further consideration one nominee was agreed with arrangements to be made to inform and invite the individual to the Community Sunday Service. **Action:** Clerk to invite the nominee.

- (g) **Smartwater:** Rachael Oakley of Smartwater attended the meeting for this item only.

Following a welcome from the Chairman Ms Oakley explained details of the joint West Mercia & West Midlands Police initiative "We Don't Buy Crime". The scheme aims to significantly reduce domestic burglary through use of Smartwater technology which essentially applies a uniquely identifiable mark to valuable household items.

Ms Oakley informed the meeting that where a scheme had been introduced with a minimum of 70% to 80% coverage crime rates had fallen on average by 80% in rural areas and 50% in urban areas.

Each domestic home pack costs £8.90. Where the minimum coverage is achieved WMP will provide and fund additional street signage as part of the initiative. The initiative has been independently reviewed with crime reduction statistics validated by Warwick University.

Ms Oakley confirmed details of a recent communication to parish councils from the Police & Crime Commissioner for the area setting out an offer, subject to suitable bids and available funding, which provides 25% funding towards new initiatives.

Finally, Ms Oakley advised that if Church Aston PC were minded to take up this opportunity that she and colleagues from Smartwater Ltd would be available to support marketing & promotion of the initiative through community events.

Following discussion and questions Members expressed positive interest in the initiative, subject to funding being available in the current or next financial year. The Clerk was authorised to make an application to the Police & Crime Commissioner for grant funding.

The initiative is to be carried forward to the September meeting for further consideration.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 6 – Parish Projects

- (a) **Street Lighting Project:** the Clerk introduced a review report relating to issues identified by members of the community since introduction of the Street Lighting LED Upgrade.

Following an open discussion the Chairman invited each member in turn to feedback their views including information from their own observations and of comments by local residents made directly to them.

After careful consideration of all individual comments, the number of respondents as a proportion of all residents affected, available evidence in favour or otherwise, and all potential remedial options Members agreed that no specific actions were justified at this time other than to maintain a watching brief for a further period of time.

- (b) **Village Planting Schemes:** Members commented on the high quality of plants provided by Bloomsbury Nurseries and the excellent planting scheme adopted by the Gardening Club. **Action:** Clerk to extend formal thanks to both parties.

Cllr Evans confirmed that the wild planting areas had started off well but that the extended hot weather and an absence of rainfall had undermined this initiative for the current year.

- (c) **Wallshead Way Play Area:** the Chairman and Cllr Richards introduced updates provided by Derek Owen (T&WC) regards design proposals for the play area improvement scheme.

Members considered these amended design details along with responses provided to a number of outstanding queries raised at the last meeting. As all matters are now resolved Members collectively agreed to sign-off the design proposal and asked the Clerk to notify Derek Owen.

In light of likely progress of this initiative through the planning system in the coming weeks and related formal consultations Members agreed that a 'special' CAPC newsletter should be prepared and distributed as soon as possible to all residents in Church Aston village. The newsletter is to inform residents of proposals and to ask them for their views.

- (d) **Brocton WWI Memorial:** the stonemason has now ordered the required materials and the project scheme completion is in line with the approved project plan.
- (e) **Web-site and Social Media:** the Clerk informed Members that the website had been down for 4 days from 25/06/18 to 28/06/18 (inclusive) as a result of the domain being misdirected by google. Host providers (T&WC) had now resolved the issue however this service interruption has fallen within the statutory period for Exercise of Public Rights – where residents may inspect council finances, accounts and related governance documents.

In light of the above issue Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Evans seconded a proposal that the statutory period for Public Rights should be extended by 4 working days. The vote in favour of the proposal was unanimous.

Resolved: The Notice of Exercise of Public Rights be amended to provide an extension of four working days with the closing date being moved from Friday 20 July to Thursday 26 July 2018.

The Clerk is to notify the external auditors accordingly

Cllr Evans provided a brief overview of facebook activity including posting information about changes to NHS out-of-hours contact. Similar information had also been added to the 'Community Noticeboard' of the website.

Item 7 – Representative Reports

- a. **Parish Newsletter:** newsletter special informing residents of proposed play area improvements and seeking views as per minute (02/07/10)-6(c) above.

- b. **Village Hall:** Cllr Knight had provided a brief written update report which, in her absence, was read by Cllr McKeown.
- c. **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** as reported last time NRP meeting scheduled for 5th June 2018 was cancelled. Cllr Pay informed the meeting that there had been recent confirmation that a planning application for the Innovation & Enterprise Park was imminent.
- d. **Bus User Group:** next BUG meeting to be held on 19th September 2018.
- e. **Telford & Wrekin Council:** in the absence of Cllr Eade there was nothing to report.

Item 8 – Correspondence:

The Clerk informed members of all correspondence received since the last meeting and actions taken where appropriate.

POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Item 9 – Planning Applications

It was noted that there were no changes to the planning applications schedule since the June 2018 meeting and therefore no new matters to consider at this meeting.

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

Item 10 – Accounts & Payments

- (a) The Clerk informed members of the account balance as at 30/06/18
- (b) The Clerk informed members of payments made since the last meeting on 4th June 2018 as follows:

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
Bloomsbury Nursery Ltd	300487	LGA 1972	£250.00

- (c) The Clerk informed members of accounts to be paid at this meeting as follows:

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
HMRC (PAYE)	300488	LGA 1972 s112	£77.40
Oliver Needes	300489	LGA 1972 s135	£200.00
M. Atherton (Expenses)	300490	LGA 1972 s227	£91.95

Item 11 – Compliance Matters:

The Clerk reported that all papers relating to the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2017/18 had been submitted to the external auditors (PKF Littlejohn) in accordance with their timetable.

The Clerk informed members that the statutory notices relating to *Electors Rights* had been posted on the Parish Council's website and on the Parish Noticeboard in accordance with the external auditor's prescribed timetable.

As per minute (02/07/2018) 6(e), the period for Electors Rights is to be extended by 4 working days, and the external auditor is to be notified of the reasons for this action.

Roads, Hedges & Ditches

- a) Cllr McKeown informed the meeting that a recent Vintage Fair had raised £1,800 for the Church and the village community.
- b) Cllr McKeown informed colleagues that the Salvation Army Band would be playing at the village hall on 7th July 2018.
- c) Cllr McKeown raised a question about the felling of a garden tree and related disposal / sawing of timber over an extended period. **Agreed:** the Clerk is to investigate and report back via email.
- d) Cllr McKeown informed colleagues about a resident enquiry concerning the welfare of horses in a rented field in the village. **Agreed:** the Clerk is to investigate and report back via email.

Date and time of next meeting confirmed as Monday 3rd September 2018 at Church Aston Church Hall starting at 7.40pm

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date