

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 7th January 2019 in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Church Aston.

Present: Councillors: P. Evans (Vice-Chairman)
B. Richards
F. McKeown
M. Stansfield
J. Pay
P. Sansom
B. Knight

In attendance: Borough Cllr A. Eade and M. Atherton (Clerk)

(07/01/19)

Item 1 - Apologies:

Cllr S. Stacey and Cllr M. Revill

Item 2 – Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 3 – Public Session:

No members of the public present

Item 4 – Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd December 2018

It was proposed by Cllr Brian Richards and seconded by Cllr John Pay that the minutes of the December 2018 meeting be accepted and agreed as a true record. All members present were in favour.

Resolved: minutes of the meeting held on 3rd December 2018 to be signed by the Chairman, as a true record.

Item 5 – Matters Arising:

- (a) **Boundary Review:** Cllr Evans summarised the boundary review process to date including reference to the BRC draft recommendations published a few weeks ago prior to a second round of public consultation. The Clerk confirmed that a consultation response to the draft recommendations had been submitted on behalf of CAPC prior to the deadline of 06/01/19;
- (b) **Street Lighting along ‘Manor Lane’:** Cllr Richards provided a comprehensive briefing for colleagues on an approach from residents for a new street light towards the end of ‘Manor Lane’ and related discussions / quotations provided by EON and Western Power Distribution. In brief there is an opportunity to provide a new power cable with a connection to a new lighting column for a discounted sum of £1,154.57 (inclusive of VAT) based on dual use of a utility excavation.

Following an extended debate taking into account many factors including the absence of current criteria, potential alternative priorities for new street lighting, the opportunity cost, and potential resident reaction members agreed by a majority not to proceed with the proposal.

The debate made it clear that the absence of a policy with relevant criteria for the renewal or provision of additional street lighting had made it difficult to objectively consider the recent approach. As a consequence Cllr Brian Richards proposed and Cllr Pat Sansom seconded a motion for the Parish Council to develop relevant criteria. The motion was approved unanimously.

<p>Resolved: The Clerk to draft a policy with relevant criteria for the renewal and / or provision of new street lighting at the earliest opportunity.</p>

- (c) **Heart of the Village:** Members discussed the general state of the heart of the village and impact since raising this as a priority. Action: Clerk to chase up with T&WC a request for CAPC to lease the area under the bridge.

The Clerk also reported back on discussions with the T&WC tree officer (Gavin Onions) about a line of trees adjacent the play area that obscure the street lighting particularly in the autumn prior to leaf-fall. The tree officer had agreed to review the issues in the spring **Action:** Clerk to meet with the tree officer in spring.

- (d) **Wellington Road: Action:** the Clerk has now written to Dominic Proud about the proposed extension of the 30 mph speed limit and also the apparent lack of action to enforce against landowners where there is verge and hedge encroachment along Wellington Road.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 6 – Parish Projects

- (a) **Wallshead Way Play Area:** Cllr Richards informed colleagues of progress on the new Wallshead Way Multi Use Games Area which is now substantively complete. A press release and photo-call had taken place back in December although this had not yet appeared in local media **Action:** Clerk to obtain a copy of the photographs taken for T&WC and to then liaise with borough Cllr Eade with a view to re-issuing the press release.

It was noted that there are some ponding issues, and work is required to complete line markings and seeding. **Action:** Clerk to pursue with T&WC (DO).

Cllr Evans explained the contents of the court equipment provided by the supplier and encouraged a discussion on opportunities to promote use of the new facility. It was agreed to explore third party 'professionally' delivered coaching and play scheme opportunities. **Action:** Clerk to contact T&WC (DO)

- (b) **“We Don’t Buy Crime” (Smartwater) Initiative:** the Clerk informed the meeting about potential public meeting dates for roll-out of the WDBC initiative. Following clarifications and discussions it was agreed to proceed with 3 day-time (2 x Saturday and 1 x Sunday) and one evening public sessions during February and early March 2019.

The dates had already been provisionally confirmed as suitable with Smartwater Ltd and WMP. Members then discussed approaches to informing the local community - confirming previous proposals for a newsletter and an A6 sized leaflet for distribution via local groups. **Action:** Clerk to draft relevant documentation and firm up public engagement proposals.

Item 7 – Communications

- a. **Correspondence:** the all relevant correspondence had been previously circulated to Members via email or in paper form where appropriate.
- b. **Parish Newsletter:** Clerk to draft a newsletter including the WDBC initiative, completion of the MUGA, and recurring issues of dog-fouling on public footways.
- c. **Web-site and Social Media:** Cllr Evans provided a brief overview of recent activity via face-book. The Clerk confirmed the web-site which is currently up-to-date.

Item 8 – Representative Reports

- a. **Village Hall:** Cllr Knight provided a brief update from the Village Hall Committee with specific reference to the AGM on 2nd February 2019. The village hall continues to be very popular with a host of events planned in the coming weeks.
- b. **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** Cllr Pay confirmed that the next meeting of NRP would take place on 15th January 2019 with the main item for discussion focussing on the proposed Newport Innovation & Enterprise Park.

- c. **Bus User Group:** date of next meeting to be confirmed.
- d. **Telford & Wrekin Council:** Cllr Eade reported on a particular planning application along Longford Road where applicants are seeking to develop a large domestic dwelling on the grounds of 'exceptional design' – which in his view is not aesthetically pleasing and represents over-development of the site.

Cllr Eade also informed CAPC members of representations that he had made to the managing director at T&WC about the potential sale of the former 'Sainsbury' site – despite strong public opposition and a Planning Inspectors' report to the contrary.

POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Item 9 – Planning Applications

Members briefly discussed the updated Planning Schedule (Jan 2018) and noted anomalies relating to a link provided by T&WC for the detailed application relating to various works at Tessant House.

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

Item 10 Budget Process & Precept 2019/20

The Chairman reminded colleagues of relevant papers previously circulated regarding setting a budget and confirming the precept for 2019/20.

Following careful consideration of options, discussion amongst members about the impact for residents of potential increases, and consideration of pressures for CAPC both from service suppliers and as T&WC services recede it was agreed that there is a case for a small increase in the Parish Precept.

Members reviewed the financial impact per household for various percentage rises with 2.5% representing less than £1.00 per band 'D' household per annum. On the basis of this assessment a 2.5% rise in Parish Precept was proposed by Cllr Mike Stansfield and seconded by Cllr Brian Richards with a unanimous vote in favour.

<p>Resolved: Church Aston PC to seek an increase in the parish element of the precept for 2019/20 of 2.5% at band 'D'.</p>

Item 11 – Accounts & Payments

- (a) The Clerk presented to members for approval the 3rd Quarter Bank Reconciliation –

The 3rd quarter bank reconciliation was agreed and duly signed by the Clerk and two authorised signatories.

- (b) The Clerk informed members of the account balance as at close of business on 3/12/2018;
- (c) The Clerk informed members of payments made since the last meeting held on 3rd December 2018 as follows:

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
Smartwater Technology Ltd	300532	LGA 1972 s137	3,086.52

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

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
West Mercia Energy	300533	LGA 1972 sch14	143.28
HMRC (PAYE)	300534	LGA 1972 s112	£77.40

Both cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

Item 12 – Compliance Matters:

No matters to report

Roads, Hedges & Ditches

- (a) Cllr Stansfield referred to an overgrown holly hedge at the top of Liddles Bank which is further encroaching this narrow section of highway. **Action:** Clerk to contact T&WC;
- (b) Cllr Richards referred to earlier discussions about community use of the new play facility and posed the question about whether CAPC might fund or subsidise this. It was agreed to carry the discussion forward via Matters Arising.

Date and time of next meeting confirmed as Monday 4th February 2019 at Church Aston Church Hall starting at 7.40pm

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date