

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 4th February 2019 in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Church Aston.

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

In attendance: M. Atherton (Clerk)

(04/02/19)

Item 1 - Apologies:

Cllr B. Knight and Borough Cllr A. Eade

Item 2 – Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 3 – Public Session:

Dr Malcolm Bennett representing residents of 'Dark Lane' attended the meeting to express disappointment that a new street light had not been provided per discussions at the January meeting. Dr Bennett referred to the junction of entrances as very dangerous and asked Members to reconsider their decision not to provide a new street light (see later notes). The general state of Dark Lane was also raised as a concern following utility works.

Dr Bennett also referred to the current boundary review and asked whether the Parish Council intend to challenge the relocation of the Grove Farm area into Newport. Cllr Evans and Cllr Richards both confirmed that the boundary changes relating to Grove Farm had taken place as early as 2003/2004 and whether right or wrong the moment to challenge this was now long gone.

Item 4 – Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th January 2019

It was proposed by Cllr Paul Evans and seconded by Cllr Brian Richards that the minutes of the January 2019 meeting be accepted and agreed as a true record. All members present were in favour.

<p>Resolved: minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2019 to be signed by the Chairman, as a true record.</p>
--

Item 5 – Matters Arising:

- (a) **Street Lighting along ‘Dark Lane’:** Cllr Evans recapped discussions from the January meeting highlighting the points about opportunity vs policy directed decisions – hence a need for a policy to guide decisions. Cllr Richards commented that if Members were minded to approve the policy statement at agenda item 9 then the decision at the January meeting not to proceed with this particular project could be reviewed and the opportunity would not be lost.

Cllr Stacey (Chairman) suggested that members now consider the street lighting policy statement as this would help the current debate (please see notes at item 9).

Returning to the specific issue, Members discussed the merits or otherwise of the request in the context of the now approved street lighting policy and in relation to other potential areas of need.

Cllr Stansfield noted that the hole adjacent the entrance to the development containing the Eon service connection had been reinstated and consequently an opportunity to install a new street light at reduced cost had now gone.

It was collectively agreed that the request for a new street light does not meet the guidelines and that a potential cost saving opportunity is no longer relevant. **Action:** Clerk to notify Dr Bennett.

- (b) **Wallshead Way Play Area:** the Chairman commented that the new play area looks very good and that it appears to be well-used by local young people. Members generally endorsed these comments and noted that issues of surface ponding after rain now appear to have gone. Cllr Evans referred to an enquiry from a resident of Brookside concerning an absence of prior notice or consultation with them, although he was not objecting to the scheme and noted its good use.

Action: Clerk to follow-up with DO (T&WC) on both the surface line marking and re-seeding of adjacent disturbed soil areas

- (c) **Budget Process & Precept Setting 2019/20:** the Clerk confirmed that T&WC Finance team had now been formally notified of the CAPC requirements for 2019/20 – this matter is now resolved.

- (d) **Heart of the Village:** the Clerk referred to a recent email response from Dominic Proud (T&WC) confirming formal action relating to 3 properties along Wellington Road concerning encroachment. Cllr Stacey noted works along sections of the A518 at Lilleshall to remove overspill debris on the cycleway / footway and commented with a little frustration that the issues on Wellington Road had been ongoing for several years without action. It was agreed to maintain a watching brief.

The email from Mr Proud also referred to likely agreement to a repeated request from the Parish Council for the 30 mph speed limit on Wellington Road to be extended further than originally proposed i.e. to the south of Moorfields Lane.

Several Cllrs expressed concern that issues under the former railway bridge continue and that the potential for the Parish Council to take management control remains unresolved **Action:** Clerk to liaise with Cllr Eade to lobby T&WC for some action.

Cllrs also referred to a dwelling at the corner of Greenvale and The Close where a tree has been cut down and untidy piles of timber remain. **Action:** Clerk to write to the residents requesting they tidy up the area.

- (e) **Boundary Review:** Cllr Evans referred to on-line media coverage which referred to recommendations contained in papers that are to be considered by the T&WC Boundary Review Committee at a forthcoming meeting. These recommendations refute an attempt by Newport Town Council to extend their boundary into Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote PC area.

If approved by the BRC the recommendations would then be referred to a Full Council meeting for approval at end January / February 2019 – concluding the process by a statutory deadline of 6th March 2019.

It was unanimously agreed that this should remain on the Parish Council agenda until such time as the process is formally concluded.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 6 – Parish Projects

- (a) **“We Don’t Buy Crime”- Smartwater:** the Clerk presented a final draft version of a delivery plan which was agreed. Members then discussed individual availability and their attendance at the public sessions with a schedule of attendees agreed. **Action:** Clerk to Liaise with Smartwater and West Mercia Police to ensure appropriate attendance and support.

Item 7 – Communications

- a. **Correspondence:** the Clerk referred to 3 specific items of correspondence received that had relevance to the agenda. All other correspondence had been previously circulated to Members via email or in paper form where appropriate.

- b. **Parish Newsletter:** the Chairman commented that the latest newsletter had been well-received, and he asked Members to start thinking about items for the next one.
- c. **Web-site and Social Media:** Cllr Evans provided a brief overview of recent activity via face-book, and the web-site remains up-to-date.

Item 8 – Representative Reports

- a. **Village Hall:** Cllr Sansom provided a brief overview on behalf of Cllr Knight who could not attend the meeting due to ill-health. The VHC AGM was held recently with a relatively poor turn-out but good take-up of officer positions. The report summarised some of the committee's proposals for the coming year.
- b. **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** minutes of the most recent meeting had been circulated by Cllr Pay who confirmed an opening date of 28/02/19 for the new Lidl store on the A41 retail park.
- c. **Bus User Group:** Cllr Evans to attend the next BUG meeting.
- d. **Telford & Wrekin Council:** No report.

POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Item 9 – Policy Statement: Street Lighting

Members discussed a draft policy statement for street lighting that had been prepared by the Clerk. The draft policy statement reflected good practice from a number of local authorities around the country. Following a relatively brief discussion Members agreed a number of minor amendments including addition of an approval date and a review date.

The draft Policy Statement: Street Lighting (subject to agreed amendments) was proposed by Cllr Richards, seconded by Cllr McKeown and unanimously approved

<p>Resolved: the Policy Statement: Street Lighting be approved, signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and posted on the Parish Council's Web-site.</p>

Item 10 – Planning Applications

The Planning Schedule (Feb 2019) was discussed. **Action:** Clerk to re-affirm the objection to a development on land adjacent Bettisford, Longford Road.

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

Item 11 – Accounts & Payments

- (a) The Clerk informed members of the account balance at close of business on 31/01/2019;

- (b) There were no payments made between the meeting held on 7th January 2019 and tonight's Parish Council meeting;
- (c) The Clerk informed members of accounts to be paid at this meeting as follows:

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
West Mercia Energy	300535	LGA 1972 sch14	£159.77
HMRC (PAYE)	300536	LGA 1972 s112	£77.40
AYP Ltd	300537	LGA 1972 s142	£136.00

All three cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

Item 12 – Compliance Matters: No matters to report

Roads, Hedges & Ditches

- (a) Cllr Evans indicated that he had removed the silent soldier, was currently storing it at home, and had been thinking about future uses. He suggested approaching Zoe Heming, Priest in Charge at St. Andrew's Church to enquire as to whether the figure could be located against a lit backdrop of the church. **Action:** Clerk to contact Zoe Heming;
- (b) Cllr Richards informed colleague Members that an insert meeting of Newport Civic Society was to discuss conservation. Recognition of the significant number of heritage / conservation buildings in Church Aston had prompted him to review whether there is any merit, and a case, for seeking conservation area status. It was agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting;
- (c) Cllr Richards noted that the Last Inn was now displaying a sign indicating that it is incorrectly in Newport. Several Members supported the motion that the Clerk should write to the owners / manager pointing this out and requesting the inappropriate signage be removed. **Action:** Clerk to write to the Last Inn;
- (d) A resident had made comment about an absence of uniformed presence at the Remembrance Day rededication at Brocton Memorial. The concern was noted and ways to overcome this issue for future years to be considered;
- (e) Cllr McKeown referred to a low flying aeroplane that regularly carries out stunts / manoeuvre making excessive and irritating noise. Noted that there are very limited opportunities to influence such activities.

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

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date