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Minutes of the meeting of Church Aston Parish Council held at 7.40 pm on Monday 4th March 2019 in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Church Aston.

Present: Councillors: S. Stacey (Chairman)
P. Evans (Vice-Chairman)
M. Stansfield
J. Pay
B. Knight
M. Revill

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

(04/03/19)

Item 1 - Apologies:

Cllr P. Sansom, Cllr B. Richards and Cllr F. McKeown

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 4th February 2019

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

Resolved: minutes of the meeting held on 4th February 2019 to be signed by the Chairman, as a true record.

Item 5 – Matters Arising:

- (a) **Conservation Area Status / Heritage:** Cllr Richards had raised this matter at the February meeting with a view to future consideration. Since that meeting the Clerk had circulated a web-link identifying listed buildings within Church Aston Parish. It was agreed to defer further discussions on this subject until Cllr Richards is present.
- (b) **Boundary Review:** Following discussions at the February meeting the Clerk had written to the Chairman of the T&WC BRC about the concluding process following announcement of a second site visit by BRC Members. The response from Cllr McClements (Chairman: BRC) offered no clear reassurances. Following a general discussion on this subject Cllr Evans advised caution – the draft recommendations are clear however there appears a small risk that these might change due to external influences.

The BRC are scheduled to meet on 7th March 2019 with their resolutions then presented to the T&WC Full Council for approval or amendment at the next available full Council meeting. It was noted that the statutory timeframe for a boundary review is one year and that period ends on 8th March 2019.

- (c) **Heart of the Village:** the Clerk reported back on a recent email from T&WC Estates Service indicating a positive response to a longstanding request from the PC to take on responsibility for land under the former railway bridge.
- (d) **Wellington Road:** A response had now been received to an email enquiry about the speed limit and encroachment of footways along Wellington Road.
- Speed limit – legal process to be completed however indications are that the 30 mph speed limit is to be extended beyond the Moorfields Lane junction towards Telford;
 - Encroachment – no further information provided other than notices were to be served on 3 separate landowners.
- (e) **‘Silent Soldier’:** following an initial informal approach to the Priest in Charge at Andrew’s Church a request had been made for a formal approach in writing with photographs of optional locations to the PCC. It was agreed that Cllr Evans and the Clerk would make necessary arrangements.
- (f) **Tree Issues in Greenvale:** the Clerk had now written to the owners / occupiers of 22 Greenvale seeking information about disposal of wood following the cutting down of a birch tree – a response is awaited.
- (g) **Wallshead Way Play Area:** Arrangements are in-hand for the water pooling issues, seeding of grassed areas, and line marking to be carried out on Monday 11th March 2019 (subsequently deferred until April due to inclement weather). Cllr Richards and the Clerk to meet up with the Contractor on-site to explain issues.

Item 6 – Funding Request for a Defibrillator at Longford Park

The Clerk informed Members of an email request for a funding contribution towards the cost of locating a defibrillator at Longford Park.

During discussions it was clear that Members acknowledge the benefits of such provision but that there are reservations about the suitability of Longford Park due to the low number of dwellings and the dispersed nature of the development. In summary, it was concluded that use of public funds for provision of a defibrillator for such a small development was not appropriate and even if it were there is no one single location that would serve all of the residents.

Action: Clerk to notify the applicants.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 7 – Parish Projects

- (a) **“We Don’t Buy Crime”- Smartwater:** the Clerk provided a brief update on progress following the first three public sessions to distribute Smartwater kits to residents of Church Aston & Longford.

Around 120 kits had already been distributed with a further public session set for Wednesday 6th March 2019 likely to increase the figure to around 150 kits or about 40% of the distribution target.

It was agreed that a number of additional public sessions are required. **Action:** Clerk to arrange and publicise additional public sessions during March and April 2019.

Item 8 – Communications

- a. **Correspondence:** the Clerk had circulated all relevant email and letter correspondence. Cllr Evans asked that an email sent to Cllr Richards by Cllr Nelson (NTC), and subsequently circulated to CAPC Members, be included on the agenda for the April meeting.
- b. **Parish Newsletter:** the Clerk requested items for the forthcoming Newsletter – to include Smartwater and play facilities.
- c. **Web-site and Social Media:** Cllr Evans provided his regular briefing on face-book activity, and the Clerk confirmed that the web-site is up-to-date.

Item 9 – Representative Reports

- a. **Village Hall:** Cllr Knight provided a comprehensive overview of activities and issues for the Village Hall Committee. Overall, the report provided a positive outlook with good use of the facilities and a programme of planned improvements.

- b. **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** the next meeting of NRP is scheduled for 2nd April 2019. Cllr Pay confirmed that T&WC would not be supporting a Newport focussed bid to government's High Streets fund
- c. **Bus User Group:** Cllr Evans reported that the next meeting of the BUG is to be held on 25th March 2019.
- d. **Telford & Wrekin Council:** Cllr Eade provided a brief overview of opportunities that may arise from the forthcoming borough & parish elections. He also confirmed the latest position concerning the boundary review insofar as he is aware.

POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Item 10 – Planning Applications

Members discussed various aspects of the Planning Schedule (March 2019) with no actions arising.

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

Item 11 – Accounts & Payments

- (a) The Clerk informed members of the account balance at close of business on 28/02/2019;
- (b) There were no payments made between the meeting held on 4th February 2019 and tonight's (4th March 2019) Parish Council meeting;
- (c) The Clerk informed members of accounts to be paid at this meeting as follows:

| Payment | Cheque No. | Statute | Amount |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| VOID CHEQUE | 300538 | | Void |
| T&WC (MUGA contrb'tion) | 300539 | LGA 1972 s112 | £3,000 |
| Information Commissioner | 300540 | DP Regs 2018 | 40.00 |
| CA Short Mat Bowls Club | 300541 | LGA 1972 s137 | 150.00 |
| West Mercia Energy | 300542 | LGA 1972 sch14 | 194.48 |
| M. Atherton (Back-pay) | 300543 | LGA 1972 s112 | 214.79 |

All five cheques were then signed by two authorised signatories.

Item 12 – Personnel Committee

National Pay Award: the Chairman reported that the Personnel Committee had met since the last meeting to consider a report prepared by the Clerk concerning the national pay award.

Having taken into account all relevant matters the Personnel Committee had resolved to accept the national pay award, and accordingly to increase the Clerk's salary in-line with the award and make back-payments from the date of award.

Item 13 – Compliance Matters:

Elections 2019: the Clerk confirmed that the forthcoming elections (2nd May 2019) affect borough and parish councils. **Action:** Clerk to circulate relevant information to existing and prospective new Cllrs as soon as this is available.

Roads, Hedges & Ditches

- (a) Cllr Knight enquired as to whether the Clerk or fellow Cllrs are aware of any grant programmes for local Church's. Cllr Knight is specifically interested in supporting efforts to build toilets and hand-washing facilities at St. Andrew's Church.
- (b) Cllr Evans referred to design and siting of two street lights at the entrance to the housing development at the top of Liddles Bank (The Knoll);
- (c) Cllr Evans referred to extensive potholing along Liddles Bank and an urgent need for attention. **Action:** Clerk to report to T&WC.

Date and time of next meeting confirmed as Monday 1st April 2019 at Church Aston Church Hall starting at 7.40pm

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date