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**Minutes of the meeting of Church Aston Parish Council held in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Church Aston at 7.40 pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

**Present:** Councillors: S Stacey (Chairman), B Richards, F McKeown, A Stokes, B Knight and M Bennett

**In attendance:** Borough Cllr Andrew Eade, and M. Atherton (Clerk)

**(07/06/21)**

**Item 1 - Apologies:** received from Cllr P. Evans (holiday), Cllr J Pay (holiday), Cllr P Sansom (prior commitment) and borough Cllr A Eade (conflicting meetings).

**Item 2 – Declarations of Interest:** there were no declarations of interest.

**Item 3 – Public Session:** there were no Members of the public in attendance.

**Item 4 – Minutes of the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Richards and seconded by Cllr McKeown with all members present voting in favour.

**Resolved:** minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true record.

**Item 5 – Matters Arising:**

Environmental Audit:

- a. **Encroachment - Wellington Road & Liddle's Bank:** the Clerk informed Members that both matters had been raised with officers at T&WC but that there had been no further action taken to resolve the substantive issues. Following discussion Members agreed the following **Actions:** (i) Clerk to contact T&WC to request regular sweeping of both areas, and (ii) Clerk to contact T&WC highways to request both issues are included in a future capital programme.

- b. **Dog Waste (Folly Lane):** carried forward for review again in September 2021.

Other Matters Arising:

- c. **Flooding along the former railway line:** in the absence of a report from borough Cllr Eade it was agreed to defer until the next meeting with the Clerk to contact Cllr Eade to request an update.
- d. **Lighting Column 42 (Mulberry Close):** the Clerk advised that he had not yet received a response from Eon regarding evidence of structural damage to lighting column 42. Following discussion Members asked the Clerk to contact Eon again with a request for an explanation for their assessment concerning structural safety or alternatively, in light of potential liabilities, for withdrawal of the request. **Action:** Clerk to contact Eon again to seek clarification.
- e. **Area under the former railway bridge:** a copy email from the former GSL had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting. The email indicated that Church Aston Scouting Groups are to relinquish interest in the land under the former railway bridge due to ongoing maintenance liabilities. The GSL had indicated that all of their equipment would be removed from the area by end July. **Action:** Clerk to contact T&WC to request short and longer-term actions. Interest of neighbouring land owners was noted.
- f. **Invitation to Senior Planner:** deferred till the new planning framework emerges in the autumn.
- g. **Invitation to GP Surgery Practice Managers:** the Clerk confirmed that letters of invitation had been sent to both GP surgeries in Newport. Whilst written responses are awaited the Clerk informed Members about a related discussion he had had earlier that day with one of the GPs from Wellington Road Surgery. Members noted with interest the feedback and requested that the invitations be followed up possibly through the health commissioning groups or via the Wrekin Area Committee forum. **Action:** Clerk to pursue both options.

## PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

### Item 6 – Representative Reports

**Village Hall:** Cllr Knight provided a comprehensive update on matters concerning the village hall including usage, the Centenary Celebrations (now 10<sup>th</sup> October), installation of broadband, purchase of film equipment and resumption of 'normal' services.

**Bus User Group:** neither Cllr Stacey nor Cllr Evans were able to attend the scheduled BUG meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**NRP:** in the absence of Cllr Pay there was no report.

**T&WC:** in the absence of borough Cllr Eade there was no report.

#### **Item 7 – Communications Updates:**

**Correspondence:** all relevant correspondence circulated to Members during the prior month.

**Newsletter:** a draft Newsletter was circulated and discussed with several amendments agreed. Action: Clerk to finalise the Newsletter as soon as possible with a view to having it printed and distributed in the next couple of weeks.

**Facebook:** Cllr Evans indicated that there had been nothing of significance to report during the past month.

**Website:** the website remains substantively up-to-date.

#### **Item 8 – Electoral Review**

The Chairman reported back following a pre-meeting conversation with Cllr Evans (Chair of the Steering Group). In summary, some additional information with direct relevance has become publicly accessible and the Steering Group would like an opportunity to properly understand the implication of this new information before finalising a draft response.

Cllrs Evans has suggested that a draft response is to be prepared and circulated by email in the next week or so giving Members time to digest its content before holding a special meeting via Zoom to agree any further amendments. Thereafter, the response would be submitted to the LGBCE by their deadline of 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021. This approach was agreed Action: Clerk to draft a consultation response and circulate it prior to organising a zoom meeting for all Members.

### **POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **Item 9 – Planning Matters**

The Planning Schedule for July 2021 was noted.

In the absence of Cllr Pay there was no further discussion on the Bloor Homes development.

### **FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

#### **Item 10 – Accounts & Payments**

(a) Statement of Account: £19,352.53 at close of business on 30/06/2021.

(b) With the exception of the 14 Community Grant Awards totalling £2,500.00 which were approved at the June meeting there were no further payments requiring authorisation following the last meeting.

(c) Cllr Stokes proposed, and Cllr Knight seconded, with unanimous vote in favour from all Members present at the meeting for the following payments to be authorised:

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
HMRC (PAYE) – June 2021	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s112	£84.40
Eon Energy Solutions Ltd	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 sch 14	£438.00
Clerk's Out-of-pocket expenses	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s137	£241.12
Needes Landscaping (watering)	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s135	£290.00
Needes Landscaping (Memorial)	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s135	£100.00
West Mercia Energy	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 sch 14	£147.44

**Resolved:** the above accounts are authorised for payment at this meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

**(d) 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr Bank Reconciliation 2021/22:**

Following careful scrutiny Cllr McKeown proposed, and Cllr Stacey seconded, approval of the 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr Bank Reconciliation with all Members present voting in favour of the motion.

**Resolved:** that the 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr Bank Reconciliation 2021/22 is approved at this meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

**Item 11 – Future Meeting Dates:** The following future meeting dates were noted:

- **Business Meetings:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October and 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

**Roads, Hedges & Ditches**

- a. Cllr McKeown noted that a series of white road markings had appeared in close proximity to the location where a tunnel collapse occurred a couple of years ago.  
**Action:** Clerk to contact T&WC highways to find out what is proposed;
- b. Cllr Stacey suggested bringing forward proposals for picnic tables / seating in the play area for further discussion in the autumn. This was generally agreed with various comments about designs, materials and project timing. **Action:** Clerk to schedule for the September meeting agenda.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date