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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 6th September 2021.

Present: Councillors: S Stacey (Chairman), P. Evans (vice- Chairman), P. Sansom, B Knight, and A Stokes

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

(06/09/21)

Item 1 - Apologies: received from Cllr B Richards (holiday), Cllr F McKeown (holiday), and Cllr M. Bennett (holiday).

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

Item 3 – Public Session:

Resident Mr Barrie Kay attended the meeting to address the PC about various matters relating to the Bloor Homes development. Mr Kay suggested a 'call to arms' to respond to various proposals set out in the developer's latest plans.

Specifically, Mr Kay expressed concerns about the significance of Hutchison Gate, proposed densities in parts of the site, proximity of development to existing dwellings and the absence of consultation with residents of The Folly.

Following an overview and update, the Chairman invited Cllr Pay to respond to the specific points. Cllr Pay commented that the PC and a number of other organisations had jointly been lobbying Bloor Homes and T&WC Planners for an extended period but that the position of objectors had been substantially weakened by previous planning approvals.

Cllr Pay explained the basis of an objection to the proposed development that had been submitted on behalf of the PC during the most recent consultation period. This objection had referenced a diverse range of issues including design quality, density, drainage and ecology.

In addition both Cllr Pay and borough Cllr Eade agreed to take forward points made by Mr Kay in a forthcoming meeting with officers from T&WC.

At conclusion of the discussion the Chairman thanked Mr Kay for taking time to attend the PC and for sharing his concerns. Mr Kay returned the compliment and then left the meeting.

Item 4 – Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th July 2021

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th July were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Stokes and seconded by Cllr Stacey with all members present voting in favour.

<p>Resolved: minutes of the meeting held on 5th July 2021 were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true record.</p>
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Item 5 – Matters Arising:

Environmental Audit:

- a. **Encroachment - Wellington Road & Liddle's Bank:** it was noted that the verge along Wellington Road had been cut back and that visibility for vehicles exiting onto Wellington Road had now improved. Members agreed a need to remind T&WC of a need for longer term solutions and borough Cllr Eade agreed to raise these with Adrian Corney at their meeting on Friday 10/09/21.
- b. **Dog Waste (Folly Lane):** Cllr Evans reported that the new waste bin is now being used by dog walkers and that there is significantly less litter / dog waste evident in Folly Lane. It was agreed to resolve this issue and to review again in March 2022.

Other Matters Arising:

- c. **Flooding along the former railway line:** no further progress on this matter. Borough Cllr Eade to meet with a senior drainage engineer from T&WC and with STW at some stage. It was agreed to resolve the matter and review further once that meeting(s) had taken place.
- d. **Lighting Column 42 (Mulberry Close):** still no response from Eon. In the absence of any clear evidence of structural damage and the extremely low probability of structural failure Members agreed to resolve this matter and to request Eon review their assessment during the next annual inspection. **Action:** Clerk to inform Eon.
- e. **Area under the former railway bridge:** it was confirmed that both the Clerk and borough Cllr Eade had been in contact with T&WC to pursue a resolution of ownership and future management responsibility. A response from T&WC is awaited.

- f. **Invitation to Senior Planner:** deferred till the new planning framework emerges in the autumn.
- g. **Future of Health Services in Newport:** the Clerk is continuing to pursue an appropriate health contact and / or forum for Members to discuss the future health care services in Newport. **Action:** Clerk to pursue all relevant options.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 6 – Representative Reports

Village Hall: Cllr Knight provided her usual update on activities at the village hall and on arrangements for the Centenary Celebrations.

Bus User Group: noted that the BUG had not met recently.

NRP: noted that NRP had not met recently.

T&WC: Borough Cllr Eade provided a brief overview of various borough-wide matters concerning T&WC including the Electoral Review.

Item 7 – Communications Updates:

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

Newsletter: Cllr Stacey thanked colleagues for ensuring the first Newsletter since Covid-19 had been widely distributed, and generally well received.

Facebook: it was noted that Face-book traffic of interest to the PC had been minimal over the summer recess.

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

POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Item 8 – Electoral Review

Cllr Evans updated colleagues on the Electoral Review of T&W. A 'representation' was submitted on behalf of the PC prior to the deadline for submissions. All submissions will be publicly accessible but only after the LGBC has published its initial recommendations –scheduled for November 2021.

Item 9 – Review of Financial Regulations

The Clerk reported that he had located a set of model financial regulations used by a neighbouring PC and based on the national format which appeared entirely suitable for adoption by Church Aston PC.

The Clerk indicated that a review of the document to ensure suitability for CAPC would need to be undertaken but that this could be carried out section by section over a period of time. **Action:** Clerk to review the model form of Financial Regulations and to report to CAPC as soon as a proposed format is ready.

Item 10 – Planning Matters

The Planning Schedule for September 2021 was noted.

Following the detailed discussions in the Public Session nothing further was raised concerning the Bloor Homes development.

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Item 11 – Accounts & Payments

(a) Statement of Account: £19,352.53 at close of business on 31/08/2021.

(b) There were no payments requiring authorisation following the last meeting.

(c) Cllr Sansom proposed, and Cllr Evans 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) – July 2021	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s112	£84.40
Needes Landscaping	LGA 1972 s135	LGA 1972 s135	£290.00
West Mercia Energy	LGA 1972 s135	LGA 1972 sch 14	£133.80
HMRC (PAYE) – Aug 2021	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s112	£84.40
Needes Landscaping	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s1135	£290.00
West Mercia Energy	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 sch 14	£135.62
PKF Littlejohn - external auditor	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s101	£240.00

Resolved: the above accounts are authorised for payment at this meeting held on 6th September 2021.

Item 12 – External Auditor’s Report

Prior to the meeting Members had received from the Clerk a copy of the External Auditor’s Report following submission earlier in the year of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return for 2020/21.

The Auditor’s Report confirms a ‘clean bill of health’ for the Parish Council. Chairman Cllr Stacey thanked the Clerk for his efforts throughout the year and reminded

Members that the audit outcome reflects the positive way in which they go about their roles in the community.

It was agreed that the clerk should post the formal 'Notice of Conclusion of Audit' at the earliest opportunity.

Item 13 – Future Meeting Dates: The following future meeting dates were noted:

- **Business Meetings:** Monday 4th October, 1st November and 6th December 2021

Roads, Hedges & Ditches

- a. Members briefly discussed the parish planters and noted that neighbouring parish Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote had recently introduced very similar planters which had proved a great success. Options for a joint plant purchasing scheme, a common planting scheme and shared watering contract were discussed. **Action:** Clerk to contact CA&WPC to explore options as above.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date