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Minutes of the meeting of Church Aston Parish Council held in St. Andrew's Church Hall at 7.40 pm on Monday 9th May 2022.

Present: Councillors: S. Stacey (Chairman), P. Evans (Vice-Chairman) B. Richards, P. Sansom, M. Bennett, and A. Stokes

In attendance: Mike Atherton (Clerk)

(09/05/22)

Item 1 - Apologies: Cllr McKeown, Cllr Pay, Cllr Knight and Borough Cllr Eade

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

Former Cllr John Atkins: The Chairman invited Cllr Brian Richards to lead tributes to former Cllr John Atkins who had sadly passed away recently. Mr Atkins had served the Church Aston community with distinction over a 15 year period and was respected by all that knew him. Following the tributes Members observed a minutes silence as a mark of respect for their former colleagues.

Item 3 – Public Session: no members of the public present.

Item 4 – Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th April 2022

Minutes of the meeting held on 4th April were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Stokes and seconded by Cllr Richards. All members present voted in support of the proposal.

Resolved: minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2022 be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true and accurate record.

Item 5 – Matters Arising:

- a. **Asset Management:** Cllr Richards provided a brief overview of progress in securing contractor quotes and also on issues due to the specialist nature of the two primary tasks (refurbishing the boundary stone plaques and repairing the planters). Agreed: to carry forward to the next meeting.

- b. **Electoral Review Update:** Cllr Evans informed colleagues that the latest public consultation period ended today (9th May) and that any revisions to the LGBCE Report are now awaited. In summary, there had been very limited public response during the review and to the original report and recommendations.
- c. **Future of Local Health Services:** Cllr Stacey informed colleagues that he had joined a Patient Participation Group for Wellington Road Surgery which is to be led by Dr Nick Tindall (retired) and will meet 4 times a year. The first meeting had covered issues of access to services, waiting times for telephone callers, triaging and staff recruitment.

It was also noted that the PC is now formally part of an information / engagement network formed by the SaTH Trust. We are still awaiting information from the Wrekin Area Committee about direct engagement with the T&W Clinical Commissioning Group.

- d. **Review of Local Flood Planning:** email correspondence between Borough Cllr Eade and senior officers at T&WC was noted – effectively securing a commitment to properly review and further investigate flooding issues in Church Aston. **Action:** Clerk to forward AE's email to all Members
- e. **Worthy Citizens Awards 2022:** the three nominees have now been informed and each has been invited to the Jubilee celebrations at the Village Hall on 5th June to receive their well-earned awards.
- f. **Play Area Seating Project:** Members unanimously agreed that the new 'sloper' seat and the picnic table had greatly enhanced the play area. Product quality appears to be good, resilient to vandalism and both seats are already well-used.

Name plaques attributing both the borough Council and the Parish Council have been ordered for each seat and a plaque dedicating the 'extra' jubilee tree to the young people of the village has also been ordered.

Arrangements for a photo-call and formal renaming of the play area are in hand with Thursday 27th May the most likely date.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 6 – Parish Projects

- a. **QEII Platinum Jubilee Celebrations:** following a brief update on preparations Members discussed promotional activities including production of an A5 flyer, a piece in the Newport Advertiser and posters around the village.

Actions: (i) Cllr Bennett to forward A5 flyer originals to the Clerk to prepare the flyer and arrange for printing as soon as possible; (ii) Clerk to draft an article for the Advertiser promoting the event on 5th June and advising of limited parking,

and (iii) al Members to promote the event in whatever way they can including use of A4 posters proved by Cllr Bennett.

Item 7 – Representative Reports

Reports for the Village Hall, Bus User Group, Newport Regeneration Partnership and Telford & Wrekin Council are as those provided to the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council which had preceded this meeting.

Item 8 – Communications Updates:

Correspondence: all relevant correspondence had been circulated to Members.

Newsletter: it was noted that the most recent edition of the Newsletter focussing on the Platinum Jubilee celebrations had been distributed by Members.

Facebook: it was agreed to promote the Platinum Jubilee celebration events via Facebook and the website.

Website: As above, the website is generally up-to-date with nothing to report.

POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Item 9 – Planning Matters

- a) **Planning Schedule for May 2022:** updates were noted.

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Item 10 – Accounts & Payments

(a) The statement of account as at close of business on 30/04/22 was **£23,098.36**

(b) the following payments made since the last meeting was held were presented for retrospective approval. Cllr Evans proposed, and Cllr Stacey seconded retrospective authorisation of the following payments, with all Members present voting in favour.

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
West Mercia Energy	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 sch 14	£157.62
AYP Ltd (newsletter)	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s142	£136.00
SALC / NALC Membership	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s143	£564.33
Midlands News Association Ltd	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s112	£458.94

Resolved: the above payments at 10(a) were retrospectively approved for payment at this meeting held on 9th May 2022.

(c) Payments for authorisation at this meeting.

Cllr Bennett proposed, and Cllr Richards 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) – April 2022	300301	LGA 1972 s112	£85.80
West Mercia Energy	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 sch 14	£166.43
Wellington Brass Band	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s137	£250.00
David Oakley - Magician	300302	LGA 1972 s137	£150.00
Dolphin Signs	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s137	£114.00
Newport Engravers	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s137	£147.60
Zurich Municipal (insurance)	On-line transfer	LGA 1972 s140	£286.16

Resolved: the payment set out above at 10(c) was formally approved for payment at this meeting held on 9th May 2022.

Item 11 – Personnel Committee

Members were provided with a brief update on the recruitment process and on arrangements for meeting to short-list candidates for interview.

Item 12 – Future Meeting Dates: The following future meeting dates were noted:

- **Business Meetings:** Monday 6th June, 4th July and 5th September 2022

Roads, Hedges & Ditches

- Cllr Evans referred to the village planters including confirming quotations for planting up and watering. The Clerk updated Members on proposals for a group of Parish Councils to work through a single contract and related discussions with Needes Landscaping. This had proved too complicated and it was reluctantly agreed to continue with separate arrangements for now. **Action:** Clerk to pursue confirmation of quotes from Needes Landscaping.

Members agreed a budget of £250 for purchase of good quality plants from a suitable local nursery.

- Cllr Bennett clarified that a film night had raised £625 for the Ukrainian Appeal (and not £125 as quoted in the previous minutes). **Action:** Clerk to amend the published minutes.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date