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Minutes of the meeting of Church Aston Parish Council held in the Church Hall (Church Aston) at 7.40pm on Monday 7th November 2022.

Present: Councillors: S. Stacey (Chairman), P. Evans (Vice-Chairman), P. Sansom, J. Pay, A. Stokes, B Knight, F McKeown, M Bennett and B Richards (late arrival at 8.05pm due to a prior engagement).

In attendance: Wendy Tonge (Clerk)

(07/11/22)

Item 1 - Apologies: None

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

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

Item 4 – Minutes of the Meetings held on 3rd October 2022

Minutes of the meetings held on 3rd October 2022 were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Pay and seconded by Cllr McKeown with all members present voting in support of the proposal.

<p>Resolved: minutes of the meetings held on 3rd October 2022 to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true and accurate record.</p>
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Item 5 – Matters Arising:

- a. **ASB at the QEII Park:** Cllr Evans attended a site meeting held on the 21st October with T&WC Officer Jonathan Phelps and a local resident, he was pleased to report the siting of the camera had been agreed (alongside the path, nearest to the younger children’s play area). Unfortunately, still no definite date for installation, however he reassured members he would continue to liaise closely with T&WC to resolve the matter as soon as possible. Members continued to raise concern for the ongoing delay of the installation. The Chairman reported he had received a message of thanks from the local resident for his inclusion in the meeting.

- b. **Grass Verges Project:** It was agreed the Clerk would arrange a meeting with Cllr A Stokes, Cllr B Richards and T&WC Adrian Corney to explore the project further. The Clerk would also be in attendance.
- c. **T&WC Recruitment of School Governors:** the Clerk informed members she had received a phone call from The Chairman of Church Aston Infants School, Mrs J Bennett, who requested to forward her thanks to members for their expression of interest in becoming a Governor, she explained there were currently no vacancies available and should a vacancy arise in the future we would be duly notified.
- d. **Wrekin Area Committee:** Cllr Evans briefed council that W.A.C had been established many years and was a subsidiary of SALC. It was agreed that future representation on the Committee could prove useful and the Clerk would notify the Secretary, Katrina Baker of our interest.
- e. **Electoral Register:** the Clerk confirmed a copy of the record is now available for members to view, due to GDPR requirements copies are no longer accessible for individual members.
- f. **Liddle's Bank:** Cllr Evans briefed council on the latest developments, he has continued to work with Borough Councillor Andrew Eade and confirmed recent discussions has led to an additional request to implement the installation of speed ramps to the top and bottom of the bank. Concerns were raised for drivers not understanding the Priority Arrows Sign. It was agreed Council will now wait for the proposed scheme of improvements which T&WC Highways Engineer Dean Sargeant is developing, before taking any further actions.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 6 – Representative Reports

- a. **Village Hall:** Cllr Knight provided an overview of matters relating to the village hall. This included a Craft Fayre and Halloween activities for families, both were a great success. A grant of £300 had been received from T&W Borough Councillor Andrew Eade from his Community Fund, this will be used to purchase new seating. A flyer of activities was now ready for inclusion with the next Parish Newsletter.
- b. **Bus Users Group:** No update available.
- c. **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** Cllr Pay confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting had been distributed, the main change was the recent election of Borough and Newport Town Council, Cllr Tim Nelson as Chairman.
- d. **T&WC:** Apologies had been received from Cllr A Eade, Cllr Paul Evans agreed to update members on any matters in his absence, specifically Liddle's Bank.

- e. **Community Leaders Group:** Cllr Bennet confirmed due to absence of Reverend Zoe, the previous meeting was postponed.
- f. **Patients Participation Group:** Cllr Stacey (Chairman) agreed to forward the minutes of the previous meeting when they are available. He continued to provide a verbal update, including it had been well attended, including volunteers who administer the Community Support social media site. The volunteers kindly agreed to work in partnership with the practice to assist them in helping getting any key messages out via social media to the community. Cllr Stacey raised the question of concern for the ongoing issue of phone-waiting when trying to get appointments, despite the Surgeries reassurance this had been reduced, the Chairman continued to challenge the matter and requested they continue to resolve the negative experience many patients were still experiencing. The Chairman expressed his shock on learning that the Surgery have no strategy in place for the demand on their services, due to the increase in local housing developments. Council agreed this was a national crisis, and recognised the pressure the surgery was under in these difficult times.

Item 7 - Parish Priority Plan 2023/2024

To assist the parish council in formulating their strategy for the next financial year, this part of the meeting was dedicated to confirming the Council identifying the priorities. A Copy of the draft plan is attached or available from the Clerk.

Item 8 – Communications Updates:

Correspondence: all relevant correspondence was shared with Members.

Cllr Paul Evans briefed members on **The Local Government Boundary Commission for England** who carried out a review of the electoral arrangements of the Borough, commencing in 2021, they have now made final recommendations which amend the boundaries of most of the Borough wards. These recommendations and the revised Borough wards will be effective from 4 May 2023 local elections and confirmed the parish was not affected by the changes. The next round of consultation is regarding Polling Stations within the Wards, due to close on 1st December 2022, again no proposals had an adverse impact on the parish.

Cllr Paul Evans informed members an application had been submitted by St Andrew's Church for funding from the **T&WC Cost of Living Grant Scheme** to support the Community Cuppa Group as a designated warm place and signposting service of support, he wished it be noted, many thanks for the great work Reverend Zoe Hemmingway had done to get the application submitted within such a short timeframe, he agreed to keep Council updated on progress and will remain the Parish Council's main point of contact to help support the scheme.

Newsletter: Members agreed the next newsletter will be distributed by the end of November, to include attachment flyers for St Andrew's Church and the Village Hall. Cllr Bennett kindly offered to promote the PC's Newsletter on the Village Hall information screen.

Facebook: No update.

Website: the Clerk confirmed she now has access to the site and will continue to administer it.

Noticeboard: the Clerk agreed to organise a photo-shoot before the next Parish Council meeting commences in December, then use the photo's to update the noticeboard. It was agreed the noticeboard was looking very tired and required an update.

POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Item 9 – Planning Matters

- a. **Planning Schedule for October 2022:** Members noted the following planning schedule for October:
- TWC/2022/0854** – Application for development of 215 homes on the land north of the A518.
- PE/2022/067** – Application for development 68 Dwellings on the land corner of the A518/Highfield Church Aston.

Resolved: that the Parish Council submit objections to both applications.

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Item 10 – Accounts & Payments

- (a) **The Statement of Account:** at close of business on 31/10/22 was £ £20,399.00 a detailed summary of the budget showing receipts and payments had been previously circulated to members.
- (b) **Approval of Payments made since the last meeting:** was presented for retrospective approval. Cllr Evan proposed, and Cllr Stokes seconded authorisation of the following payments, with all Members present voting in favour.

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute	Amount
Needes Landscapes	300314	LGA 1972	£392.00
1 st CA Rainbows	300315	LGA 1972	£200.00
2 nd CA Beavers	300316	LGA 1972	£200.00
Staff Payment (October)	BACS	LGA 1972	£454.29

Resolved: the above payments at 10(b) were retrospectively approved for payment at this meeting held on 7th November 2022.

(c) Payments for authorisation at this meeting: Cllr Sansom proposed, and Cllr Stokes 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
Staff Payments (November)	STD ORD	LGA 1972 s112	£407.69
HMRC PAYE (Sept & Oct)	300317	LGA 1972 s112	£78.00
HMRC PAYE (November)	300318	LGA 1972 s1112	£38.80
West Mercia Energy	BACS	LGA 1972 s114	£169.87
Rialtas Business Solutions	BACS	LGA1972	£513.30
Sally's Flowers Wreath	300319	LGA 1972	£50.00

- The Clerk reported a Standing Order to pay the retiring Clerk had been paid in error, the matter was now settled and the previous Standing Order arrangement cancelled.
- The Clerk thanked members for their support in the purchase of the new finance software and confirmed the cost of the VAT licence is £129.00.

Resolved: the payment set out above at 10(c) was formally approved for payment at this meeting held on 7th November 2022.

Item 11 – Roads, Hedges and Ditches

- a) Brockton War Memorial: Arrangements for the forthcoming Remembrance Service on Sunday 13th November have been finalised, the Clerk agreed to forward details to all members and contact Needs Landscaping Services if the monument/road requires cleaning or clearing of debris.
- b) Community Planters – members agreed to take responsibility to tidy the relevant planters in the village.

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

- **Parish Council Meetings:** next meeting to be held on 5th December 2022, Monday 9th January 2023.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm
Signed Chairman:

Date