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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 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

**Present:** Councillors: S Stacey (Chairman), P Evans (Vice-Chairman), J Pay, P Sansom, R Wynn and B Richards

**In attendance:** Wendy Tonge (Clerk), T&WC Borough Cllr Andrew Eade.

**(04/03/24)**

**Item 1 - Apologies:** F McKeown (prior commitment), B Knight (indisposed), A Stokes (personal commitment) and N Collier (ill-health).

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

**Item 3 – Public Session:** Two members of the public were in attendance. Cllr Stacey (Chairman) welcomed the residents to the meeting and invited them to raise any concerns. Both residents lived along Wallshead Way and raised serious concerns for the flooding in their gardens, despite having spent thousands of pounds of their own money on preventative measures the situation is now at a crisis point and requested any assistance from members in getting the issue resolved. Cllr Stacey invited T&WC Cllr Eade to provide an update. Cllr Eade explained that he has been continuously lobbying T&WC to investigate and help resolve the matter and provided historical details of what appears to be causing the flooding. He outlined actions he's taken in championing the issue and reassured residents that Cllr Lee Carter Cabinet Member for T&WC is supportive of Cllr Eade's efforts, a USB stick with evidence of the flooding is being handed over this week. He pledged to continue his efforts and to keep everyone updated. Members of the public left the meeting.

### **Item 4 – Minutes of the Meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Minutes of the meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> February were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Pay with all members present voting in support of the proposal.

Resolved: minutes of the meetings held on 5 <sup>th</sup> February were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true and accurate record.
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## Item 5 – Matters arising:

- a. **Liddle’s Bank Traffic Management Scheme:** Confirmation from T&WC has been received confirming work will finally commence in a few weeks.
- b. **T&WC Drainage Engineers Dept – Flooding/ Drainage:** The issues remain unresolved across the village. Cllr Sansom expressed her sympathy for the residents who are subject to the flooding issues on their properties, fellow members agreed it is an extremely frustrating situation and hope remains that Cllr Eade would be successful in his lobbying to resolve the issue.

## PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

**Item 6 - Asset Management:** No matters raised.

**Item 7 - Wildflower Planting Project:** Needes Landscaping has met with Officers from T&WC to seek permission to go ahead with the scheme. The Clerk was in receipt of a quote from Needes Landscaping to carry out the work and a quote from Green-tech for the seeds.

Resolved: that the quote for £600 (inc VAT) from Needes Landscaping be accepted. That the quote from Green-tech for £68.26 (inc VAT) be accepted.
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The Clerk agreed to contact the Community Payback Scheme with a request they consider cleaning the Parish Planters before the end of Spring.

**Item 8 - T&WC Local Development Plan:** Cllr Pay updated members that it appears the Developers have drawn up a ‘prospective scheme’ to the proposed site, relating to access from the side of the Bridge.

## Item 9 – Representative Reports

- a. **Village Hall:** In the absence of Cllr B Knight, Cllr Sansom kindly provided an overview of matters relating to the village hall which included: Successful evenings with live music /charity night and improvements to the hall. The screen will now include events for the Cottage Care Centre.
- b. **Bus Users Group:** No update since the previous meeting.
- c. **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** No update since the previous meeting.
- d. **T&WC:** Cllr Eade provided a brief overview of the current activities of T&WC Administration.
- e. **Wellington Road Surgery Patients Participation Group:** No update since the previous meeting.
- f. **Community Leaders Group:** No update since the previous meeting

- g. Wrekin Area Committee:** No meeting dates have become available, Cllr Stacey confirmed he was now on the SALC Executive Committee and will be attending the next meeting.

**Item 10 - Communications Updates:**

**T&WC Boundary Review:** The Clerk confirmed she has reported the Council's missing submission on the public register to Democratic Services and is awaiting a reply. Cllr Pay was thanked for his diligence in spotting the error.

**Newsletter:** Copy to be published in May, to possibly include a community information leaflet.

**Facebook:** Cllr Evans continues to post information on the Council's Facebook page.

**Website:** The Website continues to be updated.

**Noticeboard:** The noticeboard continues to be updated with new information on a monthly basis.

**POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS**

**Item 11 – Planning Matters – T&WC Planning Applications for February/March 2024**

None received.

**FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

**Item 12 – Accounts & Payments**

(a) **The Statement of Account:** at close of business on 29/02/24 was £12,122.18

(b) **Statutory Balance Sheet, Summary of receipts and payments and Bank Reconciliation of account for month ending 29/02/2024:**

A copy of the Account Balance sheet, summary of receipts and payments and a Bank Reconciliation for the account at month end 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 previously circulated was noted by members and signed by Cllr S Stacey (Chairman).

(c) **Approval of Payments made since the last meeting:** was presented for retrospective approval. Cllr Pay, and Cllr Evans seconded authorisation of the following payments, with all Members present voting in favour.

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute General Power of Competence	Amount
West Mercia Energy Supply (up to 31.01.24)			£403.50
e.on (repairs to Light Cats Cottage) x 3 visits			£86.66 £78.58 £53.66

The Clerk agreed to query the e.on invoices.

Resolved: the above payments at 12(c) were retrospectively approved for payment at this meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

(d) **Payments for authorisation at this meeting:** Cllr Pay proposed, and Cllr Wynn seconded, with unanimous vote in favour from all Members present at the meeting for the following payments to be authorised:

Payment	Cheque No.	Statute General Power of Competence	Amount
HMRC March 2024	300337		£99.20
Staff Salary March 2024	Standing Order		£624.69

Resolved: the payment set out above at 12(d) was formally approved for payment at this meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

(e) **Social Media Policy:** A copy of the proposed Social media policy had been previously circulated to members for consideration.

Resolved: That the Social Media Policy be adopted and adhered to by members, staff and volunteers of the parish council.

(f) **Members Code of Conduct:** A copy of the Members Code of Conduct policy had been previously circulated to members for consideration.

Resolved: That the Social Media Policy be adopted and adhered to by members of the parish council.

### **Item 13 – Roads, Hedges and Ditches:**

Cllr Wynn raised the issue of flooding in resident's gardens on Brookside Avenue. The Chairman advised him to encourage the residents to contact T&WC Cllr Thomas Janke.

Flooding on the road to the front of Dog Bank Cottage continues to be an issue. The Clerk agreed to report the matter to T&WC.

**Item 14 – Future Meeting Dates:** The following future meeting date was noted:

**Parish Council Meetings:** Due to the Easter Bank Holiday, the next meeting will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 7.40pm at Church Aston Church Hall

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed Chairman:

Date