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Minutes of Church Aston Parish Council held at Church Aston Village Hall on Monday 7th April 2025 at 7.30pm.

Present: S Stacey (Chairman), P Evans (Vice Chairman), R Wynn, F McKeown, J Pay, B Richards and P Sansom.

In attendance: Wendy Tonge (Clerk). Cllr A Eade (Borough Councillor).

07/04/25)

Item 1 - Apologies: A Stokes (Holiday) and B Knight (Indisposed).

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

Item 3 – Public Session: Two members of the public were in attendance. Two residents who applied for the council vacancy were invited to speak. Each candidate provided a brief overview of their background, experience and reasons for seeking the position.

Item 4 - Exclusion of Press and Public: That in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1972, the public including the press be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Two residents left the meeting.

Item 5 - Appointment of Council Vacancy: The Chairman thanked both candidates for their applications. It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Greg Williams as a Parish Councillor with immediate effect. Greg signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting as a member of the Council.

Item 6 – Minutes of the Meetings held on the 3rd of March 2025.

Minutes of the meetings held on the 3rd of March 2025, were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Wynn and seconded by Cllr Evans with all members present voting in support of the proposal.

Resolved: minutes of the meetings held on the 3 rd March 2025 were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true and accurate record.
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Item 7 – Matters arising:

- a) **Memorial proposal in memory of Nicholas Collier.** Members discussed a number of options for an appropriate memorial for Nick. It was agreed Cllr Evans would consult Nick's family before a final decision was made.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 8 – Asset Management.

- a) **Millenium Boulders:** T&WC have offered to provide details of a potential contractor that could possibly help with the restoration of the boulders. The Clerk had still not received a reply from T&WC. **Parish Planters:** The Clerk was granted permission to get quotes for the planting and water for the parish planters this summer.
- b) **T&WC Community Governance Review:** The council's submission has been forwarded to T&WC. Members were briefed that the consultation ends on the 14th April 2025 and further information should become available around the 12th of May.
- c) **T&WC Local Development Plan:** A copy of the draft Terms of Reference for the Parish Council Working Group had been previously circulated to members.

Resolved: that the TOR's be adopted that Cllr Evans, Cllr Pay, Cllr Wynn, Cllr Williams and Cllr Eade form a Working Group.

Item 9 - Representatives Report:

- a) **Village Hall:** In the absence of Cllr Knight, Cllr Sansom provided members with a brief overview of activities at the Village Hall, these included a successful Open Folk Night, Miranda Sykes & Jim Causley performance and ending the month with a showing of the popular film 'Tina'. Members were looking forward to the quiz night at the weekend.
- b) **Bus Users Group:** No meetings held.
- c) **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** No meetings held.
- d) **Telford & Wrekin Council:** Cllr Eade briefed members that he is continuing to talk to T&WC regarding options to resolving the flooding issues on the park and drainage on the field to the rear of The Dale.
- e) **Wellington Road/Linden Hall PPG:** Due to the short notice given by Wellington Road Surgery Cllr Stacey was unable to attend the last meeting held.
- f) **Community Leaders Meeting:** No meetings held.
- g) **Wrekin Area Committee:** None attendance, minutes from the last meeting had been previously circulated to members.

Item 10 - Communications Updates:

- a) **Correspondence:** The Chairman read out a letter from T&WC requesting funding for the 30th year of Crucial Crew a multi-agency partnership event aimed at year 6 students designed to provide them with life skills and knowledge to help keep them safe. Cllr Sansom proposed the parish council contribute £250 and seconded by Cllr Evans. With all present voting in favour.

Resolved: that the parish council contribute £250 towards Crucial Crew for 2025.

- b) **Newsletter:** No further matters discussed.
- c) **Facebook:** Cllr Evans and the Clerk continue to post information on the Council's Facebook page.
- d) **Website:** Members discussed the need for a review and possible new website for this new financial year. The Clerk agreed to ensure the matter was discussed in more detail at a future meeting.
- e) **Noticeboard:** The noticeboard continues to be updated with new information on a monthly basis.

Item 11- POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

Planning: To consider the following T&WC Planning Applications received during March 2025:

TWC/2025/0242 31 Pinewoods, Church Aston, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 9LNErection of a first- floor side extension above existing garage, a single storey front extension, following removal of existing porch, installation of 1no. bay window and erection of a single storey rear extension.

Agreed: No objection.

Item 12 - FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Accounts & Payments

- a) **The Statement of Account:** at close of business on 31/03/2025 was £16,508.81p
- b) **Statutory Balance Sheet, Summary of receipts and payments and a Bank Reconciliation of accounts for month ending 31/03/2025** is £16,508.81p. A copy of the Account Balance sheet, summary of receipts and payments and Bank Reconciliation for the account at month end 31st of March 2025 was previously circulated and noted by members, signed by Cllr Evans and Cllr Stacey.
- c) **Approval of Payments made since the last meeting:** was presented for retrospective approval. Cllr Wynn, and Cllr Evans seconded authorisation of the following payments, with all Members present voting in favour.

Payment	Payment type	Statute General Power of Competence	Amount
AYP	Transfer		£259.00
HMRC	ST Order		£121.20
Lloyds Bank	DD		£6.00
Staff Salary March 2025	ST Order		£631.75
Unity Trust Bank	DD		£3.00

Resolved: the above payments at 12(c) were retrospectively approved for payment at this meeting held on the 7th April 2025.

- d) **Payments for authorisation at this meeting:** Cllr Evans proposed, and Cllr Mc Keown 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
Staff Salary & Expenses for April 2025	Standing Order		£631.75
HMRC contributions April 2025	On-line transfer		£121.20

Resolved: the payment set out above at 12(d) was formally approved for payment at this meeting held on the 7th April 2025.

- e) Members were provided with an end of year summary report, prepared by the Clerk. The report was accepted and signed by the Chairman.

The Clerk confirmed she was in receipt of the 1st payment of the Precept for 2025/26.

Item 11- Roads, Hedges & Ditches

No matters raised.

Item 12 - Future Meeting Dates: The following future meeting date was noted:

Annual/ Parish Council Meetings: Due to the Bank Holiday the next meeting will be held on Monday 12th May 2025 in Church Aston Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. The Clerk agreed to find a guest speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed Chairman:

Date