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## **Minutes of Church Aston Parish Council held at Church Aston Village Hall on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr S Stacey (Chairman), Cllr P Evans (Vice Chairman), Cllr R Wynn, Cllr F McKeown, Cllr P Sansom, Cllr B Knight and Cllr G Williams.

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

**07/07/25)**

**Item 1 - Apologies:** B Richards (Holiday), Cllr Pay (Holiday) and A Stokes (Indisposed).

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

**Item 3 – Public Session:** No members of the public were in attendance.

### **Item 4 - Minutes of the Meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2025.**

Minutes of the meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2025, were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Wynn with all members present voting in support of the proposal.

Resolved: minutes of the meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2025 were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true and accurate record.

### **Item 5 - Matters arising:**

Cllr Evans was granted permission to erect a memorial plaque in memory of Cllr Nicholas Collier on the MUGA in the Queen Elizabeth II Park.

## **PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS**

### **Item 6 – Asset Management.**

- a) **Millenium Boulders:** Cllr Evans kindly volunteered to conduct a visual audit of the parish planters to assess their current condition. It was agreed the audit be carried out and the finding discussed in preparation for next year's budget, at a future meeting.
- b) **T&WC Community Governance Review:** Members discussed the proposed merger with Chetwyn Aston & Woodcote Parish Council. Cllr P Evans proposed the parish council vote in favour of the proposal, seconded by Cllr Williams. The Chairman thanked Cllr Evans and Cllr Pay for their hard work in preparing the submission.

**Resolved:** that the submission to merge Church Aston Parish Council with Chetwynd Aston & Woodcote Parish Council be accepted.

- c) **T&WC Local Development Plan:** No update received.
- d) **Community Safety:** Members expressed concerns that young people have been seen fishing at The Mere, also reports of witnessing Anti-Social Behaviour where local birds are being fired- at with catapults. The Clerk agreed to report the concerns to both Telford & Wrekin Council and The Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Cllr Stacey provided members with an overview of the information received on the actions West Mercia Police are carrying out to combat the current surge of 'Cash for Crash' accidents, along the A518 and the A41.

- e) **Flooding:** No further updates provided.
- f) **Worthy Citizens Award 2025:** Cllr Knight proposed local volunteer Ms Jenny Cann be the recipient of this year's award due to her hard work, pro -active attitude and dedication in organising many events and overseeing technology in the village hall. Members agreed with the proposal. The Clerk was granted permission to inform Jenny of the good news. The award will be presented by the Chairman at the Civic Sunday Service in September.

#### **Item 7 - Representatives Report:**

- a) **Village Hall:** Cllr Knight provided members with a brief overview of the activities held at the village hall, which included a popular film night, live music, food event and general repairs. The What's on flyer for events held in the following 6 months, is now ready for distribution.
- b) **Bus Users Group:** Cllr Evans was unable to attend the last meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June. Correspondence on the change of bus routes/cancellation of services had been previously circulated to members. Cllr Evans agreed to contact Katrina Baker to clarify concerns for bus routes impacting local residents.
- c) **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** Cllr Stacey confirmed he will be attending the next meeting to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> July.
- d) **Telford & Wrekin Council:** Cllr Eade provided members with the following update: A Road Traffic Order has been applied to implement a speed reduction along Longford Road. The play area improvements have commenced, which are already making a difference. Following concerns raised by a local resident regarding concern for a Right of Way footpath in Longford, Cllr Eade is meeting the T&WC Rights of Way Officer.
- e) **Wellington Rd/Linden Hall Surgery Patients Participation Group:** No update available. Cllr Stacey will be attending the next WRS meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> August.
- f) **Community Leaders Meeting:** No meetings held. It was agreed the Clerk should write to the Bishop of Lichfield to express concern for the length of time it is taking to appoint a replacement Reverend at St Andrews Church. Member reiterated the hard work and dedication of the team of volunteer's who have kept the Church functioning over the past 10 months, concern was expressed that this was not sustainable.
- g) **Wrekin Area Committee:** Cllr Evans attended the previous meeting which focused on the T&WC Community Governance Review.

## Item 8-Communications Updates:

### a) Correspondence:

- **Notice of resignation Cllr F Mc Keown.** Following the resignation of Cllr Mc Keown, on behalf of members Cllr Stacey presented her with a thank you card and flowers for her many years of service. The Clerk agreed to contact T&WC Electoral Services to notify them of the vacancy, and seek guidance on how to proceed in the future. Member agreed to review the matter in September.
- **T&WC/ Town & Parish Council Planning Training** also SALC Planning Training had been previously circulated to members.
- **Withdrawal of funding for Neighbourhood Plans to Town & Paris Councils.** Following the announcement from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to cease the commencement of neighbourhood planning support services, members agreed to send a letter to local MP Mark Pritchard, opposing the proposal and encourage him to persuade MHCHLG to continue with financial support for Neighbourhood Plans.
- **T&WC Traffic Scheme:** The latest road traffic improvement had been previously circulated to member. Member agreed with the latest proposal for the improvements to Moorfield Lane.

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:** No further actions have been taken. The Clerk updated members the site has now been transferred to an alternative provider which has prevented her updating the parish council's website.

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

## Item 9 - POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS

None received.

## Item 10 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

### Accounts & Payments

a) **The Statement of Account:** at close of business on 30/06/2025 was £27,056.56p.

b) **Statutory Balance Sheet, Summary of receipts and payments and a Bank Reconciliation of accounts for month ending 30/06/2025 is £27,056.56p.** A copy of the Account Balance sheet, summary of receipts and payments and Bank Reconciliation for the account at month end 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 was previously circulated and noted by members, signed by Cllr Mc Keown and Cllr Williams.

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

Payment	Payment type	Statute General Power of Competence	Amount
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HMRC May 25	Transfer		£171.59
Lloyds Bank (corp card)	DD		£3.00
Staff Salary June 25	STD		£631.75
HMRC June 25	Transfer		£171.59
Needes Landscaping (planters)	Transfer		£490.00
West Mercia Energy (May supply)	Transfer		£348.47
Lloyds Bank Charge	DD		£6.00

Resolved: the above payments at 10(c) were retrospectively approved for payment at this meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

- d) **Payments for authorisation at this meeting:** Cllr Wynn 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 General Power of Competence	Amount
Staff Salary & Expenses for July 2025	Standing Order		£631.75
HMRC contributions July 2025	On-line transfer		£171.59

Resolved: the payment set out above at 10(d) was formally approved for payment at this meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

### Item 11- Roads, Hedges & Ditches

Cllr Williams raised serious concern for the excessive speed vehicles were doing along Wellington Road, making the exit opposite Moorfield Lane from the village, extremely dangerous. The Clerk agreed to request action be taken to the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Cllr Wynn informed members that the new seating has been installed at the Play area which is a big improvement.

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

**Parish Council Meetings:** The next meeting will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2025 in Church Aston Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

The Chairman wished members and staff an enjoyable summer break.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date