

CLERK: Michael Atherton
 ADDRESS: 53 Beechfields Way
 Newport
 Shropshire
 TF10 8QA



Tel: 01952 820241
 E.mail: churchaston@gmail.com

Minutes of Church Aston Parish Council

Held at the Church Hall, Church Aston on Monday 1st February 2016. The meeting commenced at 7.40 pm

Present: Cllr Paul Evans (Vice Chairman), Cllr Billie Knight, Cllr Pat Sansom, Cllr John Pay, Cllr Mike Stansfield, Cllr Fiona McKeown, Cllr Marjorie Revill and Borough Cllr Andrew Eade

Also in attendance: Mike Atherton: Clerk to CAPC

1.	Apologies	Cllr Simon Stacey (Chairman) & Cllr Brian Richards
2.	Declarations of Interest	None
3.	Public Session	No Members of the public present
4.	Minutes of the last meeting	Minutes of the meeting held on 4 th January 2016 were proposed by Cllr McKeown, seconded by Cllr Pay, and unanimously agreed.
5.	Matters Arising	<p>a) Bridges over former railway line: a short note had been provided by S. Hollins (T&WC) confirming that he had passed on highway maintenance issues regards the road bridge, that cores would not be required, and providing budget quotations for replacement of the footbridge that were significantly higher than initially anticipated.</p> <p>b) Defibrillator: the defibrillator had not been relocated to the village hall as anticipated. It was understood that Carl Fletcher was now contactable. Agreed: Clerk to contact Carl to find out what is proposed.</p>

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

6.	T&WC 2016/17 budget consultation	Details of proposed service cuts across the borough had been circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting. These include: libraries, youth & community services, community centres and reductions in subsidy to support local bus services.
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		<p>A wide-ranging discussion followed with a consensus that Church Aston PC should play an active role in lobbying to retain / protect / transfer responsibility for local services.</p> <p>Cllrs explored options for other services that might be brought together to create sustainable solutions, and enquired about usage survey data and other information / evidence used by T&WC to inform decisions.</p> <p>Agreed Actions: (i) Clerk to contact Newport Town Council encouraging them to coordinate a meeting with neighbouring parishes to oppose the cuts and to consider whether transfer of responsibility is viable for any of the services; (ii) Cllr Evans nominated to provide a lead for CAPC in any joint meetings; and (iii) Clerk to write to T&WC registering CAPC's strong objections to proposed closure of Newport Library and other local services.</p>
7.	House Next to the School	Nothing to report – maintain watching brief.
8.	Projects for the Parish	<p>a) 20 mph Speed Limit: the legal order has now been made with the scheme carried over into a programme of works later in the year.</p> <p>b) Planters: it was agreed to review the spring planting arrangements at the next meeting.</p> <p>c) Wild Flower Planting Scheme: as reported last time.</p> <p>d) Street Lighting Contract: Cllr Richards and the Clerk are scheduled to meet with Garry Johnson (Eon) on 19th February to undertake a walkabout survey of the street lighting stock from which an improvement programme may be developed based on priorities and available funds.</p> <p>e) Social Media: Cllr Evans reported that the facebook site continues to grow, has provided a good means for posting community information, and is well used with regular comments and feedback.</p> <p>f) New Bus Shelter: no progress to date however the T&WC contact is aware of CAPC interest and he is looking for options to match local needs.</p>
9.	Representatives Reports	<p>a) Parish Newsletter (SS): publication of next issue is due soon (delays due to editor ill-health).</p> <p>b) Village Hall (BK): Cllr Knight provided a comprehensive report following the recent Village Hall Committee AGM also covering activity and usage of</p>

		<p>this important community facility. The report highlighted a number of repair issues and a programme of planned improvements for the coming months.</p> <p>c) Rural Forum (PE): nothing to report;</p> <p>d) Bus Users Group: Cllrs discussed a recent email circulated by the clerk providing information about the 'Dial-a-Ride' service which offers two circular routes each with 4 services per day on a hail & ride basis – Agreed: to circulate information via facebook and include in the next published Newsletter.</p> <p>Cllr Evans provided verbal feedback from a written report prepared by Cllr Stacey following the Bus User Group meeting on 20th January. In summary Nos. 519 and No. 5 service (Monday to Saturday) are commercial services and therefore safe. No. 5 service on a Sunday is subsidised by Staffordshire CC and its future is likely to be reviewed by them in September 2016.</p> <p>e) Newport Regeneration Partnership: Cllr Pay advised that Dr Llewelyn VP HAU would be attending the next NRP meeting on 9th February to provide an update on the Agri-Tech bid and efforts to secure additional employment land at Audley Avenue. A meeting between HAU representatives and T&WC was scheduled for 11th February to progress these matters.</p> <p>Cllr Pay also informed colleagues about an Employment / Economy briefing on 5th February that had been organised by T&WC for Newport based organisations.</p> <p>f) T&WC: Borough cllr Eade briefed Cllrs on the recently approved draft Local Plan 2016/31 which would now progress to public inquiry later in the summer. Cllr Eade indicated that in his view the housing targets were excessively high and that they are most likely based on income potential rather than local need. Building 15,000 new homes (cf: 9,500) would create additional demand for jobs and place further pressures on schools and other services.</p> <p>Cllr Eade also provided a short briefing on structural damage caused to a property by groundworks associated with The Barnfields development. It is understood that the contractor acknowledges responsibility and that the respective insurance companies are aware of the situation.</p>
10.	Correspondence	(a) The clerk reported on various email and written correspondence received since the last meeting including a

		letter from Age UK and a formal notice from T&WC advising that the draft Local Plan 2016/31 was now approved by the Council prior to public inquiry.
POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS		
11.	Local Plan 2016/31 and Newport Indicative Master-Plan	Progress of the (draft) Local Plan 2016-2031 as reported above.
12.	Planning Applications	Cllrs provide various comments relating to the Planning Schedule for the February meeting.
FINANCE & GOVERNANCE		
13.	Accounts and Payments	(a) The Clerk reported on accounts payable and requested authorised signatories; (b) The Clerk provided a statement of account as at 31 st January 2016 which was noted by members.
14.	Personnel Committee	Nothing to report
15.	Compliance Matters	Nothing to report
ROADS, HEDGES & DITCHES		
16	Roads, Hedges and Ditches	Cllr Evans noted that a road closure on Dark Lane was now partially re-opened enabling bus service no. 5 to resume operating; Cllr Knight reported that a missing street nameplate at the junction of The Close and Greenvale has not yet been replaced; Cllr Evans confirmed that letters had been issued to all households in an area of the village affected by dog fouling. A copy of the letter was provided to each Cllr for their information; Cllr Knight asked whether the PC planned to do anything to commemorate HM Queen's 90 th Birthday. To be considered further next time; Cllr Stansfield reported misuse of litter bins on the park

		<p>area. Clerk to contact Adrian Corney (T&WC);</p> <p>Cllr Stansfield commented on the general condition of the millennium gateway stones and requested that arrangements be made to clean them – unanimously agreed, Clerk to arrange.</p> <p>Cllr McKeown reported that verges on either side of The Barnfields development site had been damaged by construction traffic. The site agent is aware of these issues and has agreed to reinstate the verges in the spring – maintain a watching brief.</p> <p>Cllr Stansfield asked whether it would be possible to paint litter / dog waste bins on the park to make them more prominent. Clerk to enquire with T&WC.</p>
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Date and time of next meeting confirmed as 7th March 2016 at Church Aston Church Hall starting at 7.40pm

Meeting closed at 9.17 pm

Signed Chairman:

Date: