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**Minutes of the meeting of Church Aston Parish Council |
(Church Aston) at 7.40pm on Monday 8th April 2024.**

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

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

(08/04/24)

Item 1 - Apologies: F McKeown (personal commitment) and N Collier (ill-health).
Reasons were shared with members following requests from Cllr Mc Keown and Cllr Collier for an extended leave of absence.

Resolved: that Cllr's F McKeown and N Collier be granted an extended leave of absence due to their current circumstances.

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

Item 3 – Public Session: A member of the public was in attendance. Cllr Stacey welcomed him to the meeting and invited him to voice any concerns. The resident gave an historical update on his many attempts to communicate with Bloor Homes regarding the flooding problems, which he felt had started from the onset of the housing development next to his property in Primrose Drive. He requested any further help or advice from members of the Parish Council on the matter. Cllr Eade was invited to speak and provided a summary of both the parish councils and his own attempts to bring together key partners to address the issue, including a Freedom of Information request to T&WC. It was agreed that a public meeting be called by Cllr Eade and an invitation be extended for key partners to attend. This was supported by the Parish Council, who will also send an invitation for a representative from Bloor Homes to attend the next parish meeting in May. The resident thanked the parish council for listening to his concerns and left the meeting.

Item 4 – Minutes of the Meetings held on 4th March 2024

Minutes of the meetings held on 4th March 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 4th March 2024 were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true and accurate record.

Item 5 – Matters arising:

- a. **Liddle's Bank Traffic Management Scheme:** Despite the delay due to materials not being available, members were hopeful the work will finally commence in a few weeks.
- b. **T&WC Drainage Engineers Dept – Flooding/ Drainage:** Nothing to add from the public session.

PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS

Item 6 - Asset Management: The Clerk agreed to contact T&WC to request the Bus Shelters are cleaned.

Item 7 - Wildflower/ Planting Project: Cllr Evans shared a proposed planting scheme to all members and suggested this year's scheme should include the purchase of bark chippings to prevent the soil from drying-out so quickly. The Clerk agreed to explore quotations for this year's watering requirements. Members kindly agreed to take responsibility for specific planters including cleaning of the planters themselves.

Resolved: that Cllr Evans and the Clerk be granted a budget of up to £300 for the purchase of the plants and bark from Bloomsbury Nursery.

Item 8 - T&WC Local Development Plan: The Clerk was in receipt of a letter from Marrons who were writing on behalf of their Client Bellway Homes Ltd, who are conscious that the Parish Council have raised concerns in respect of drainage and flooding issues arising from the land in its recent representations. In order to fully investigate this matter, Bellway Homes intend to undertake a series of investigations on the land to gain a better understanding of potential drainage issues. The investigative works will last around 3 days and take place later this month. Once Bellway Homes have undertaken the works and undertaken the analysis, they will update the parish council on their findings. Cllr Evans shared he has been communicating with residents from The Dale, Cllr Richards agreed to keep residents of Vicarage Fields informed on the matter.

Item 9 – Police & Community Safety: Parish Priorities to remain as the previous quarter.

Item 10 - T&WC Community Governance Boundary Review: The first Draft Report will be available on the 24th May.

Item 11- Village Hall: Cllr B Knight kindly provided an overview of matters relating to the village hall which included: Successful evenings with live music /quiz night and a new base in place for the storage container. There will be a formal presentation followed by a small social gathering for the presentation of the Kings Award for Voluntary Service in May.

- a. **Bus Users Group:** No update since the previous meeting.
- b. **Newport Regeneration Partnership:** Cllr Stacey will be attended the next meeting due to be held this week.

- c. **T&WC:** No further update.
- d. **Wellington Road/Linden Hall Surgery Patients Participation Group:** Cllr Stokes provided members with a summary of the minutes from the previous meeting.
- e. **Community Leaders Group:** No update since the previous meeting
- f. **Wrekin Area Committee:** Cllr Stacey confirmed he will attend the next meeting due to be held on the 17th April.

Item 12 - Communications Updates:

Members had previously been sent the request from T&WC for funding The Crucial Crew Scheme. The Clerk agreed to send them a Grant application form.

Newsletter: Copy to be published in May/June, 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 13 – Planning Matters – T&WC Planning Applications for March/April 2024

- a. T&WC/2024/0254 Church Aston Manor, Dark Lane Church Aston, Newport TF109JJ. Erection of a single storey side and rear extension following demolition of the existing orangery (LBC).

Resolved: No Objection

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Item 14 – Accounts & Payments

(a) **The Statement of Account:** at close of business on 31/03/24 was £11,007.61

(b) **Statutory Balance Sheet, Summary of receipts and payments and Bank Reconciliation of account for month ending 31/03/2024:**

A copy of the Account Balance sheet, summary of receipts and payments and a Bank Reconciliation for the account at month end 31st March 2024 was previously circulated and noted by members, signed by Cllr S Stacey (Chairman). A summary of the end of year finances was also signed by Cllr Stacey and the Clerk.

(c) **Approval of Payments made since the last meeting:** was presented for retrospective approval. Cllr Richards, 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
Green tech (wildflower seeds)	On-line Transfer		£68.26
Lloyds Bank	DD		£3.00
West Mercia Energy (for supply up end of Feb 24)	On-line Transfer		£301.42
Lloyds Bank	DD		£18.00

Resolved: the above payments at 14(c) were retrospectively approved for payment at this meeting held on 8th April 2024.

(d) **Payments for authorisation at this meeting:** Cllr Pay 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 General Power of Competence	Amount
Staff Salary & Expenses April 2024	Standing Order		£624.69
HMRC contributions April 2024	Cheque 300038		£99.20
Rialtas Business Solutions	On-line Transfer		£230.40

Resolved: the payment set out above at 14(d) was formally approved for payment at this meeting held on 8th April 2024.

Item 15 – Roads, Hedges and Ditches:

Cllr Evans raised concern for the replacement tree on The Queen Elizabeth II Park. Members agreed the Clerk approach Needs Landscaping to provide a replacement.

Cllr Pay briefed members that the consultation period for the Public Right of Way application for the field has now closed, this will now be considered by The Secretary of State.

Item 16 – Future Meeting Dates: The following future meeting date was noted:

Parish Council Meetings: Due to the May Bank Holiday, the next meeting will be held on Monday 13th May 2024, time and venue to be confirmed. The Clerk agreed to open the Annual Parish Meeting by inviting NTC Town Clerk Jo Reay, to carryout a presentation on Newport Library.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed Chairman:

Date