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## **Minutes of Church Aston Parish Council held at Church Aston Village Hall on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 7.30pm 2024.**

**Present:** S Stacey (Chairman), P Sansom, R Wynn, J Pay, B Richards, B Knight, A Stokes and Paul Evans.

**In attendance:** Wendy Tonge (Clerk). Sue Tindale (West Mercia Police)  
**02/12/24)**

The Chairman opened the meeting by inviting members to join him in a minute's silence in memory of Cllr Nicholas Collier and Cllr Eric Carter.

**Item 1 - Apologies:** F McKeown (approved absence), A Eade (unwell).

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

**Item 3 – Council Vacancy:** Members granted the Clerk permission to notify Telford & Wrekin Electoral Services of the current vacancy.

**Item 4 – Public Session:** One member of the public was in attendance, the Chairman welcomed the resident who introduced himself and expressed an interest in the work of the council.

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

Minutes of the meetings held on the 4<sup>th</sup> November were proposed as a true and accurate record of proceedings by Cllr Wynn and seconded by Cllr Pay with all members present voting in support of the proposal.

Resolved: minutes of the meetings held on the 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a true and accurate record
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**Item 6 – Matters arising:**

No matters arising.

## **PARISH PROJECTS & COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**Item 7 - Asset Management:**

a) **Play area & Flooding on pathway:**

- a. Members were aware that workers have been seen painting the children's play area. The Clerk agreed to contact Newport Town Council for further information on any planned work. Reports of the flooding from the neighbouring bungalow onto the pathway next to the park were discussed.

The flow of water appears to have stopped and the resident has been made aware that it stems from their garden.

**b) Local Development Plan: Housing Development to the rear of The Dale:**

- a. Cllr Eade updated members that the planned Cabinet meeting has been postponed. T&WC are awaiting the outcome of the Governments PPG before releasing their report, he suspected any news or updates are likely to be released January/February 2025.

**c) Flooding to the rear of The Dale:**

- a. Cllr Eade had previously circulated correspondence with T&WC on the continuing issue with flooding. Recent activity has included the owners of the land agreeing to carryout improvements to the drainage system, which should hopefully resolve the issue.

**d) Neighbourhood Safety**

- a. PCSO Sue Tindale provided members with a summary of the NST work in the parish, including two criminal offences arrest. Members agreed the following priorities for the NST for the next quarter:
  1. Inconsiderate drivers parking around The Dale and The Spinney during dropping off and picking up time near the school.
  2. Speeding along Liddle's Bank and Wallshead Way.

The Chairman thanked Sue for her attendance and report.

**Item 8- Representative Report:**

**Village Hall:** Cllr Knight provided members with the following update: The Christmas Fayre raised £135 towards the Lingen Davies Centre in memory of Malcolm Bennett. The recent live band was well received and a good time had by all in attendance. Recent showings of Swan Lake and A Haunting in Venice were also enjoyed by everyone.

**Bus Users Group:** No update available.

**Newport Regeneration Partnership:** Cllr Stacey attended the recent meeting which he felt was very informative. NRP are now financial stable and are looking to develop new initiatives to assist and help regenerate local businesses.

**Telford & Wrekin Council:** No update available.

**Wellington Road/Linden Hall PPG:** No update available.

**Community Leaders Meeting:** No update available.

**Wrekin Area Committee:** Cllr Stacey attended the recent meeting with SALC. He confirmed that Chris Melling's has now been appointed as Secretary, he will be

meeting with officers and Cabinet Member from T&WC to discuss the best approach in the refresh of the T&WC/Town & Parish Council Partnership Agreement.

**Item 9 - Communications Updates:**

- a) **Correspondence**  
No matters raised.
- b) **Newsletter:** Members agreed to take copies of the newsletter ready for distribution this week.
- c) **Facebook:** Cllr Evans and the Clerk continue to post information on the Council’s Facebook page.
- d) **Website:** The Website continues to be updated.
- e) **Noticeboard:** The noticeboard continues to be updated with new information on a monthly basis.

**Item 10 - POLICY & PLANNING MATTERS**

**Planning:**To consider the following T&WC Planning Applications received during November. None received

**Item 11 - FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

**Accounts & Payments**

- a) **The Statement of Account:** at close of business on 31/11/24 was £21,760.75p
- b) **Statutory Balance Sheet, Summary of receipts and payments and a Bank Reconciliation of account for month ending 31/11/2024 is £21,760.75p.** A copy of the Account Balance sheet, summary of receipts and payments and Bank Reconciliation for the account at month end of 31<sup>st</sup> November 2024 was previously circulated and noted by members, signed by Cllr Paul Evans (Vice Chairman) and Cllr B Richards.
- c) **Approval of Payments made since the last meeting:** was presented for retrospective approval. Cllr Stokes, and Cllr Wynn seconded authorisation of the following payments, with all Members present voting in favour.

Payment	Payment type	Statute General Power of Competence	Amount
West Mercia Energy Supply	On-line Transfer		£284.86
G Parkman Handyman Service(Brockton Memorial Repairs)	On-line Transfer		£150.00
Needes Landscape	On-line Transfer		£465.00
Staff Salary November 2024	STO		£810.77
HMRC November	On-line Transfer		£172.97

Resolved: the above payments at 11(c) were retrospectively approved for payment at this meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024.

(d) **Payments for authorisation at this meeting:** Cllr Sansom proposed, and Cllr Pay 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 December 2024	Standing Order		£647.95
HMRC contributions December 2024	On-line Transfer		£105.00

Resolved: the payment set out above at 11(d) was formally approved for payment at this meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024.

(g) **Draft Budget for year 25-26:** A copy of the revised budget had been previously circulated to members. Members discussed the proposals in detail.

Resolved: that the budget for the financial year 2025/2026 be set at £32,320.00.

#### Item 12 - Roads, Hedges & Ditches

Cllr Richards requested the Clerk escalates the report of the loose manhole cover on Liddle's Bank, the Clerk agreed to contact T&WC.

Cllr Wynn requested Bloor Homes be contacted to express concern for the very wet and muddy state of the path leading to the pumping station which has been a main thoroughfare for site vehicles. The clerk agreed to request they consider putting some hardcore materials in place, to ensure pedestrians did not have to walk through the mud leading to the public path. Cllr Wynn requested the Clerk contacts T&WC for a top- up of the Grit Bin at the bottom of Liddle's Bank and the Grit Bin sited near the bridge be replaced. He was also very pleased to confirm that the Community Cuppa had been successful in securing a further £600 from the Waitrose Community Fund.

Cllr Stokes raised concern for the poor state of the public pathway outside of the Church Hall. The Clerk agreed to report this to T&WC.

Cllr Sansom queried if the local resident who has expressed an interest in organising community walks had been in correspondence with the Clerk. The Clerk confirmed she had not received any contact from the resident since she last spoke to him.

The Chairman thanked members for their hard work over the past year and wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

**Item 13 - Future Meeting Dates:** The following future meeting date was noted:

**Parish Council Meetings:** Monday 6th January 2025 in The Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed Chairman:

Date