

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 3rd NOVEMBER 2020

(Meeting held remotely via Zoom at 7.30pm)

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Mrs S.Dodd (Vice Chair) and Mrs K.Reeves, Messrs P. Bailey, A.Brown, P. Harriman, S. Moore (Chairman) and the Clerk, Mrs D. Key.

APOLOGIES: These were received from Parish Councillor Mr D.Massie and Stafford Borough Councillor, Mr R. Sutherland.

MINUTES: The minutes from the meeting held on 6th October 2020 were approved as a true record and would be signed by the Chairman, Mr S. Moore as such at the next physical meeting of the Parish Council. The Minutes were proposed for approval by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Mr P. Harriman. All were in favour.

MATTERS ARISING: The Clerk confirmed that the pads on the defibrillator located at the Institute had been changed by Councillor Mr P. Harriman as they were due to expire in November 2020. The Chairman Councillor Mr S. Moore confirmed that a notice had been posted in the telephone kiosk at Marston asking BT not to remove the kiosk without first notifying the Parish Council as adoption of the kiosk would be requested. Any other matters arising from the last meeting were to be taken as agenda items.

LATE ITEMS: Flooding of the road adjacent to Little Onn Hall had been reported to the County Highways Department by a local resident and Councillor Harriman had taken this matter up with both the Highways Department and County Councillor Mark Winnington.

OPEN FORUM: was not required on this occasion.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: The Clerk had not received any reports since the last meeting. Councillor Harriman reported that a suspicious car had been seen late at night with a person looking out of the sun roof. The police and PCSO had been contacted. It was not clear whether this was related to anti badger culling protestors or lamping activities.

CHURCH EATON VILLAGE PLAYGROUND: The opening of the playground was discussed at length but while the Government had, on the 13th October 2020, updated its guidance relating to open play areas, the guidance for cleaning high traffic areas remained the same. It was therefore agreed, and with the second lockdown being imposed, the playground would unfortunately remain closed. It was unanimously agreed to review the situation in December's meeting.

Councillor Bailey reported on his weekly inspections and said the playground was in good order. Despite the play ground being closed, he had checked the equipment. Councillor Bailey retained the inspection book for the forthcoming month.

PLANNING: The Clerk reported that since the last meeting an application for a portal frame covered yard for cattle (Planning Application number 20/33066/FUL) at

Red House Farm, Little Onn Lane, Little Onn had been received. The Parish Council had no objections to this proposal.

A planning application had also been received for the demolition and replacement of an existing sub-standard utility extension with a flat roof rear and side extension to provide an enlarged building regulations compliant kitchen and utility space at Coriander Cottage, Wood Eaton Road, Church Eaton (Planning Application number 20/33175/HOU). While a couple of the Parish Councillors would have preferred a pitched rather than flat roof, there were no objections made to this proposal. The Clerk was asked to relay these responses to Stafford Borough Council's Planning Department.

The Clerk also reported that the recent planning application for a proposed single storey pool extension and new stable block at High Onn Manor, High Onn, Church Eaton (Planning Application number 20/32981/HOU) had been withdrawn. There had previously been no objections made to this proposal.

HIGHWAYS: The Chairman had continued to report to Staffordshire County Councillor Mark Winnington, several areas of concern in relation to flooding and drainage issues. The Chairman also reported that some of the gullies at Marston had been emptied by the hard work of several Marston residents.

There had also been several concerns expressed from residents to the Council concerning an increased level of heavy vehicles passing through the village. There was some speculation that these might be related to Severn Trent Water who were currently expanding the sewage works at Lower Reule. It was however to be further investigated as to what activities these vehicles were linked to. It was stressed that these vehicles should not be carrying food waste to the anaerobic digester at Brookfield Farm as planning constraints prevented lorries from accessing the plant via the village. The Chairman was to report back findings to the residents expressing concerns.

FINGERPOSTS: Following the October meeting, Robert Cox had started removing the arms of the various parish finger posts which needed repainting. The Chairman reported that he had made a start on repainting the post in Slab Lane which was currently sporting a pink primer. The Clerk was to send Councillor Reeves a notice to put on the village notice board to inform parishioners what was happening with regard to the finger post refurbishments.

VILLAGE MAP: The village map was discussed and Mr Chris Byford had sent a quotation for re-printing the map at a cost of £49.00 plus VAT for an A1 size. Before proceeding to place an order for the map, it was agreed to look at whether any maintenance was required to the notice board. A discussion as to whether a location map for properties in Marston might be provided. It was agreed to look into this further.

Mr Chris Byford's request for the numbering of properties in Church Eaton was discussed. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that there would be a great deal of work involved in doing so without much gain as given advances such as satellite navigation, What Three Words, etc most properties could be found. It was also felt that from previous consultations some residents did not want a number for their property but preferred have a property name. Mr Byford's interest in this matter and

the village map was very much appreciated and the Clerk was asked to report this back to him.

PARISH PLANTERS: The Chairman reported that local residents had both funded the planting of the Marston planters and had given time to carry out the winter planting. The Council acknowledged this as being very generous and thanks were expressed to the residents involved in this matter. The Chairman and Councillor P. Harriman were to look at the village planters with a view to installing the new ones and to ascertain what needed to be done in terms of winter planting.

FINANCE: The Clerk reported she had paid the following invoices namely, £96.00 to JWH for grass cutting services, £86.22 to WEL Medical for the replacement defibrillator pads and had reissued a cheque for £60 (following the loss of the cheque by the PTA treasurer) to the School PTA as a donation in relation to Helen Bellamy's audit fee.

The Clerk confirmed that the second Borough precept payment of £3,220.10 had been received. The Clerk was authorised to pay Robert Cox for his work in repainting the finger post arms which would be in the region of £700 (£50 per arm) when his invoice arrived.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should make a donation of between £25 - £30 for the Institute Christmas Tree. This was proposed by Councillor K. Reeves, seconded by the Vice Chair Councillor Dodd. All were in favour.

WELCOME PACK: The Clerk reported that she was still making slow but steady progress with reviewing the Welcome Pack. The Clerk had sent the school their section to be reviewed by the Head Teacher Mr Shaw but had not yet received a response. It was suggested sending this to Helen Bellamy, the school secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Clerk had received an email concerning another road traffic closure notice for Slab Lane which she had sent to Councillor Reeves for posting on the notice board. It was also reported that while the Glebelands Sports Association had not met the funding requirements for a local Council grant, funding had been secured for a pile of stone to be spread on the car park when the curbing had been carried out. All other items of correspondence had been forwarded to members as it had arrived.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 7.30 pm. This was again most likely to be held remotely due to current COVID-19 protocols and second lockdown. The meeting closed at 9.00pm.