

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE
5TH OCTOBER 2021 AT CHURCH EATON
VILLAGE INSTITUTE

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Mrs S. Dodd (Vice Chair) and Mrs K. Reeves, Messrs P. Bailey, A. Brown, J. Gibbs, D.Massie, S. Moore (Chairman), two members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs D. Key.

APOLOGIES: These were received from Stafford Borough Councillor Mr R. Sutherland.

MINUTES: The minutes from the meeting held on the 7th September 2021 were amended to correct the spelling of a parishioner's surname and were then proposed for approval by the Chairman Councillor Moore and seconded by the Vice Chairman Councillor Dodd. All were in favour.

MATTERS ARISING: The Clerk had spoken with Mrs Skelton over the ongoing highways issue of motorists encroaching on her property. Mrs Skelton informed the Clerk that they were going to install electric gates to their property. Any other matters arising from the previous meeting were taken as current agenda items.

LATE ITEMS: Councillor Dodd reported that she was intending to attend a Church Eaton School Foundation Governors meeting and stated that she was happy to continue in her role as a Parish Council Governor representative unless any other member wanted to be considered. The Chairman proposed that Councillor Dodd should continue to represent the Parish Council; this was seconded by Councillor Gibbs. All were in favour.

The Chairman informed the Council that on inspection the Parish notice board legs would need some attention due to corrosion of the steel box section. It was agreed to look at whether the noticeboard could be unbolted so that the legs could be strengthened.

It was reported that the winter planting of troughs at Marston had been undertaken.

OPEN FORUM: Miss Janet Bennett, who was in attendance, congratulated the Chairman and team on carrying out a superb job with the finger post base painting. Discussion took place as to whether the two new finger posts located at Broad Lane and by the Church were to be similarly painted as they were not darkening as was hoped. This is to be reviewed in the spring. The Clerk was asked to send the Bradford Estates a copy of the finger post photographs as a means of letting them know how their grant monies had been spent on the refurbishment project.

A query was raised over the barriers outside the Rectory at Apeton which had been there for some time, and were causing an issue to passing traffic. Councillor A. Brown explained that he was still waiting for a hole to be filled in following work by Severn Trent Water to repair a leak. It was agreed that the Parish Council would chase this matter up.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: Mr Jon Edwards had now arranged a public meeting to take place on the 23rd November 2021 in the Village Institute at 7.30 pm to discuss the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and the collaboration with other interested

parties within the Parish with an aim of focusing local crime reports more effectively. The Parish Council had agreed to pay for any hiring costs incurred. The Clerk had received an email from PCSO Pat Wright, who was now back in his post following surgery, saying he would try to attend a future meeting. The Clerk had replied with information on meeting dates and times.

CHURCH EATON VILLAGE PLAYGROUND: The Clerk confirmed that she had asked the grass cutting contractors if they could prune back any overgrown hawthorn hedge. Councillor Massie reported that the playground was being well used. The hedge at the top end of the playground was discussed as to whether it should be cut back, however Councillor Reeves was concerned that this should be minimal as it created a good wildlife habitat. The Chairman reported he had now purchased some Hammerite paint to touch-in some of the equipment and that he was also obtaining some tyres to replace the worn-out ones in the balancing trail. Councillor Gibbs enquired about the COVID-19 signs and whether these now needed changing. As a result the Chairman was to check on the latest advice from the UK Government on playground usage. The Chairman took the inspection book for inspections for the forthcoming month.

PLANNING: Three planning applications had been received since the last meeting. The first was for a proposed new dairy calf housing and yard area at Manor Farm, Marston (reference number 21/34535/FUL). There were no objections to this proposal. The second application (reference number 21/34404/FUL) was for the variation of condition 12 (usage) on the previous application for land at Red House Farm (04/01998/FUL). There were no objections to this application.

The third application was for the installation of a telephone mast and cabinet on a verge at Woollaston. The Parish Council had no objections to this but the Clerk was asked to respond with comments in relation to the proposed height of the mast following concerns raised by neighbouring residents.

HIGHWAYS: The missing 30mph sign on the Gnosall Road which had been previously reported to Staffordshire County Council's Highways Department had still not been replaced and the opposite sign was partially obscured by the hedge. This matter was to be taken up again with the County Council by the Chairman.

The Clerk reported that there had still not been a response to the letter raising concerns over the route of waste tankers visiting the site and also asking what progress had been made with the setting up of a liaison committee, which would to include local residents, as required as part of the granting of extra permissions from the owners of the bio energy plant at Lower Reule.

FLOODING ISSUES HIGH STREET: The Chairman reported he had chased up Amey, Staffordshire County Council's Highway contractors, who had promised to visit the village to carry out jetting and the clearing of any blocked gulleys.

The Chairman reported he had also received a letter from Severn Trent Water who had apologised for the delay in not responding to the Parish Council's recent enquiries. This letter stated that the Waste Team had not been able to carry out the last CCTV survey but that another CCTV survey had been raised along with a cleanse of the sewers. Following this work Severn Trent Water would advise the Council on the situation going forwards.

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING: The Clerk reported she had now located the name of the previous defibrillator training co-ordinator and had sent him a message to see whether he could provide any future training/refresher courses. Councillor Reeves said that Gnosall First Responders were carrying out training courses.

FINANCE: Payments were approved for the following:

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| • Grass cutting by JWH for August | £150 |
| • Hire of Institute | £20.00 |
| • Hammerite Paint | £15.98 |
| • Clerk's quarterly fee | £466.54 |
| • Clerk's Tax HMRC | £116.60 |

These were proposed for payment by Councillor Dodd, seconded by the Councillor Reeves. All were in favour.

The Clerk reported that a wayleave payment of £2.50 had been received from Western Power

CORRESPONDENCE: All items of correspondence had been forwarded to members as it had arrived. Of note was information relating to the forthcoming Stafford Borough wreath laying ceremony to take place for Remembrance Sunday.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 2nd November 2021 at 7.30 pm in the Village Institute. The meeting closed at 9.05pm.