

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 1st NOVEMBER 2022
AT CHURCH EATON VILLAGE INSTITUTE

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Mrs S. Dodd (Vice Chair), Messrs A. Brown, J. Gibbs, A. Lloyd, D. Massie, P. Bailey, S. Moore (Chairman), Stafford Borough Councillor and Staffordshire County Councillor Mr M. Winnington, PCSO P. Wright, two members of the public.

APOLOGIES: These were received from Stafford Borough Councillor, Mr. R. Sutherland. Apologies were also received from the Clerk, Mrs D. Key. Councillor Gibbs volunteered to record the meeting minutes.

MINUTES: The minutes from the meeting held on the 4th October 2022 were proposed for approval by the Vice Chair Councillor S. Dodd and seconded by Councillor Bailey. All were in favour.

MATTERS ARISING: The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council comments relating to application 22/36116/FUL had been sent to Borough Council Planning. Other matters would be discussed under existing agenda items.

LATE ITEMS: There were no late items.

OPEN FORUM: Mr S. Stanton presented some additional information relating to his planning application 22/36595/HOU for Rose Cottage, Marston. The Chairman declared an interest. Mr. Stanton's previous application had been refused due to an increase in excess of 70% over the original footprint and this application has been downsized. Mr. Stanton answered questions from parish Councillors who also suggested that photographs could be submitted to planning, to assist the decision making process. Stafford Borough Councillor Winnington explained the call-in process and offered to do this if the Parish Council were to request.

VILLAGE GREEN: Staffordshire County Councillor Winnington stated that there is a backlog in the processing of Village Green Status applications. Processing can take approximately 12-months although should there be a threat to the green, applications can be fast-tracked. It was noted that applications need to comply with qualification rules and the granting of Village Green Status is not a formality.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH SCHEME: The Chairman had recently spoken with Mr Chris Byford who is in contact with the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership. Church Eaton High Street has been selected to support a new 30 mph wheelie bin sticker initiative. Stickers will be distributed to High Street households. Parish Council support for this initiative was proposed by Councillor Gibbs and seconded by Vice Chair Councillor Dodd, all were in favour. The Chairman will request additional stickers. PCSO Wright offered to support and assist the Community Speedwatch group when their detection sessions commence. Additional volunteers will be welcomed and anyone interested should contact Mr. Byford.

CHURCH EATON VILLAGE PLAYGROUND: Councillor Lloyd had undertaken the inspection of the playground for the previous month, and reported that everything was in good order.

The Chairman has sourced and fitted a bolt cap for the Trim Trail. Photographs of work in progress and completed have been sent to Sportsafe, requesting the safety certificate to be issued without a further inspection.

PLANNING: The planning application 22/36595/HOU for Rose Cottage, Marston was discussed. Vice Chair Councillor Dodd proposed that the Parish Council support this application, seconded by Councillor Bailey, and all were in favour. The Chairman had already declared an interest and did not participate.

HIGHWAYS: The village notice board steel leg requires some remedial work. Councillor Massie was to contact Nigel Bickley to see if a concrete replacement can be sourced and fitted.

Residents in Marston have been informed that the LeJog Land's End to John O'Groats classic car reliability trial will pass through Marston on Sunday 4th December at approximately 09:50 for 90 minutes. Details will be posted on the village notice board by Councillor Lloyd.

DEFIBRILLATORS: The defibrillators at Marston and The Royal Oak have both been returned from their recall and software upgrades. They have been fitted with new battery packs.

The defibrillator at the Institute is currently away being upgraded. Its absence from service is notified on The Circuit national defibrillator network.

The Gnosall First Responders have checked the defibrillators and advise that the pads will need to be replaced in March for two units, april for one and august for the fourth.

CIVIC AMENITY VISIT: It was agreed that two visits will be requested for 2023 at approximately the same times as those in 2022.

FINANCE:

The village trough planting budget for 2023 was set at £15 per trough. This is an upper limit but it does not need to be spent on just the summer planting.

It was decided that the Bradford Estates' donation of funds to the Parish Council will be allocated to the Playpark refurbishment materials and to the defibrillator maintenance consumables.

The Parish Council are in receipt of a cheque to the value of £80 for compensation from Severn Trent Water, in respect of delays in responding to enquiries and requests for information from the Chairman.

Payment was approved for the following:

- Civic Amenity Visit £106
- Grass Cutting £110
- Quarterly hire of the Institute £20

- Playpark Repair Materials £106.42
- Playpark equipment handles £22.40
- Noticeboard key cutting £8
- Defibrillator battery pack £204
- Re-issue of non-presented cheques

A £25 contribution towards the Village Institute Christmas Tree was pre-authorized

These were proposed for payment by the Vice Chair Councillor Dodd and seconded by Councillor Bailey. All were in favour.

Councillor Brown presented his financial analysis into the allocation of the Parish Council contingency funds. These are to cover expenses that are anticipated be incurred less frequently than the annual funding cycle, requiring monies to be carried forwards between years.

There were some costs still to be quantified and it was anticipated that this will be completed in time for setting the 2023 precept.

CORRESPONDENCE: All items of correspondence had been forwarded to members as it had arrived.

The Chairman will represent the Parish Council at the Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade, on 13th November.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 6th December at 7.30 pm in the Village Institute. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.