

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**HELD ON THE 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**  
**AT CHURCH EATON VILLAGE INSTITUTE**

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors, Mrs S.Dodd, Messrs, A.Brown, J. Gibbs, A. Lloyd (Vice Chairman), two members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs D. Key.

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice Chairman took the Chair.

**APOLOGIES:** were received from Parish Councillor, P. Bailey, D.Massie, the Chairman Mr S.Moore, PCSO Patrick Wright and Staffs County Councillor Mr M. Winnington and Stafford Borough Councillor Mr J.Rose. Councillor Brown asked for it to be recorded that he was disappointed that none of the newly elected Borough Councillors had yet attended a Church Eaton Parish Council meeting.

**MINUTES:** The minutes from the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (there was no meeting held in August) were proposed for approval by Councillor Gibbs, seconded by the Councillor Dodd. All were in favour.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

PCSO Patrick Wright had emailed the Clerk a crime report summary for the Church Eaton area covering the period from the beginning of July to 31<sup>st</sup> August. He reported that there were 17 incidents but nothing of real concern.

The Vice Chairman reported that the school had successfully raffled the family Bestival tickets and the Council were now waiting to receive a donation from the proceeds which would be spent on the playground. It was reported that the winning family had a fabulous time at the festival. Councillor Brown thanked both the Vice Chairman and Councillor Gibbs for all their efforts in this matter.

**LATE ITEMS:** Councillor Brown commented on the recent Government lifting of restrictions for the future planning of wind turbines.

**OPEN FORUM:** During Open Forum, a member of the public, Ms Kerry Benn asked if she could read out a personal statement in relation to her planning application at Marston Gables. The Vice Chairman allowed this to take place and a statement was read out with assistance from her friend, Ms Frances Clark. The Vice Chairman thanked them both for attending and informed them they were welcome to stay for the rest of meeting which they did.

**COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH SCHEME (CSW):** The Clerk reported that Mr Chris Byford had emailed her to confirm that the two areas of criteria to obtain CSW signs had been met, namely that the scheme had been in operation for six months and the appropriate number of log sheets kept.

Discussions took place as to funding the sign installations which, as reported at the last meeting, was very expensive. Councillor Brown suggested using a phased approach to install these. The Clerk offered to enquire as to whether Staffordshire County Councillor Mark Winnington might be able to assist with some funding from his Community Fund.

The Clerk was asked to retain this item on the next meeting's agenda.

**CHURCH EATON VILLAGE PLAYGROUND:** The Vice Chairman, reported that during his recent weekly inspections, the chicken spring mobile had been damaged. The spring had been broken presumably due to misuse but had been temporarily made safe. The Vice Chairman and Councillor Brown agreed to meet the following morning to see if they could repair it.

Thanks were expressed to the anonymous person who had kindly put some supports in place to prevent the apple tree which, due to the weight of apples, was in danger of snapping.

The Vice Chairman reported that other than the damaged equipment, the playground continued to be in good condition albeit a small amount of litter and that the grass had been cut regularly.

**PLANNING:** The Clerk reported that there had been two planning applications received and responded to since the last meeting in July. Firstly Coppice Farm, Lapley Road, Church Eaton, Stafford, ST19 5QL (Planning Application number 23/37327/FUL) - to extend an existing cattle barn and to replace an existing cattle shed with a new larger cattle shed with areas of hard standing created around both to enable vehicular access. There were no objections made to this.

The second application was for High Onn Manor, High Onn, Church Eaton (Planning Application number 23/37699/FUL). The proposed development was described as a timber prefabricated stable block with fenced ménage. The Clerk had been asked to comment on this stating that the Parish Council had no strong objections to the proposals but asked that the planners would be mindful that there was some concern in relation to potential over development of the site given that permission for stables had been recently granted. If consent was granted, the Council would wish for it to be restricted to private use by the residents of the High Onn Manor.

The Clerk reported that she had just received a new planning application. This was currently being considered by members of the Council. The application was described as the proposed demolition of existing stables and construction of combined equestrian / agricultural building at Walton Fields, Church Eaton Road, Bromstead (planning application reference 23/37917/FUL). The Clerk was to wait to hear back from the members who were currently away before responding.

**HIGHWAYS:** The Chairman was still planning to investigate flooding on the Little Onn Road near to the property Meadow View, when he returned from holiday. The loan of a metal detector from Mr Barry Stamp to try to help locate the drain had been agreed. The Vice Chairman reported that the gullies on the Wood Eaton Road needed emptying.

The Clerk had received a copy email from Mrs Karen Reeves who had reported to Mark Keeling at County Highways that the large pot hole she had previously reported in the ford at Apeton had not been repaired. While there had been some general tidying up of the area i.e. the removal of the broken traffic cones, signs, and broken bits of car and some mud, moss and grass had been scraped back, the pothole remained untouched.

### **FINANCE:**

The following invoices were presented by the Clerk for payment.

- £135.13 Replacement Defibrillator Pads purchased by the Chairman.
- £110 JWH Grass Cutting August 2023
- £20 Hanging Baskets and Tubs Competition vouchers purchased by the Clerk

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

The Clerk confirmed that she had paid, as agreed, the insurance premium of £656.16 to Zurich which had recently become due. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had received from HMRC the reclaimed VAT monies amounting to £225.11.

Councillor Brown gave the Parish Council a breakdown of his budgetary forecasting for the forthcoming financial periods. .

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

The Clerk had received the results from this year's Hanging Baskets and Tubs Competition judges Mr Fred Waterfall and Mrs Joan Hubbard. The results were as follows

- First Place – Heathmynd
- Runner Up – 7 Parkers Close
- Runner Up – The Royal Oak

The Clerk had published the results and the winners had been sent their National Gardening vouchers.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The meeting closed at 8.50pm.