

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON THE 5TH MARCH 2024
AT CHURCH EATON VILLAGE INSTITUTE

PRESENT: Parish Councillors, Mrs S. Dodd, Messrs, P. Bailey, A. Brown, J. Gibbs, A. Lloyd (Vice Chairman), D. Massie, S. Moore (Chairman), Staffs County Councillor Mr M. Winnington, Stafford Borough Councillor, J.Rose, three members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs D. Key.

APOLOGIES: None were received.

MINUTES: There were two minor alterations made to the minutes for the meeting held on the 6th February 2024 including a typographical error and clarification that the Chairman and Councillor Gibbs had been responsible for chopping up the fallen tree. The minutes were then proposed for approval by the Chairman, Simon Moore and were seconded by Councillor Gibbs. All were in favour.

MATTERS ARISING: The Chairman reported that he contacted the Canal and River Trust over the large pot hole on the tow path, which was reported at the last meeting. He also reported that his revisions to the standing orders were still in progress but that a draft would be available soon. Any other matters arising from the last meeting were covered by the agenda and would be taken in the order they appeared.

LATE ITEMS: There were no late items.

OPEN FORUM: During Open Forum, a local resident raised concerns over the recent road flooding which at times had made the roads into Church Eaton almost impassable and also the flooding of her property. After a long discussion it was agreed that a letter would be sent to County Highways to highlight the road flooding issues. The Chairman and other Councillors also offered advice to the resident in relation to flooding issues within the Village.

In relation to the query raised at the last meeting by a local resident, as to whether a building, near to the canal at Little Onn, required planning permission, Stafford Borough Councillor, Jack Rose who was looking into this matter reported he had not heard back from the Planning Enforcement officer. Councillor Rose also requested some more information and photographs.

The Clerk had forwarded a letter to the County Council Rights of Way Officer, Dominic Ward outlining the problems that a local farmer was experiencing with gates being left open on the bride paths and footpaths situated on her land. The letter contained a request for the installation of a new stile and or kissing gate to help alleviate these problems. There had been no response yet but the Clerk was to chase this up.

The Vice Chair, Councillor Lloyd, raised concerns that the Cricket Club had not yet painted the netting posts and that there was still a lot of brash to be removed and the skip on the Glebelands car park was over filled resulting in glass and other rubbish spilling out. Councillor Lloyd was to chase up these various issues.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH SCHEME (CSW): The Chairman was to chase up the up the order for the new Community Speedwatch signs as they had not yet been received. The CSW Group were to start up new patrols shortly.

CHURCH EATON VILLAGE PLAYGROUND: The Clerk had included in the last Parish Magazine report that the Parish Council would be keen to hear from parishioners with any suggestions as to what new equipment or ideas might be considered in relation to potential future plans to update and/or and replace equipment. There had not been any responses as yet but the Clerk would repeat this request in the forthcoming Parish Magazine.

The Vice Chair had taped off a working area around the fallen tree remains until this work could be completed. Improvements to the wooden goal posts were discussed. The Chairman was to measure up and price new materials. The new handles for some of the gym equipment would be fitted by the Chairman and Councillor Gibbs.

PLANNING: A new planning application for Homeleigh, High Street, Church Eaton had been received (reference 24/38695/HOU). The application was for the creation of a dropped kerb to give straight line access to the parking area and garage. There were no objections made to the application by the Parish Council. If necessary however, a request to reinstate the entrance back to a verge would be requested to help maintain the existing street scene.

HIGHWAYS: The Parish Council has reported more pothole issues to County Highways notably on the Little Onn Road, and the Chairman reported that a lorry became stranded on the verge on Birchmoor Lane.

The poor surface condition of the High Onn Road adjacent to the playground has again been reported as urgent to Highways although a temporary repair has been carried out.

There had been no progress since the last meeting of repairs to Apeton ford.

FINANCE: The Clerk presented her expenses for 2023 – 2024 amounting to £123.17 which was slightly up on last year but there had been an increase in postage rates and printer ink costs. This was agreed and proposed for payment by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Gibbs. All were in favour.

It was also proposed to make a £50 donation to Gnosall and District Community First Responders as a small way of thanking them, especially Adrian, for their continued maintenance and monitoring of Church Eaton's four defibrillators. This was proposed for payment by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Gibbs. All were in favour.

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

Other items of correspondence included a series of emails in relation to the proposed Wheaton Aston Airfield Marker and the efforts Wheaton Aston Parish Council have been making to identify a suitable site to install this memorial marker. The marker was to be provided by the Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust (ABCT) - the world's first national airfield charity. Wheaton Aston Parish Council had involved Church Eaton Parish Council in this project with Councillor Jon Gibbs representing Church Eaton. The search for a suitable site on or near the airfield had been very difficult for numerous reasons but it had now been

agreed that the memorial would be installed next to the current war memorial on the Green at Wheaton Aston.

Becky Martin had requested information in relation to the next Civic Amenity Visit plus a site plan and agreement which the Clerk would attend to.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place in the Village Institute on Tuesday 2nd April 2024 commencing at 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.