

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH MEETING
HELD ON THE 3RD SEPTEMBER 2024
AT CHURCH EATON VILLAGE INSTITUTE

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

APOLOGIES: Were received from Parish Councillor P.Bailey.

The Chairman Councillor S.Moore opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone present and stated when the public were welcome to participate.

MINUTES: The minutes from the previous meeting held on the 2nd July 2024 were proposed for approval by the Vice Chairman A.Lloyd, and seconded by Councillor S.Dodd. All were in favour.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.

LATE ITEMS AGREED BY THE CHAIR: The forthcoming Civic Amenities visit to take place on Saturday the 5th October was discussed. Councillor J.Gibbs reported that he would not be able to oversee this visit as he was away. Councillor D.Massie offered to be the Councillor contact for this visit. The Clerk was to contact Becky Martin, Civic Amenity co-ordinator at the Borough Council to inform her of this change.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: Councillor A.Lloyd was to step down from his role as Vice Chairman. The Chairman thanked Councillor Lloyd for all the work and effort he had contributed to the position of Vice Chairman. Councillor Lloyd confirmed that he was to continue on as a Parish Councillor. To fill the Vice Chairman vacancy, the Chairman asked for any nominations from members and Councillor A. Brown nominated Councillor J.Gibbs, who agreed to take the role on in a temporary manner. This was seconded by Councillor S.Dodd. All were in favour. There were no other nominations.

OPEN FORUM: Two parishioners from Apeton were in attendance to raise their continuing concerns over issues relating to the use of Apeton Manor Farm as a care home. There had been no signage erected as promised by Komplex Care and residents were still getting enquiries for deliveries and visitors for the property at all hours. Councillor Lloyd was to chase this matter up again with Komplex Care.

Concerns were also raised from local residents who were not satisfied that the query over whether the home required planning permission had been answered. Stafford Borough Councillor Jack Rose who was in attendance confirmed that he was still working on this with the Borough Planning Department.

Flooding concerns were raised by a local resident over the drain on the right hand side of the road adjacent to Meadowside on the Little Onn Road. The Chairman was to raise this with County Highways. The Chairman and Vice Chairman were also going to arrange to walk the various parish water courses to see how they were flowing and whether there were any blockages along them.

ACTIONS OUTSIDE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: Councillor Lloyd had a query whether there was a process for agreeing actions outside of meetings. A discussion ensued and it was agreed that the standard process is that Motions may only be proposed at a meeting. Motions requiring action outside the meeting may be executed by email. In the event of a time-critical emergency, an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council may be called to progress the matter.

C.E.V PLAYGROUND: Councillor Lloyd reported that the play ground was in good condition with no litter. Following a visit to the play ground by SBC J.Rose accompanied by Councillor Lloyd, the Parish Council were to work with Stafford Borough Councillor, Jack Rose to try and obtain funding for play park improvements and the potential purchase of new play equipment. Councillor Rose was hopeful that some section 106 monies might become available. Councillor Rose was thanked by Councillor A. Brown for doing this.

Maintenance works were discussed with Councillors S.Moore, J.Gibbs and D.Massie carrying out the work. Councillor Massie had kindly offered to remove the concrete posts.

Councillor Lloyd had created a new inspection sheet for undertaking weekly play ground inspections. It was agreed that Councillor Lloyd would trial this for a few weeks and then a new rota would be arranged with Councillors to undertake inspections. This was agreed for action by the Chairman, seconded by the Vice Chairman. All were in favour. This matter would be discussed at the October meeting and Councillor Lloyd was thanked for arranging this.

PLANNING:

The Clerk reported that since the July meeting several new planning applications had been received which included:

- 2 Brookside Cottage (24/39054/HOU) single storey side/rear extension.
- Cherry Tree Cottage (24/39206/HOU) replacement front windows.
- Wheaton Aston Farm (24/39131/FUL & 24/39144/FUL) retrospective planning applications for the replacement of three like for like agricultural buildings and six feed silos and staff facilities).
- Manor Farm (24/39219/FUL & 24/39221/FUL) Calf rearing units
- Land adjacent to Home Farm (24/39238/FUL) Agricultural storage building.

There were no objections made to these applications with the exception of the application for the proposed erection of an agricultural building on Land adjacent to Home Farm. The Parish Council were not in principle against the proposal but generally felt it seemed inappropriately large for a 2-acre agricultural area and was also considered out of scale to the house and surrounding residential properties.

AIRFIELD MARKER: The Clerk had contacted Wheaton Aston Parish Council to reiterate support from Church Eaton Parish Council for installation of the Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust marker on the triangle at Little Onn, to recognise the importance of commemorating the role played by Wheaton Aston Airfield during the 20th century. It was further agreed that this was based on the working assumption is that the Parish Council would not take responsibility (ownership, maintenance, public liability, etc.) relating to the marker as the Parish Council does not own nor maintain the land at this site. The Clerk had also

confirmed that the Parish Council would like to have its name on the marker along with Wheaton Aston. Details of the unveiling ceremony would follow.

HIGHWAYS: The Clerk has received several notifications of temporary road closures for various roads within the parish for work to take place during the coming weeks namely on Common Road during August. There had been some works carried out on Barton Lane to Bradley road.

It was thought that the road down to Apeton Ford was still closed for the time being with repairs due to be undertaken, although the signs had disappeared.

The Clerk had confirmed with the Rights of Way Officer at County that a bridle gate would be acceptable to the landowner at Park Hall instead of a kissing gate. The Clerk had confirmed that there would be no charge to the landowner but the gate would be installed at the Landowner's cost.

NOTICEBOARD ARRANGEMENTS: Councillor Lloyd was unavailable to print off notice board items and it was agreed that the Chairman and or Vice Chairman would print off agendas and minutes and display them where necessary. The Clerk was to try and print off other notices as required in the usual manner and bring to meetings or pass them on to the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

FINANCE:

The following invoices had been paid as as previously agreed or were proposed for payment by Vice Chairman Councillor J.Gibbs, seconded by the Chairman, Councillor S.Moore. All were in favour.

- JWH Playground Grass Cutting for July £165 and August £110
- Zurich Insurance Premium £701.20
- CEVI Hire of Hall & Xmas Tree donation February to August 2024 £157

HANGING BASKETS & TUBS COMPETITION 2024: Since the last meeting judging of the annual Parish Council Hanging Baskets and Tubs competition had taken place. The Parish Council would like to thank Mr Michael Williams and Mrs Liz Williams of Weston for judging this year's competition. Both judges were very impressed with lovely tubs and baskets on display and their eventual winners were as follows:

- First Place – Oak Cottage
- Runner Up – Number 7 Parkers Close
- Runner Up – 1 St Editha's Court

The winners and two runners up were to each receive a National Gardening Voucher. Highly commended and deserved mentions were:

- Birchcroft
- 4 Swan Court
- 1 High Street
- 7 St Editha's Court
- Smithy Cottage

CORRESPONDENCE: All recent general correspondence had been forwarded to members of the Council. The Chairman had completed a Fire and Rescue Survey and Local Transport Plan survey. Creating a safe open route to the village was discussed given the issues that had been created with flooding several months previously. There was a debate as to whether the Haughton or Gnosall Road would be the better option.

The Clerk had been regularly receiving successful defibrillator checks from The Circuit organisation. The Chairman mentioned that the defibrillator adjacent to Manor Farm was to be moved due to planned building works at Manor Farm. It had been agreed to house the defibrillator in the adopted BT telephone kiosk at Marston.

Several enquiries had been received over recess ranging from a planning enquiry for High Onn campsite and bridleway maintenance via the Parish Network. These had both been attended to by the Chairman and Clerk.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on the 1st October 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Institute. The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.