

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH MEETING
HELD ON THE 7th JANUARY 2025
AT CHURCH EATON VILLAGE INSTITUTE

PRESENT: Parish Councillors, Mrs S. Dodd, Messrs, A. Brown, J. Gibbs (Vice Chairman), A. Lloyd, S. Moore (Chairman), D. Massie, County Councillor M. Winnington and four members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Were received from the Clerk, Mrs D. Key and Stafford Borough Councillor Mr J. Rose.

The Chairman Councillor S. Moore opened the meeting at 7.30pm, welcomed those present and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

MINUTES: The minutes from the previous meeting held on the 3rd December 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: There were no late items.

OPEN FORUM: Concern was raised over the road surface condition of Slab Lane where it runs alongside the airfield at Little Onn. Sections of the road are so badly potholed that only one side of the carriageway is passable. County Councillor Winnington explained that these issues were long-standing and caused by movement of the concrete slabs that make up the original, underlying road surface.

The ditching work on the Stretton Road at Church Eaton Green had left an amount of debris on the road. Despite this, the work performed so far has started to address some of the numerous flooding issues in this area.

There was a request for a priority route in and out of the village in times of flooding to be established. The village has been cut off by floods, on a number of occasions making it difficult for the well-being of vulnerable residents and challenging for the commute to school and work. The Chairman agreed to share these concerns with the County Council Flood Team, supporting our case for remedial works.

Councillor A. Brown thanked the villagers who had assisted his father when his car was broken down recently.

CASUAL VACANCY UPDATE: The notice of vacancy for a Parish Councillor remains displayed on the Notice Board and Website until 9th January.

The Parish Councillors recorded their thanks for the eleven years of service from Paul Bailey who recently stepped down from his position on the Parish Council.

C.E.V. PLAYGROUND: Councillor (Vice Chairman) J. Gibbs reported that the play ground was in good condition after he had cleared the light debris caused by the recent

storms. The ground was wet and there were some mole hills. There was no evidence of damage to trees from the recent storms.

There was no update on funding for play park improvements and the potential purchase of new play equipment.

Councillor A. Brown will perform the January inspections.

COUNTY COUNCIL FLOOD TEAM UPDATE: This was discussed during Open Forum. County Councillor M. Winnington thanked the Parish Council for assisting the County Council Teams in progressing the flooding issues.

PLANNING:

The planning application updates are:

- Cherry Tree Cottage (24/39206/HOU) application withdrawn.
- High Onn Farm (24/39783/FUL) called in.

There was discussion about the lack of response to enquiries from Stafford Borough Council Planning Enforcement. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to Borough Council and request a timely response to the outstanding enquiries.

HIGHWAYS: The issues on Slab Lane were discussed in Open Forum, as were the flooding challenges.

FINANCE: There were no invoices received.

The annual precept was discussed. Councillor (Vice Chairman) J. Gibbs presented a high-level summary of the financial position, projected expenditure to April, and the Reserves being carried. There were proposals for a 0% precept increase and for a 2.5% increase. The Parish Council voted for 0% increase, by majority 4 votes to 2.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Civic Amenity dates for 2025 have been set as 24th May and 18th October. Councillor (Vice Chairman) J. Gibbs agreed to liaise with those running the local the Mens' Shed initiative.

The Chairman Councillor S. Moore reported that there was still no confirmed date by which the new telecommunications mast at Woolaston Lane would come online.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on the 4th February 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Institute. The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.