

# Aston by Budworth Parish Council Meeting Held Olympia Monday 6th December 2021

Those present     Barry Harden Chairman  
Margaret Earl     Vice chairman  
Ivan Shepherd     Finance officer  
Dan Gething             Alan Ford             Alan Percival  
Marie Percival     Clerk (temporary)

1. **Apologies**     Linda Harden Clerk (retiring)

2. At the last meeting Barry Harden, Margaret Earl and Alan Ford indicated their intention to resign. It was requested that they attend this meeting to hand over the reins to the incoming officers, to which they had kindly agreed.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read.

Proposed     Alan Percival

Seconded     Alan Ford

4. Matters arising from previous meeting.

At the previous meeting the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Clerk and Alan Ford had all announced their intention to resign.

Dan Gething suggested that each resign at this meeting as the new members were appointed. The remaining PC members would then continue and elect a new Chairman and Vice Chairman.

5. Accounts. Alan Percival (retiring finance officer) stated that he had been onto HSBC who said they had sent out a welcome pack for the new Finance Officer Ivan Shepherd. He had never received it, nor had Barry Harden, and as the

access code in the pack was time sensitive, a second pack had been requested. Alan Percival and Helen Percival were actively pursuing the bank as currently both Barry Harden and Alan Percival are still signatories on the account. There is no telephone banking and contacting them by email was proving problematical.

Margaret Earl stated that even going into the branch was pointless as they are not equipped to deal with such problems.

Ivan Shepherd enquired if there were any outstanding invoices to be paid which Alan Percival replied there were not. Barry Harden said he'd sent two invoices two weeks previously which had not been paid. Alan Percival said he'd not received them and suggested he resubmitted them, which he said he would do.

Alan Percival said that we needed to get the problem with the signatories resolved ASAP as access was needed for the extra money in the account from Cheshire East which was a planning uplift from the development at Hield House. (HHD) This £4700 was to be used for infrastructure within the parish and there was a five year timescale in which to spend it.

Margaret Earl suggested a new PC laptop, but that's not infrastructure.

Dan Gething said using own laptops was preferable.

Barry Harden suggested filling in some of the worst potholes in the area, but again that is classed as a repair.

Alan Ford suggested improving the layby at the Pinfold, but Dan Gething said that Alf and Hazel Evans from Curbishleys Roses had generously used some of the excess tarmac from their new drive opposite to do just that.

Dan Gethin said that CE had requested that an annual summary of expenditure of the HHD money be sent to them. He would prepare this and send it to them before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

6. Correspondence None

7. The members then reviewed the applicants to fill the vacancies left by the retiring members.

These were:-

Philip Acton	Garland Hall
William Earl	Guidepost Farm
Richard Ford	New Farm
Ryan Lee	Cann Lane Farm
Andy Shaw	Horseshoe Cottage
Steve Wilkinson	Gravestones Farm
Angela Young	Pikefield Cottage

The council discussed the merits of the applicants and the following four were unanimously elected.

Philip Acton

Richard Ford

Ryan Lee

Steve Wilkinson

8. As there was no other business on the agenda the three retiring members took their leave. They were thanked again for all their work over the years and the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk were given small gifts in recognition of their long service.

9. After their departure the remaining members then elected Dan Gething as Acting Chairman. The position of Vice chair was left open.

Ivan Shepherd to continue as Finance Officer, with Alan Percival trying to resolve the issues with HSBC asap.

It was pointed out that all members of the PC would be up for re-election in May 2023 so if any other members wished to step down then there would be vacancies for any of the unsuccessful candidates to apply then.

Dan Gething asked if Olympia would still be available for future PC meetings as it had been conveyed to the council that in future the cost of the meeting room would be £60 per meeting instead of £60 per year. It was suggested that an alternative venue be looked for and if one found more reasonably priced, it would be booked for future meetings.

The meeting then closed.

The next meeting to be arranged for the New Year.

Signed :-

Dated :-