Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held on Monday 10 March 2014 at Chester Rugby Club, Hare Lane, Littleton.

# **PRESENT**: Parish Councillor John Martin (in the Chair) and Parish Councillors

#  David Brodie, Anne Stockdale, Sarah Rao, Bettie Gilliatt and

#  Jonathan Bellis

**IN ATTENDANCE:**  PC Neil Busby

 Lorraine Donnelly and Richard Ingram, Your Housing Group

**14/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor Hilary Davies and Councillors Margaret and Stuart Parker

14/15 LITTLETON HALL FARM SITE

The Parish Council received a presentation from Lorraine Donnelly and Richard Ingram of the Your Housing Group. They explained that YHG had produced similar schemes to the one in Littleton at places such as Tattenhall, Kelsall and Malpas and these had been very successful. There was discussion of what was being provided and the process of allocation of affordable homes. The target date for completion of their homes was March 2015 but it could be as early as Christmas 2014.

Bearing in mind that the site was being worked on by a number of parties, YHG being just one of them, Members expressed concern about how the site would be overall controlled especially with regard to the safety of pedestrians passing by, residents nearby and site security. The appropriate risk assessments would of course have to be carried out as the Parish Council was looking for assurances about these matters of concern.

Lorraine Donnelly stated that although the overall site was not under their control they would have an influence on the other developers and that in the short term she would be the point of liaison.

Your Housing Group would be holding an open day soon, probably at the Rugby Club and a newsletter would be circulated around the locality to inform residents of the arrangements. The open day would give residents etc the opportunity to see what was involved and, if appropriate, register their interest in the housing.

14/16 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 January 2014 be

 confirmed as a correct record

14/17 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Site of Former Vicars Cross Nursery – it was reported that CW&C had been approached re the Pill Box. It transpired that the structure was actually an anti-aircraft gun base and that there was only one left in the area. It was suggested that the Civic Trust be contacted for their advice on the matter of both conservation and safety.

Members were still concerned about the Japanese Knotweed on the site. The owners had been tidying up the land with a bulldozer which will have effectively spread the weed over a greater area. It was agreed that Christleton Parish Council be alerted about this irresponsible treatment of the weed.

2) Parish Field – Lease – the Clerk reported on the quotes he had received for creating a lease. He had been having difficulty getting the requisite number but would continue in his efforts.

3) Fir Tree Lane - the Parish Council was still awaiting for clarity from the residents and the Highways Officer over the status of the Lane.

4) Neighbourhood Plan – it was reported that a seminar was being organised by Christleton Parish Council which was to be attended by Cllrs Martin and Stockdale

Action: Clerk to contact Civic Trust. Clerk to approach more local solicitors re lease work. Clerk to approach CPC re Japanese Knotweed.

**14/18 ROAD MATTERS**

The Clerk reported he was still awaiting a response from the Highways Officer with regard to what progress, if any, had been made on the junction improvement scheme.

**14/19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1) 13/051443/FUL – Littleton Hall Farm – Proposed Development of 9 Affordable

 Houses – it was noted that permission had been granted to this development.

2) 13/05263 – Replacement of Existing Dwellings With 2 Detached Buildings –

 6-8 Tarvin Road – the Parish Council had made observations and raised queries with the Planning Officer but noted that permission had been granted for the development. The Parish Council had subsequently contacted the Planning Officer and obtained answers to the queries but felt they were unsatisfactory.

3) 14/00748/FUL – 27 Littleton Lane – Single Storey Extension

RESOLVED: that the application be supported

4) 14/00793/FUL – Land to Rear of 6-8 Tarvin Road – Proposed Detached Dwelling - Members had no adverse comments about the application especially as it had been finally clarified where the development’s road was routed.

RESOLVED: that the application be supported

**14/20 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

Councillor Bettie Gilliatt had raised the issue of how the Parish Council commemorated Remembrance Sunday. Members recalled that this had differed from year to year and felt it was time to agree on a consistent policy.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council provide a wreath annually for

 Remembrance Sunday

**14/21 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council and made reference to the piece of land adjacent to the Veterinary Surgery which was badly overgrown and strewn with litter. Ideally it should be tidied and secured. It was acknowledged that this land was part of the Parish Field and would form part of the land leased by CRUFC and they could well want to arrange for it to be cleared.

# RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk be received

14/22 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: that the following accounts be paid:- £

1) Clerk’s salary – March (less tax) 118.40

2) HMRC – PAYE – March 29.60

3) Typing and office services 23.50

4) Chester RFC – Room Hire - March 30.00

5) Litter Warden – 14 hours @ £6.31 88.34

**14/23 CLERK – PETTY CASH**

# RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s petty cash float be reimbursed in the sum of £2.60

# **14/24 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Since their last meeting the Parish Council had received correspondence which included:-

## Cheshire West and Chester Council

Members’ Briefings – various

Documents for planning applications 13/05263/FUL and 13/05143/FUL

Parish Precept 2014/15

### PC N Busby/Inspector P Hodgson – Policing Reports

Christleton Parish Council

Neighbourhood Planning

Site of the former Vicar’s Cross Nursery

Mr Jay (via email) asking for clarification of the status of the footpath running south from the A51 Tarvin Road parallel to The Dell through to Fir Tree Lane ie. was it purely a footpath or was it the authorised vehicular access to and from the A51 for the house south of The Dell that situated between the A51 and Fir Tree Lane?

This question had arisen because when riding his bicycle along the A51 Tarvin Road pedestrian footpath/cycleway Mr Jay had experienced a couple of ‘near-misses’ due to vehicles emerging from the footpath onto the A51.

Members recalled that an issue had arisen in the past relating to this footpath in that the householder concerned had obscured the footpath sign at the Fir Tree Lane end. Laying chippings on the footpath had now made it far easier to use the track as an access road.

PC Busby commented that unless an accident actually occurred the police could not be involved in the matter – it was not appropriate for them to speak to both parties to advise caution etc. – common sense should prevail!

The Clerk was in contact with PROW, however, to ascertain the status of the footpath re being used as a vehicular access.

Action: Clerk to report back re PROW

**14/25 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: that the next meeting of the Parish Council be held

 on Monday 12 May 2014

**14/26 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1) Sink Hole – it was reported that a sink hole had appeared in the road adjacent to Councillor Rao’s house and agreed this should be notified to CW&C in the usual way via their website.

2) Website – Councillor Gilliatt offered the services of her son as webmaster and would confirm with him that he was happy to take this on board.