Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held on

Monday 5 December 2016 at Chester Rugby Club, Hare Lane, Littleton.

PRESENT: Parish Councillor David Brodie (in the Chair) and Parish

 Councillors David Brodie, Anne Stockdale and Bettie Gilliatt

IN ATTENDANCE: CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker

 Local Resident Mr A Samuel

 PCSO Deborah Netherton

16/74 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors Clive Lovering, Hilary Davies and Jonathan Bellis

16/75 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

1) Road Safety -It was reported that the new 20mph speed limit had been established in Christleton. Mr Samuel (Fir Tree Lane Residents Association) made the point that whilst people were delighted this had finally been done it was a shame that the whole length of road from the A51 through the village wasn’t all 20mph. Littleton PC had been told in the past by CW&C Highways that they felt there was no compelling reason to do this.

It was acknowledged that there were some hazardous spots in Littleton that required some action. These included Pearl Lane about which the PC had recently received a letter of concern and the junction of Fir Tree Lane and Littleton Lane. It was suggested that in respect of Pearl Lane which was very tight in places one solution was to create a footpath behind the hedge which had apparently been done successfully in Barrow. This would require liaison with the farmer.

There was also discussion of the safety of young cyclists in the area ie. reckless cycling; lack of hi-viz gear and helmets. PCSO Netherton reported that the police were working extensively with the local schools to raise awareness of the potential dangers in this respect.

The Parish Council had allocated £5,000 of its funds for spending on road safety and Members were reminded that certain aspects of this initiative also required local residents to get involved such as in the deployment of the speed gun etc. It was hoped that information on traffic problems would be amassed and one potential application of this was that individual speeding cars could be logged and repeat offenders identified – this could lead to drivers being written to by the police.

Councillor Parker reported he attended a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner about problems with HGVs on the A41 overnight and this, of course, also applied to the A51. Apparently Christleton Parish Council was in the process of contacting their neighbouring Parish Councils to suggest a joint initiative on this where resources could be pooled. Littleton Parish Council very much welcomed the opportunity to get involved with this.

PCSO Netherton reported that a yellow traffic van had been deployed on the A51 on the day of the meeting. Members felt it would be useful to find out what information it had collected. DT

16/76 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 October 2016 be

 confirmed as a correct record

16/77 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Speed Camera – Councillor Brodie reported he and Councillor Lovering had been obtaining estimates for various items of road safety equipment. Councillor Parker indicated he might have some funds available for this if details could be passed to him. CL DB DT

Location: Garden Land Opposite Toll Bar Cottage, Littleton Lane, Littleton, Chester,

Cheshire

Demolition of existing sectional garage to be replaced with double garage

Location: Garden Land Opposite Toll Bar Cottage, Littleton Lane, Littleto) 16/01158/FUL - Garden Land Opposite Toll Bar Cottage – Demolition of existing sectional garage to be replaced with double garage

2) Christleton Playground – Request for Funds – it was unclear what contribution the other Parish Councils in the area were prepared to make to the upkeep of the play area. Nevertheless, it was agreed that £500 be contributed by Littleton on the clear understanding that this was a one-off payment.

16/78 CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk reported he had published the appropriate Notice in the Parish inviting electors to call an election to fill the vacancy. No election had been called so the Parish Council was able to fill the vacancy by co-option.

Local residents were invited to contact the Clerk if they were interested in becoming a Parish Councillor and wished to know more about what was involved. No approaches had been made so far and it was suggested that Mr Samuel might like to sound out his neighbours in Fir Tree Lane in this regard.

16/79 TREES IN THE PARISH

It was noted that the Parish Council were to meet with the CW&C Natural Environment Officer (Trees and Woodland) on site early in the New Year to discuss how best to protect trees in the locality. The Clerk was asked to find out whether the officer had been contacted by the farmer concerning the tree that was felled recently. DT

16/80 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1) The Jays, 90 Tarvin Road, Littleton – Rear Single Story Extension and Front Storey Extension – it was noted that this development had been approved by the Planning Authority

2) The Old Stables, 68 Tarvin Road, Littleton – Single storey extension to rear and conversion of outbuilding to outdoor kitchen – it was agreed that Members relay any comments on this to the Clerk by the end of the week.

16/81 FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Members re-affirmed that £5,000 was earmarked for road safety equipment etc and noted this might be offset by a contribution from Councillor Stuart Parker’s budget.

**16/82 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council and informed Members he had ordered a wreath from the Royal British Legion as requested. This had cost £20 which included a donation which would require reimbursement. The PC usually donated £50 so the balance would be a separate payment.

# RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk be received

**16/83 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised:- £

1) Clerk’s salary – Nov & Dec (less tax) 236.80

2) HMRC – PAYE – Nov & Dec 59.20

3) Typing and office services 20.50

4) Chester RFC – Room Hire – Dec 30.00

5) Litter Warden – 14 hours @ £7.20 43.20

6) ChALC – Planning Course 30.00

7) Royal British Legion – Balance of Donation 30.00

**16/84 CLERK – PETTY CASH**

# RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s petty cash float be reimbursed in the sum of £24.28

#

**16/85 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

Cheshire West and Chester Council - Council Tax Reduction Scheme – as Littleton Parish Council’s grant payment in 2017/18 was less than £1,000 CW&C was offering the opportunity to receive the total grant payment for the next four years of £194 as a single lump sum payment in 2017/18. It was agreed this offer be accepted.

Cheshire Constabulary - PC R Boulton - Newsletters

Cheshire Association of Local Councils - Member Briefings

Sylvia Thompson – Road Safety Pearl Lane

**16/86 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting be confirmed as being on

 Monday 16 January 2017