**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Littleton held on**

**Monday 9 May 2016 at Chester Rugby Club, Hare Lane, Littleton.**

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

#  Hilary Davies, Clive Lovering, Bettie Gilliatt and Sarah Rao

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED: that Councillor David Brodie be appointed Chairman for the

 meeting

(Councillor Brodie then took the Chair)

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors Anne Stockdale and Jonathan Bellis.

**3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11 May 2015 were approved.

**4. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The Chairman gave a comprehensive statement of the matters that had been dealt with by the Parish Council during the previous 12 months, making particular reference to:-

Issues relating to seismic testing and Public Rights of Way had dominated the business of the seven meetings of the Parish Council held during the year.

Nine planning applications had been received, the Parish Council supporting six of them and raising concerns about three. It also had concerns about what appeared to be inconsistencies in the way the planning rules were applied.

Members were seriously concerned about the implications of seismic testing in Littleton and the surrounding area. Many people in the Parish were apprehensive about what this would lead to especially in view of high profile developments in Lancashire and, more locally, in Upton-by-Chester. However,

it was not the Parish Council’s remit to be a campaigning group. They were assured that any application to establish a drill head in the area would be subject to the full planning process and this would include extensive public consultation, public meetings etc. It would be at this point that the Parish Council would endeavour to represent the views of local residents.

A major issue that developed during the year was an un-authorised re-surfacing of Fir Tree Lane which, after a protracted period, was resolved by CW&C.

Extensive work was carried out to Hare Lane Copse in terms of clearing the area of undergrowth and fly-tipped debris, the area then planted with saplings supplied by the Woodland Trust as advised by Tree Warden Simon Mageean.

Councillor Clive Lovering presented a report on traffic in the area which highlighted issues that the Parish Council was endeavouring to tackle.

Regrettably the Parish lost John Hughes in November. John served on the Parish Council for many years and his encyclopaedic knowledge of Littleton and defence of footpaths was of significant value to all during his period in office and would remain a legacy to his time as a Parish Councillor.

**5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The Clerk submitted the customary Summary of Receipts and Payments financial statement that itemised the Parish Council’s transactions over the year and enlarged upon certain items that were of interest to Members.