Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held on

Monday 2 July 2018 at Chester Rugby Club, Hare Lane, Littleton.

PRESENT: Parish Councillor Clive Lovering (in the Chair) and Parish

Councillors Anne Stockdale, Bettie Gilliatt,

Caroline Marrison Gill and Hilary Davies

IN ATTENDANCE: CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker

Mr M Smythe, local resident

PC Rebecca Thompson

18/39 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 May 2018 be

confirmed as a correct record

18/40 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Hedges – it was noted that whilst the hedge bordering Littleton Hall had been cut back there were still problems of brambles protruding and ideally it needed to be cut back still further. Clerk to raise with landowner. **DT**

2) Pearl Lane – it was noted that following the resurfacing there were still some grids that required raising. Also the 30mph signs were obscured. Clerk to contact CW&C. **DT**

3) Hare Lane Copse – it was noted that the Hogweed did not appear to have been sprayed and was growing tall. The Clerk undertook to contact D Brodie about the spraying and would make a start on clearing the undergrowth. **DT**

4) Little Heath Road – Pavements – Councillor Lovering reported that some lengths of pavement had been cleared but there was more to do.

18/41 ROAD SAFETY INITIATIVE

Councillor Lovering reported on the continuing deployment of the SID. Councillor Marrison Gill raised the question of whether the SID could be used in such a way as to produce realistic speed figures. It was felt this might be possible but only by using different equipment such as hand held speed guns.

Councillor Lovering also reported that an official PC tablet had been purchased to replace the borrowed laptop and this would make operations easier.

Whilst the SID was a useful tool in tackling speeding in the Parish it was acknowledged that some drivers were still not slowing down. There was a need to change the perception that it was acceptable to speed down country roads – to make it socially unacceptable.

18/42 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1) 18/01952/FUL – 75 Tarvin Road, Littleton – Single Storey Rear Extension

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council feel the proposed development

appears to be a substantial increase in floor size, although it is only

on the ground floor. Visually it does not appear in keeping with the

exterior design of the house.

2) 18/02385/FUL – Denyscourt, 34 Tarvin Road, Littleton – Double Storey Rear and Front Extension – Members to send observations to Clerk. **All**

**18/43 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council and referred to the report of the Internal Audit of the Parish Council accounts for 2017/18. Items mentioned in the report included updating the Asset Register to include SID and to ensure the Annual Governance Statement and Audit Report were on the website.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk be received

**18/44 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised:- £

1) Clerk’s salary – June & July (less tax) 236.80

2) HMRC – PAYE – June & July 59.20

3) Typing and office services 18.00

4) Chester RFC – Room Hire – July 30.00

5) Clerk – reimbursement for laptop/memory stick 219.98

6) JDH Business Services – Internal Audit Fee 148.80

**18/45 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £28.60

**18/46** **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Planning notifications

Cheshire Constabulary - PC R Boulton – Newsletters

PKF Littlejohn – Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18

JDH Business Services Ltd – Internal Audit Report

Cheshire Association of Local Councils – E Bulletins.

Christleton Parish Council – request for a contribution to the upkeep of King George’s Fields. Members were mindful of the Parish Council’s overall budget which at its current level had no capacity to make the donation requested and would require the PC to draw upon its assets which could not be justified. It was felt that Christleton PC needed to be more imaginative in finding ways to create income from the field rather than just asking for contributions from neighbouring parishes. Councillor Stockdale was attending the forthcoming Trustees meeting and would explain the situation to them. **AS**

**18/47 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council be held on

Monday 3 September 2018

**18/48 CASUAL VACANCY**

Members discussed the filling of the Casual vacancy with Mr Michael Smythe of Brickfield Lane whom, having observed the proceedings, confirmed he was happy to put himself forward as a prospective candidate.

RESOLVED: that Michael Smythe be co-opted onto the Parish Council

Councillor Smythe duly completed and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office

**18/49 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1) Police Report – PC Rebecca Thompson discussed speeding issues with the Parish Council and burglaries in the area

2) Newsletter – the issuing of a newsletter was discussed which would include the vacancies for Parish Councillor and Litter Warden as well as inviting residents to comment on the need for a crossing on Tarvin Road. Councillor Smythe offered to help with ways of surveying the opinions of local residents using social media etc.

3) Tarvin Road Cycle Lane – concern was expressed about the narrowing of the footway adjacent to the Rugby Club due to encroaching vegetation. The Clerk was asked to contact CW&C about this. **DT**