Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held on

Monday 3 September 2018 at Chester Rugby Club, Hare Lane, Littleton.

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

 Councillors Anne Stockdale, Bettie Gilliatt,

 Michael Smythe and Hilary Davies

IN ATTENDANCE: CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker

18/50 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Marrison Gill.

18/51 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker informed the meeting that he had some funds remaining in his Member’s Budget and invited the Parish Council to submit costed proposals. The Parish Council agreed to work up some schemes. ALL

He reported that the proposed developments to the A51 were still being investigated. One of these was the A51/Littleton Lane/Hare Lane junction improvement which featured a no right turn from Littleton Lane thus forcing motorists to drive down to and around the roundabout rather than crossing two streams of traffic. It was pointed out that this worked in theory but not in practice when the roundabout was clogged up especially when people blocked the yellow boxes.

It was also noted that the planning application for a proposed residential development at Christleton Law College was not going ahead.

18/52 CASUAL VACANCY

Since no one had come forward it was agreed to defer until the next meeting

18/53 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 July 2018 be

 confirmed as a correct record subject to Rebecca Thompson

 being recorded as a PCSO.

18/54 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Hedges – it was noted that the hedge bordering Littleton Hall still 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. Clerk to contact CW&C. **DT**

3) Hare Lane Copse – the Clerk reported that he had cut down all the weeds in the Copse and was happy to report that at least 80% of the saplings were doing well. It was agreed that the Clerk be paid £50 in view of the amount of time it had taken to clear the area (four afternoons).

The Clerk had noted that there was a 20 metre gap in the fencing around the Copse and suggested that work to secure the area could be a project to be funded by the Member’s Budget mentioned previously. The laying of a weed membrane was also discussed.

4) King George’s Playing Fields, Christleton – Councillor Stockdale reported on the meeting of the Trustees she had attended. She had noted that Christleton Parish Council now fulfilled the role of Trustees for the field and that there was an expectation that a representative of Littleton Parish Council would always 1) attend their meetings 2) be part of the inspection team and 3) LPC contribute to costs for the field. She had informed the Trustees that Littleton Parish Council was not in a position to meet those expectations.

5) Tarvin Road Cycle Lane – the cutting back of encroaching vegetation that was restricting the width of the footway adjacent to the Rugby Club had not been carried out. The Clerk to contact CW&C about this. **DT**

18/55 ROAD SAFETY INITIATIVE

Councillor Lovering reported on the continuing deployment of the SID and showed the meeting the new tablet and a sample of the information it could display.

It was noted that the Police had been conducting a speed trap on The Bye Pass/Littleton Lane and it was gratifying that the information being gathered was being acted upon. It proved that there was a serious problem with speeding in the Parish.

The Parish Council discussed possible measures to slow traffic down including speed triggered bumps in France.

Councillor Lovering reported that there had been no discernible progress on the cycle lane scheme and would follow this up with CW&C. CL

Councillor Bettie Gilliatt left the meeting at this point

18/56 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1) 18/01952/FUL – 75 Tarvin Road, Littleton – Single Storey Rear Extension it was noted that this proposed development had been approved by the planning authority.

2) 18/02385/FUL – Denyscourt, 34 Tarvin Road, Littleton – Double Storey Rear and Front Extension

RESOLVED: That the planning authority be informed that Littleton Parish Council

 consider the proposed development appears to involve a very large

 addition considering it already has a double garage extension and

 a link at both ground floor and first floor level.

**18/57 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council making particular reference to the appointment of a new Litter Warden. Members had already seen a noticeable difference in the tidiness of the Parish and asked the Clerk to convey their thanks to her. **DT**

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk be received

**18/58 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised:- £

1) Clerk’s salary – Aug & Sept (less tax) 236.80

2) HMRC – PAYE – Aug & Sept 59.20

3) Typing and office services 15.50

4) Chester RFC – Room Hire – Sept 30.00

5) CA Traffic – Cable etc 150.00

6) Litter Warden – 9 hrs @ £5 45.00

7) Clerk – reimbursement for Litter Warden equipment etc 28.85

8) Clerk – clearing of Hare Lane Copse 50.00

**18/59 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £7.00

**18/60** **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Planning notifications.

CW&C – Public Rights of Way Officer – report on action taken following concerns expressed by PC about barbed wire alongside public footpath. Situation resolved.

Cheshire Constabulary - PC R Boulton – Newsletters

Kieran Skinner – follow up correspondence re his FOI requests to CW&C on A51 Improvement schemes.

CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker – passing on results of his query to Highways on status of A51 Improvement schemes. Proposed schemes still being investigated etc.

Came & Co – clarification on insurance position relating to employment of Litter Warden.

Cheshire Association of Local Councils – E Bulletins and advice relating to employment of Litter Warden.

David C Morris – plea for help from Parish Council re problems experienced will broadband provision. Councillor Smythe offered to contact Mr Morris. **MS**

**18/61 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

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

 Monday 1 October 2018

**18/49 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1) Trees and Hedges – the Clerk was asked to contact the CW&C Tree Warden both to chase up the status of the TPO of the trees bordering Fir Tree Lane and to raise the question of threats to hedges in that locality. It had been observed that some hedges appeared to have been cut back excessively by the landowners and there was a suspicion that this was to kill them. This would have the effect of merging two fields into one and there were concerns that this was changing the rural landscape. **DT**

2) Hedge – it was noted that the hedge bordering 68 Tarvin Road was overgrowing the pavement. Clerk to contact householder. **DT**