Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held on

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

PRESENT: Parish Councillor Caroline Marrison Gill (in the Chair) and Parish

 Councillors Anne Stockdale, Bettie Gilliatt and Michael Smythe

IN ATTENDANCE: CW&C Officers Lisa Harris and Kristy Miller

 Local Resident S Woods

18/76 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clive Lovering, Hilary Davies and CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker.

18/77 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

CW&C Officer Kristy Miller gave a presentation which outlined the background to the study published in March of schemes intended to improve the A51. Modelling had been done to explore options and subsequently bids had been made for funding for a number of interventions along the A51 which included better refuges and cycleways. These also included a left turn at the roundabout; widening at Stamford Bridge and no right turns at the Tarvin Road/Hare Lane/Littleton Lane junction. Members were informed that full public consultation on these schemes would take place in due course and that the rumoured by pass around Littleton was merely a concept in the background at this stage.

Discussion centred around the problems which rose from traffic volume and the routing of traffic, especially HGVs, along the A51 rather than via the motorways. Councillors pointed out that serious problems arose from the poor functioning of the roundabout and this would only be exacerbated by an increase in traffic flow resulting from the current measures proposed to alleviate pinch points. There were also concerns about the effect of such works on local residents and local businesses.

Members were informed that CW&C was working with Highways England to resolve the issues arising from the roundabout etc. In the meantime a full business case for the proposed measures was being worked up. The timescale was March 2020 for design with a view to construction in 2020/21.

Other matters discussed included the condition of the A51.

18/78 CASUAL VACANCY

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

18/79 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 October 2018 be

 confirmed as a correct record.

18/80 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Hedges – The Clerk reported he had been in contact with the landowner re the hedge bordering Littleton Hall which still needed to be cut back further and confirmed that this work would be carried out.

2) Hare Lane Copse – the Clerk reported that he had submitted the Parish Council’s bid for funding from the Members’ Budget in respect of fencing the 20 metre gap in the fencing around the Copse.

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

Councillor Gilliatt also pointed out that the surrounds to the road etc were in parts getting overgrown and some tidying needed to be carried out.

18/81 ROAD SAFETY INITIATIVE

There was nothing to report on this.

18/82 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1) 18/03803/FUL – Residential Development of 42 dwellings at Christleton Hall

The Clerk reported he had reiterated the Parish Council’s objections to the original application of which this was a re-submission on the grounds of:-

- Contrary to highway safety

- Detrimental to public interest

- Lack of services/utilities

- Residential amenity

As a close neighbour Littleton Parish Council was making a strong objection to this proposed development. Firstly, the site was Green Belt. Secondly, the addition of 42 households and what that entailed for the locality would have a severe impact on the surrounding infrastructure. Thirdly, the local roads were already at breaking point and the traffic emanating from the development would further exacerbate this serious problem. Littleton already had a Speedwatch group and a Road Safety Initiative relating to this.

Should the development be approved it would be vital that specific access should be provided for construction traffic in order to avoid the villages of Christleton and Littleton.

2) 18/04140/FUL – Bunnies Day Nursery at Chester Rugby Club – Demolition of existing nursery building and erection of new single storey building

It was noted that despite being a close neighbour to the site the Parish Council had not been consulted on the proposed development. Indeed, the Clerk had only been tipped off about the application on the afternoon of the meeting. He asked Members to examine the application and submit comments to him before the close of play the following day as that was the deadline for comments to the planning authority. **ALL**

**18/83 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk be received

**18/84 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 15.50

4) Chester RFC – Room Hire – Dec 30.00

5) Litter Warden – 18 hrs @ £5 + Bin Bags 91.85

**18/85 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £2.00

**18/86** **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Planning notifications

 Bid for funding from Members Budget

Cheshire Constabulary – PCSO Jack Makin - Update

Cheshire Association of Local Councils – E Bulletins

Mr N Williams – A51 Tarvin Road Improvements – noted

Simon Kent – Village Ward Speed Group Meeting Agenda

Angela Roberts – new resident – concerns about traffic – dealt with by CL

Rachel Done – request for information about status of Vicars Cross Nursery – noted.

**18/87 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

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

 Monday 14 January 2019

**18/88 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1) Newsletter – it was agreed that Councillor Marrison Gill would contact Councillor Gilliatt to discuss how best to progress the latest newsletter. **CMG**

2) Resignation of Councillor Smythe – it was with regret that Members received the resignation of Councillor Michael Smythe who was moving to Rowton early in the new year. He was thanked for his contribution to the work of the Parish Council.

Accordingly a new Casual Vacancy was declared.