Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held on

Monday 2 December 2019 at Chester Rugby Club, Hare Lane, Littleton.

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

 Councillors Anne Stockdale, Clive Lovering, Huw Morgan

 and Bettie Gilliatt

IN ATTENDANCE: Local Residents Judith & Tim Holme

19/75 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

Judith and Tim Holme were attending the meeting specifically to offer their help to the Parish Council. This was most appreciated and it was felt that one potential area they could get involved with going forward was the Traffic Working Group.

19/76 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors Hilary Davies and Rob Evans. Also Councillor Stuart Parker and PCSO Linda Bailey.

19/77 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 October 2019 be

 confirmed as a correct record

19/78 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Litter Warden – the Clerk reported that the new Littler Warden had commenced his duties.

2) Fir Tree Lane – Tree Preservation Orders – The Clerk reported that he had sent a second letter to the Tree Officer providing a location plan and photograph of the one particularly ancient oak on Fir Tree Lane and was awaiting a response.

3) Hare Lane Copse – the Clerk reported that he had carried out some work to cut back the undergrowth but had come to the conclusion that the work required the equipment and expertise of a proper contractor. It was agreed that the Clerk get some quotes for consideration. **DT**

The presence of Hogweed in the copse was discussed. Councillor Gilliatt raised the issue of whether this was a notifiable invasive species. The Clerk thought not but undertook to check this out. **DT**

**19/79 ROAD MATTERS**

Councillor Morgan presented a report from the Traffic Working Group (TWG).

A letter to CW&C had been drafted which would request a meeting with a view to review the output and any recommendations CW&C intended to adopt following its ‘consultations’. It would state concerns which included:-

1. Leaflet drop re A51 schemes by CW&C had missed out significant sections of the local population.

2. Whatever work was carried out to enable better flow on the A51 would be completely negated by congestion at the roundabout.

3. Pedestrian and cyclist safety - when crossing the Tarvin Road there appeared to be no improvements planned to cope with the increased traffic movements.

4. Toxic emissions from vehicle exhausts would increase as a result of the proposed changes

5. Difficulty of residents’ traffic movements in and out of their property and around the village.

6. Plans for traffic joining and leaving the A51 appeared to have been changed from what was originally proposed.

Councillors had been asked to make comment/suggestions on the draft letter which would then be sent by the Clerk. ALL

There was also discussion about emissions and the issue of particle size. Councillors were very much aware that vehicle pollution was not just a problem on Tarvin Road – Littleton Lane had more than its fair share of queuing/idling traffic at peak times.

Parish Councillors were also concerned that they had been kept out of the loop eg. meetings with adjoining Parish Councils discussing schemes which directly affected Littleton.

Members reiterated their strong belief that removing the traffic lights and enforcing the yellow hatched areas were key to improving the efficiency of the roundabout.

**19/80 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1) 19/03799/FUL – 11 Tarvin Road, Littleton – Rear Dormer Extension

RESOLVED: That Littleton Parish Council have no objection to the proposed development

**19/81 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

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

RESOLVED: that i) the report of the Clerk be received

 ii) the Clerk’s Contract of Employment be discussed at the next

 Meeting of the Parish Council

**19/82 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 13.00

4) Dougherty & Allen – CRUFC Room Hire – Dec 30.00

5) Litter Warden 18hrs @ £5 90.00

6) CW&C – Election fee 181.00

**19/83 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £5.00

**19/84** **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Planning notifications

Cheshire Constabulary – PCSO Linda Bailey – Newsletters

Cheshire Association of Local Councils – E Bulletins

Rowton Parish Council – Request to hire SID. It was agreed that Rowton PC could borrow the SID subject to a deposit being paid and confirmation that those using the device were suitably trained. The practicalities of any arrangement would have to be clarified including addressing concerns about the use of the PC’s laptop.

St James’ Churchyard – Tree Survey – Councillor Bettie Gilliatt in her capacity as Churchwarden had commissioned a tree survey which indicated work that needed to be carried out including the felling of two trees.  Local Parish Councils were being asked to contribute to the cost of the work.

(Councillor Gilliatt declared an interest and left the room whilst Members discussed the matter)

RESOLVED: That Littleton Parish Council contribute £1,000 to the cost of the tree surgery to St James’ Churchyard

**19/85 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

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

 Monday 13 January 2020