Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held on Monday 11 May 2020.

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

 Councillors Clive Lovering, Huw Morgan, Rob Evans, Anne Stockdale,

 Bettie Gilliatt and Hilary Davies

IN ATTENDANCE: CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker

20/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from PCSO Linda Bailey

20/25 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: that Councillor Caroline Marrison Gill be elected Chairman for the

 ensuing year

20/26 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: that Councillor Clive Lovering be elected Vice-Chairman for the

 ensuing year

20/27 CODE OF CONDUCT

RESOLVED: that the Code of Conduct for Members be adopted for the ensuing

 year

20/28 STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council’s Standing Orders be adopted for the ensuing

 Year

20/29 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

RESOLVED: that:-

1. the Financial Regulations be adopted for the ensuing year

2. the Clerk continue to act as Responsible Financial Officer

3. JDH Business Services be appointed Internal Auditor

4. the bank account, signatories and rules for transfer of funds be confirmed

5. Insurance arrangements be via Came & Company

6. the Risk Assessment be confirmed for the ensuing year

7. the rate of pay for the Litter Warden be confirmed at £5 per hour

8. the salary for the Clerk be £1776 pa to be reviewed

20/30 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker reported on the arrangements the local authority was making to hold meetings virtually

20/31 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 February 2020 be

 confirmed as a correct record

20/32 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Traffic Issues - the Chairman reported on the Christleton Parish Council meeting she had attended at which it had be agreed that a meeting be arranged involving the Chairmen of Littleton, Christleton, Gt Boughton and Huntington to discuss a joint co-ordinated effort on the problems in the locality from speeding motorists/air quality etc. Unfortunately, that meeting had been postponed due to COVID 19 lockdown but hopefully would be rescheduled in the near future. The Chairman had been encouraged by how supportive the Police were and the actions they had been taking to enforce the speed limits.

Members recalled the invitation from the Chairman of Great Boughton PC to walk the proposed route from that area to Christleton and hoped that another opportunity would arise for them to participate in this.

2) Hare Lane Copse – the Clerk reported that the work had been carried out to tidy the area but it would still be necessary to control the weeds through the summer to prevent the saplings from being overwhelmed. He would tackle this.

3) Litter – the Clerk reported the litter on Pearl Lane remained a problem and he would take this up again with PCSO Bailey. **DT**

**20/33 ROAD MATTERS**

Councillor Rob Evans submitted a comprehensive reportwhich included a reference to the level of pollution that arose from the A51 and how it would increase significantly as a result of the scheme.

It was noted that a consequence of lockdown was that the amount of traffic on the A51 had reduced considerably and with it the level of pollution. Data on pollution levels was currently being scrutinised and assertions by the local authority on their effect in the parish were likely to be challenged.

It was hoped, however, that changes to the way people worked would result in less commuting by road but feared that many people would be reluctant to use the railway and therefore revert back to driving. It remained to be seen what the impact would be of the recent announcement by the Transport Secretary that £2bn had been set aside to double the number of cyclists and walkers by 2025, telling local authorities to make “significant changes” to give them more space. It was hope that cycling would be very much encouraged and that plans such as the A51 Improvement Scheme should be re-assessed.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council convey their serious concerns about the

 potential effects of the scheme on the wellbeing of the residents of

 Littleton to the Chief Executive of CW&C as well as challenging its

 cost effectiveness.

**20/34 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1) 20/00694/FUL – 17 Fir Tree Lane, Littleton – Demolition of existing building, retention of existing rear extension and erection of 2 storey building - this was a rebuild to make an upside-down house to take advantage of the views across the countryside. It was felt to be in keeping with the houses either side.

RESOLVED: that the proposed development be supported

**20/35 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council making special reference to the audit of the accounts.

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

 ii) the Annual Governance Statement be signed

**20/36 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised:- £

1) Clerk’s salary – April & May (less tax) 236.80

2) HMRC – PAYE – April & May 59.20

3) Typing and office services 28.50

4) Red Squirrel Tree Surgery 450.00

5) Litter Warden – 46 hours @ £5 230.00

6) Came & Co – Annual Insurance 347.05

7) ChALC – Affiliation Fee 170.64

**20/37 INCOME**

RESOLVED: that the following income be received:-

1) CW&C – Precept 3,500.00

**20/38 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £4.00

**20/39** **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

**20/40 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: That the forthcoming Meetings of the Parish Council be held on:-

 Monday 6 July 2020

 Monday 7 September 2020

 Monday 12 October 2020

 Monday 2 December 2020

 Monday 11 January 2021

 Monday 1 March 2021

 Monday 10 May 2021 (AGM)