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

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

Councillors Huw Morgan, Rob Evans, Bettie Gilliatt and Hilary Davies

20/41 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Caroline Marrison Gill and Anne Stockdale and PCSO Linda Bailey

20/42 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 May 2020 be

confirmed as a correct record

**20/43 ROAD MATTERS**

1) A51 Tarvin Road Improvement Scheme - The Chief Executive had responded to the letter from the Parish Council which had outlined their serious concerns about the potential effects of the A51 Tarvin Road Improvement Scheme on the wellbeing of the residents of Littleton.

The response stated that the approved business case for the A51 Tarvin to Chester Improvement Scheme related only to the Council’s local highway network and did not rely upon the additional benefits that could be delivered by a Highways England investment at the A51/A55 roundabout which the Parish Council felt strongly should form part of the scheme. Highways England had been awarded funding to develop a detailed design for operational improvements at the A51/A55 roundabout junction but funding for delivery had not yet been secured.

CW&C had a statutory duty to review and assess local air quality, and monitoring had been installed as part of the scheme. However, results had shown no residences were at risk of the national NO2 objectives being exceeded.

The Parish Council discussed this response and would put together a new letter which would continue to press home the point that pollution monitoring was not extensive enough in terms of what was measured. Now that pollution levels were returning to pre lock down levels it would also be useful to repeat PC measurements of levels of pollution at roadside and at residence doorways and even the back doors of houses.

Councillor Evans reported there would be a Zoom meeting with Chris Matheson MP about the pollution on the A51 and the forthcoming roadworks.

2) Christleton Law College Housing Development – Construction Traffic - whilst noting that no planning application for the proposed development was currently in train, nevertheless the Parish Council were keen to ensure that any intended route for construction traffic did not disadvantage the residents of Littleton. The Parish Council were very much aware that Christleton Parish Council appeared to be in dialogue with the developers and it was vital that Littleton PC be included in such discussions.

Councillor Lovering had produced a map which showed a route from the A41 into Pearl Lane then entering a field which it would circumvent to the construction site. This would be put forward to the parties concerned, the Parish Council already having written to Christleton Parish Council, the developers and the Planning Authority stating they were vehemently opposed the routing of such traffic via Littleton Lane and Little Heath Road which were already beset with problems relating to traffic.

It was felt that it may well be appropriate for the Parish Council to enter into discussion with the farmer who was apparently involved in talks with the developers about routing construction traffic via his fields.

The Parish Council also discussed the use of the hump back bridge from the A41 near to the Law College by smaller capacity HGVs.

It was understood that the developers would be donating a sum of money for the benefit of the local community and it would remain to be seen whether any of this would be offered to Littleton. Councillor Gilliatt referred to a proposal to use a portion of land behind the church for a car park.

**20/44 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1) 20/00503/FUL – 1 The Nurseries – Single Storey Rear Extension and Two Storey Side Extension and Detached Garage – it was noted that planning permission had been granted for this proposed development.

Reference was also made to the problems with the sewage piping at this property which obviously still had not been resolved.

2) 20/00302/FUL – 28 Tarvin Road – Change of use of outbuildings etc – notification of appeal

**20/45 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 the report of the Clerk be received

**20/46 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 23.50

4) Enforcement Specialists – Serving of Notice 480.00

5) Litter Warden – 27 hours @ £5 135.00

6) Clerk – reimbursement for purchase of printer 49.99

7) Clerk – reimbursement for PC Field clearance by B&M 192.00

**20/47 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £25.00

**20/48** **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

CW&C CEO – A51 Tarvin-Chester Improvements – response to Parish Council’s initial letter

Cheshire West and Chester Council

– Planning notifications

Cheshire Constabulary – PCSO Linda Bailey – Newsletters

Cheshire Association of Local Councils – E Bulletins

Mr Allan Samuel, Fir Tree Lane – concerns re Public Rights of Way being abused by the influx of walkers to the area. Problems with litter, dog fouling and damage to crops. The Parish Council had posted maps of the footpaths on the notice boards with a request that walkers abide by the Countryside Code rules.

Also Active Travel Forum meeting notes.

Sarah Green – Little Heath Road – Christleton Hall Development – Christleton resident supporting route for construction traffic via Pearl Lane

Colin Heritage and Karen Campbell – Littleton residents objecting to the route for construction traffic down Little Heath Road.

**20/49 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

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

Monday 7 September 2020

**20/50 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1) Parish Field Incursion by Travelers – the Clerk reported on the recent incursion of the Parish Field by Travelers, 23 – 30 June. This necessitated the employment of a firm of bailiffs who served an Eviction Notice. Subsequently a firm (B&M) was hired to clear the field of the rubbish that was left by the travelers.

Members of CRUFC and PCSO Linda Bailey were fully involved in dealing with the crisis and whilst CRUFC had offered to share the burden of the cost it was hoped that the Parish Council’s insurers would cover this.

Councillors were mindful of the possibility of future such incursions and CRUFC were already being pressed to explore options to increase the security of the field as the travelers had been able to gain access to the field simply by lifting the gate off its hinges. **DT**

Councillor Lovering referred to the side gate (partly funded by the Parish Council) from the Club which was currently used by youngsters as a safer crossing point to access the pitch on the Parish Field. It was hoped that this practice would be adopted by all users of that pitch.

2) Hare Lane Copse - the Clerk reported on clearance work done by himself and Councillor Hilary Davies in the area to remove undergrowth overwhelming the saplings and to chop down the Hogweed. It was suggested that local residents might be interested in getting involved which such work on a regular basis to keep the undergrowth under control as “Friend of hare Lane Copse” and the Clerk would include a reference to this in the Report posted on the notice boards and website. **DT**

3) New Tree Officer – it was noted that CW&C had appointed a new Tree Officer. Members felt it would be a good time to revisit the Fir Tree Lane TPO issue. **DT**

4) Public Right of Way – it was noted that many people unfamiliar with the paths in and around Littleton did not realise that the route past the White House property labelled “Private Property” by the owner was a PROW they could use.