

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
held on 17th June 2019 at 7pm at Cressbrook Club

PRESENT: Cllr K Oscroft in the Chair
Cllrs N Gregory, G Rooke & C Robinson

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk

2081 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

2082 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared for agenda items.

2083 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor Rooke proposed and Councillor Oscroft seconded that Councillor Robinson be elected as Vice Chair.

There being no further nominations it was therefore

RESOLVED: That Councillor C Robinson be elected as Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

2084 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting was attended by Claire Saxby who had been invited to observe the meeting as a prospective Councillor.

2085 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th May 2019

RESOLVED: That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes as being a true and correct record.

2086 ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

-1947 Sunnybank Land Swap

RESOLVED: To take this agenda item under Part 2 with press and public excluded along with item 13 New Councillors.

-1981 HGVs using Litton as a short cut to the A6

An email relating to vehicle speed and classification count surveys carried out by DCC was circulated to the meeting.

The results of the speed survey showed that the average speed of vehicles travelling along Mires lane westbound was 27.7mph and eastbound 29.4mph.

The same speed survey carried out along Litton Dale northeast bound found that the

average speed of vehicles was 31.1mph and southwest bound 30.3mph. The classification count was only carried out at Litton Dale and had the following results.

Northeast bound the average daily flow was 524 vehicles of which 465 were cars, leaving 59 other vehicles which includes HGVs, Buses and Motorcycles.

Southwest bound the average daily flow was 543 of which 473 were cars leaving 70 other vehicles which includes HGVs, Buses and Motorcycles.

Neither results would trigger any further surveys being carried out by DCC.

Councillor Robinson reported that residents at the Annual Parish Meeting had asked whether the 30mph signs could be moved further outside the village to give vehicles time to slow down before the village boundary.

Councillor Rooke stated that he had already requested this of DCC but they had responded that they don't put 30mph signs outside of villages and where they are at the moment is the only option.

Residents had also asked whether gates could be put at the entrance to Litton Village, similar to those at Hope, as they felt that this is effective in slowing down vehicles.

Councillor Rooke noted that HGVs had been seen using Conjoint Lane and that although this lane has a weight limit the signs are no longer visible.

RESOLVED: To ask for the weight limit signs at either end of Conjoint Lane to be reinstated.

District Councillor Clare Gamble offered to find out whether there were any regulations with regard to noise levels from vehicles at different times of the day.

-1994 PLAYGROUND/MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD DEVELOPMENT

Councillor Robinson stated that residents at the Annual Parish Meeting were receptive to moving the pod swing to where the netball hoop is, but felt that moving it to the Memorial Playing Field might create a nuisance problem there.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Rooke will contact Ellesmere Playground Products Limited for a new quote for removing the netball hoop and moving the pod swing in its place.

RESOLVED: To ask the school if they want the netball hoop.

-2022 SPEEDING IN LITTON

IT WAS RESOLVED: That following the results of the speed survey conducted by DCC and insufficient volunteers, to be trained on the use of a community speed gun, coming forward this item would be left in abeyance.

-2051 REPAIRS TO PLAYGROUND WALL

Councillor Rooke informed members that Mr Marsden had completed the work rebuilding the wall at the playground and had also submitted an estimate of £535 for the repairs to the playground wall near the pod swing which has recently fallen down.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Clerk will ask Mr Marsden to make the repairs at a cost of £535.

-2061 PLAYGROUND NUISANCE COMPLAINT

The Council hopes that moving the pod swing will help with the playground nuisance, but as an added measure to improve visibility to that corner of the playground

IT WAS RESOLVED: To ask Sunnybank if they would be amenable to removing the laurel hedges etc and replacing them with something more suitable such as a beech hedge.

-2067 REGISTERING CRESSBROOK WAR MEMORIAL AS A COMMUNITY ASSET

It was noted that this process has not yet been started,

-2075 REMOVAL OF SPENT FLOWERS/WREATHS AT THE CEMETERY & GRANT APPLICATION UPDATE

It was noted that the grant application submitted for the redevelopment of the Garden of Remembrance was unsuccessful.

Councillor Robinson reported that she had posted on Facebook and mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting that anyone who did not want spent flower/wreaths removed from graves at the cemetery by the handy-person should contact the Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Councillor Gregory will draft a Notice for the reverse of the Cemetery noticeboard to include the Council's policy on removing spent flowers and wreaths.

2087 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

The Council's Standing Orders were circulated to members together with Appendix 2.

RESOLVED: That the Standing Orders and Appendix 2 be approved for the next 12 months.

2088 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Council's Financial Regulations were circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That the Financial Regulations be approved for the next 12 months.

2089 REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT

The Council's Risk Assessment was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That the Risk Assessment be approved for the next 12 months.

2090 REVIEW OF THE FIXED ASSET REGISTER

The Fixed Asset Register updated for the current insurance values was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That the Fixed Asset Register be approved for the next 12 months.

2091 INSURANCE RENEWAL

The insurance renewal for the final year of the 3 year insurance agreement was circulated to members.

2092 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notes from the Annual Parish Meeting held in May were circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That the notes give a true and correct record of the Annual Parish Meeting.

2093 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application number: NP/DDD/0519/0505

Hammerton Hall Farm, Post Office Row, Litton

Listed Building Consent – Conversion of traditional buildings to form three residential units

(1 open market unit, 1 holiday let dwelling and 1 ancillary/holiday let).

RESOLVED: To support the application as it is an expansion to a local business, but to question the need for one of the units to be ‘open market’.

2094 PLAYGROUND – ROSPA REPORT

A copy of the annual ROSPA inspection report was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: To ask ROSPA to be more specific about what is wrong with the Multi-play climber.

2095 PARKING IN LITTON VILLAGE

Councillor Robinson reported that she had received a request from a resident for parking restriction outside her house as she cannot park anywhere near her house at times, due to the number of visitors parking in the village.

RESOLVED: That District Councillor Gamble will refer to DCC and find out if there is a possibility of introducing residents parking to parts of Litton.

Councillor Oscroft stated that he had received a complaint from a resident that he could not turn in or out from his drive at times due to parked cars.

RESOLVED: Councillor Gregory will move the signs that are currently on the Village Green near The Old Shop further apart to see if this helps.

2096 RIGHTS OF WAY MINOR MAINTENANCE

A letter relating to the 2019/20 Rights of Way Minor Maintenance Scheme was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: To apply to the scheme for a grant to provide better signage pointing to the footpath that leads down to Tansley Dale.

2097 TREE MAINTENANCE PROJECT

Councillor Gregory reported to members that he had received a quote from N & G Tomlinson for £1,030 in respect of taking down the leaning Sycamore tree, that is opposite the shop and the Rowan tree next to it and for the stumps to be removed.

IT WAS AGREED: That N & G Tomlinson should be instructed to remove the trees in the Autumn.

2098 FINANCE (SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS ATTACHED)

The Clerk submitted accounts for which cheques numbered 1630 to 1637 in the sum of £3,510.54 had been drawn. As well as details of a debit card transaction to HMRC in the sum of £223.60.

It was noted that the current account bank statement balance at 5th June 2019 was £10,137.46.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the cheques be signed and the accounts to which they relate be paid as well as the debit card transaction.

A copy of the internal auditor's report on the 2018/19 Annual Return was circulated to members for information.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 Part 3 with supporting bank reconciliations and explanations of variances were circulated to members and the following was **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Annual Governance Statement, Section 1 of the Return is approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk.
- (2) That the Accounting Statements, Section 2 of the Return are approved and signed by the Responsible Financial Officer and Chair.

2099 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Western Power regarding repairs to cable underneath the Village Green in Litton was circulated to members.

It was noted that this work had already taken place and that Western Power had left the green in a poor condition.

An email complaint about the mowing of Barrat Lane in Litton was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: To ask the Grass Cutting Contractor not to mow to the edges of the lane next year.

An email highlighting the damage to the Village Green in front of Hall Farm Guest House was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: To ask the Handy-Person to put some grass seed or turf down and tape the area off, after wakes week.

MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings act 1960) s1 to exclude members of the press and public to the update on action 1947 under item 6 and also

item 13 on the Agenda ,on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

2100 NEW COUNCILLORS

After discussions relating to Claire Saxby's application to become a Councillor of Litton Parish Council it was

RESOLVED: To appointed Claire Saxby as a Councillor to the Council.

Claire was invited to re-join the meeting and the Chair welcomed her to the Council.

2101 SUNNYBANK

RESOLVED: That the Council will go through the paperwork with the new Councillors to see if a way forward can be found.