

**LITTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting  
held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm in Litton Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Robinson in the Chair  
Cllrs C Brunt, C Gamble, N Gregory, I Rennie & C Saxby

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk  
District Councillor N Buttle

**2793 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Rooke who was unable to attend due to holiday.

**2794 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no interests declared for agenda items.

**2795 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

**2796 MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

There were no agenda items that required the exclusion of members of the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1.

**2797 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the monthly council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October as being a true and correct record.

**2798 ACTIONS FROM THE MINUTES**

**-2764 20S PLENTY AND 30MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION**

Councillor Brunt stated that the survey proposing to extend the 30mph speed limit to further towards the edge of Cressbrook village and also reduced the current 30mph speed limit to a mandatory 20mph, had inadvertently already been circulated to Cressbrook residents. Twenty-nine responses have so far been received with overwhelming support for the proposal.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To use the same survey to gather the opinions of residents of Litton and Litton Mill. Survey's will be available for completion online or paper copies will be available at Litton Village Shop.

It was noted that the Parish Council is still awaiting a response from DCC regarding the Parish Council's letter of support for the '20s Plenty Campaign' and offering the three parish villages as pilots for a rural roll out of the 20mph trial.

Councillor Brunt also circulated a picture of a 'Quiet Lane' signpost which might also prove effective at slowing down traffic along certain roads in the parish.

**-2765 CRESSBROOK LINKING FOOTPATH APPLICATION TO DCC – LINKING FOOTPATH 13 TO 14**

It was noted that the Footpaths Officer is progressing the application.

**-2769 SEATING IN LITTON’S BUS SHELTER**

The Clerk informed members that the delivery cost for the bench was going to be £79.

**IT WAS AGREED:** To authorise the delivery cost and arrange for the bench to be delivered to the Chair’s address for storage until it can be installed.

**-2781 BIRD BOXES**

**IT WAS AGREED:** That the Chair will contact Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to find out which type of bird boxes to place around the parish.

**-2782 WYCH ELM AT CRESSBROOK WAR MEMORIAL**

Councillor Gregory informed members that he had chased the tree surgeon regarding the inspection of the Wych Elm, but that he is currently unable to work due to a bad back.

**IT WAS AGREED:** To find out how long the tree surgeon will be off work and if the delay is likely to be significant to find an alternative tree surgeon to undertake the work.

**-2783 WALL REBUILD AND REMOVAL OF SAPLINGS AT CRESSBROOK WAR MEMORIAL**

Councillor Brunt informed members that the wall abutting the road at the War Memorial is listed due to its historical importance. Councillor Brunt also stated that she has met with County Councillor Alasdair Sutton at the site to discuss whether it is Highways or the property owner’s responsibility to maintain the wall. The Council is currently awaiting a response from Highways.

Councillor Brunt also confirmed that as some of the saplings at the war memorial are now quite large and the PDNPA’s Tree Officer will need to be consulted before they can be removed.

**-2785 CONSULTATION OF PLANS FOR THE LAND AT CRESSBROOK WAR MEMORIAL**

Cressbrook residents are being consulted on their preference for the development of the War Memorial land. The current tentative proposal is for the steps next to the war memorial to be reinstated with a path leading to a bench that looks towards the Dale.

Councillor Brunt also met with the PDNPA’s Community Policy Planner for advice on developing the war memorial area. The CPP has put her in touch with a number of other experts who can advise on its development and also potential funding sources.

**-2787 PLAYGROUND SIGNAGE**

The Clerk reported that Councillor Rooke has suggested that the current playground sign is too old to add the new wording that the Parish Council require. An alternative would be to apply to Tarmac for funding to cover the cost of a new sign that can then incorporate all the necessary emergency contact information.

**-2790 WALL AT CRESSBROOK GREEN**

It was noted that work has started on repairs to the wall on Cressbrook Village Green. The stones on the green have now been removed and the wall has been temporarily fenced to reduce the risk of personal injury. Once the weather improves work to rebuild the wall will recommence.

**2799 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application Number NP/DDD/0923/1026 - Cressbrook Hall, Bottomhill Road, Cressbrook  
Development Description - Listed Building consent - Convert existing window aperture on the

north elevation of Cressbrook Hall into an external doorway. The location is the elevation that was formed out of the earlier double garage under planning consent WED1084439 granted in 1984.

**IT WAS AGREED:** That the Parish Council has no objection to the above planning application.

Application Number - NP/DDD/1023/1299 Site address –Footbridge to the North West of Cressbrook Mill, Cressbrook

Development Description - Replacement pedestrian footbridge over the River Wye at Cressbrook Mill. Bridge to carry a concessionary footpath that is an important access route for the surrounding area. The structure will consist of a GRP deck with timber handrails and be of a simple design not dissimilar to the existing bridge.

**IT WAS AGREED:** That the Parish Council supports the above planning application.

## **2800 FINANCE**

(i) Accounts for payment

The Clerk submitted a schedule of payments in the sum of £414.36 for approval.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That the schedule of payments be signed and the accounts to which they relate be paid.

It was also noted that the current account balance as at 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023 was £4,092.72 and the reserve account balance was £10,439.01.

(ii) Clerk's 2023/24 pay award.

It was noted that NALC's recommended pay award for 2023/24 results in a £1 per hour increase.

(iii) Draft Budget and precept demand for 2024/25

The draft budget and precept demand for 2024/25 was circulated to members.

Following discussion **IT WAS RESOLVED** that minor adjustments are required to the budget and the precept demand will need to be increased by 25% due to the increasing costs.

## **2801 FEEDBACK ON PARISHES FORUM DAY**

Councillor Brunt gave feedback to Councillors on the annual Peak District National Park Authority Parishes' Day. The day is designed to feed back to the PDNPA local opinions on their policy making and this year focused mainly on the Authorities Settlement Strategy.

## **2802 WILDING AREA IN LITTON**

The wilding area in Litton Cemetery was discussed further for the benefit of Councillors not at the October meeting.

**IT WAS AGREED:** That Councillor Gregory and the Clerk will meet with the grass cutting contractor in the New Year to discuss the wilding of the cemetery further.

**IT WAS ALSO AGREED:** To trial creating an area around the Sycamore tree in front of Litton Shop. It was acknowledged that wild flowers would need to be planted in this area.

## **2803 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To move to a one year rolling contract to align with the Handy Person contract. The Clerk will therefore amend the contract in the manner discussed for approval at the December meeting.

#### **2804 CEMETERY GATES**

Councillor Gregory reported that the pedestrian gate at Litton Cemetery is rubbing against the tarmac path and causing scuffing.

**IT WAS AGREED:** To monitor the situation over the next couple of months to see if it is weather related.

#### **2805 SUPPORT OF CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY BILL**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council supports the Bill.

#### **2806 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence has been received by the Clerk since the last Council Meeting.

- Email from Cressbrook resident raising concerns regarding unsafe trees impacting on the roads through Cressbrook.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To refer the matter to Highways at DCC.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.