

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
held on 17th March 2025 at 7.15pm in Litton Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Saxby in the Chair
Cllrs Brunt, Gregory, Howe, Rennie & Rooke

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk

2993 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2994 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

2995 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The owners of the Red Lion pub attended to discuss their proposal for the tables and chairs on the village green going forward. They stated that they intend to remove the older tables by Easter and just leave the 6 canopied tables. They offered to cut the grass around the table themselves, however Councillors explained that as it is Village Green there are certain responsibilities and protections that the Parish Council must abide by and therefore grass cutting would need to remain the responsibility of the Council.

2996 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.

2997 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17TH February 2025.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the monthly council meeting held on 17th February as being a true and correct record.

2998 ACTIONS FROM THE MINUTES

-2989 Update on the General Condition of the Roads in the Parish

Councillor Rooke stated that he had walked the length of Mires Lane with County Councillor Sutton so that he could assess the extent of the deterioration in the condition of the road.

Councillor Sutton had said that parts of Mires Lane will need to be resurfaced and other parts where there are smaller potholes will be filled.

The Clerk also informed members that she drove between Litton Cemetery and Cressbrook with Councillor Sutton and pointed out all the potholes. Councillor Sutton made notes and these will get filled.

Councillor Sutton was unable to give a timescale for the repairs.

-2990 Update on War Memorial and Land at Cressbrook

Update on War Memorial and Land at Cressbrook

Councillor Brunt stated that she had met with a Stonemason to discuss the war memorial's renovation.

The Stonemason said that trees to the north of the memorial as well as the two conifers should be removed to prevent lichens from recolonising after cleaning the Memorial.

Various options for the plaques were discussed, ie replacing the two plaques (very costly) as it is not possible to re-carve the lettering. Councillor Brunt will circulate photographs of a war memorial that the Stonemason has recently completed where the lettering was painted with black and then sealed. This is long lasting and visually pleasing.

The Stonemason is to quote for repair of the broken small stone pillar and get quotes for the repair of the railings and chain stanchion. Councillor Howe is also asking for a quote for the railing repair from a local welder.

The Stonemason recommended a resin finish for the surrounding surface which can be coloured the same as the Memorial stone or the limestone edging. The Stonemason is to provide separate quotes for the different elements of the renovation.

Further quotes are to be obtained from other Stonemasons.

Elsewhere on the site there are 2 dead ash trees close to the road that need to be removed as soon as possible. No permission is necessary for this but perhaps notify the PDNPA tree officer.

-2988 Update on Memorial Playing Field wall

Councillor Gregory informed members that he had not yet been able to speak with the owner of Holland Twine Farm regarding the Memorial Playing Field wall.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Clerk will investigate whether it would be possible for the Parish Council to apply for a county parish holding number.

It was also noted that the ivy encroaching from the Church boundary onto the entrance to the Memorial Playing had been cleared by Steve and Rosemary. The Parish Council extended its thanks to them for this work and also the work that they do maintaining the flower tubs in Litton, which is very much appreciated.

2999 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

NP/DDD/1124/1205 - Cressbrook Hall, Bottomhill Road, Cressbrook,

The provision of two parking bays and steel frame canopy. Including proposed removal of a disused oil tank with associated landscaping and hard-standing provision.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Council has no objection to this application.

3000 FINANCE

(i) Accounts for payment

The Clerk submitted a schedule of payments in the sum of £6,3068.68 for approval.

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

The current account balance as at 17th March 2025 was £6,183.64 and the reserve account balance was £7,669.41.

(ii) Full Year Comparison of Actual Income and Expenditure against that Budgeted.

A comparison between the income and expenditure for the full year was circulated to members.

It was noted that the Parish Council's expenditure for the year was higher than its income due to a large amount of tree maintenance required at the beginning of the year. This was predominantly covered by transferring £3,000 from reserves.

3001 PRE-INSURANCE RENEWAL QUESTIONNAIRE

The annual pre-insurance renewal questionnaire was circulated to members for their consideration. **IT WAS RESOLVED:** That the insurance is adequate for the Parish Council's needs and nothing needs to be added.

3002 REFURBISHMENT OF THE PLAYGROUND AND MONTHLY CONDITION REPORT

Councillor Rooke informed members that the play equipment all looks in good working order. The new infant swings have been installed and the roundabout refurbishment had been completed.

It was noted that the varnish on the wooden benches is beginning to peel and Councillor Rooke will keep an eye on their condition.

3003 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING PLANNING

Following discussion, **IT WAS AGREED** that the Annual Parish Meeting will be shortened to 30 minutes and will be held between 6.30pm and 7pm on Tuesday 20th May with the Parish Council's Annual and Monthly meetings following at 7pm.

3004 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM FRIENDS OF LITTON SCHOOL TO HOLD A PET SHOW ON THE MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD

The Chair informed member that Friends of Litton School had asked whether the dog exclusion on the Memorial Playing Field could be temporarily lifted so that they could hold a pet show on it.

IT WAS RESOVLED: That the Parish Council would not be able to make an exception to the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) currently in place, as to do so would make it more difficult to challenge people who break the PSPO in the future. There were also concerns about the health risks associated with dog fouling.

3005 CORRESPONDENCE

- Notice of Road Closure 4th/5th May 2025 part of Mires Lane and Church Street for a VE Day Street Party.
- Notice of Road Closure 24th June 2025 part of Mires Lane and Church Street for Litton Carnival.
- Email from PDNPA stating that as part of their Local Plan Review process they are undertaking a 'Call for Sites' until 5th May 2025. This gives local landowners, developers, community groups and individuals the opportunity to put forward sites to be considered for:
 - The development of new homes and businesses
 - Nature recovery
 - Designation as Local Green Spaces

Information and site submission forms are on their website [Call for sites: Peak District National Park](#).

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.17pm.