

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
held on 18th September 2023 at 7pm in Litton Village Hall

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

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk

2751 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2752 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared for agenda items.

2753 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were four members of the public who wished to speak about the proposed wilding area on Litton Village Green.

The residents expressed their opposition to the chosen site for a rewilding area. They explained that whilst they are not against rewilding, they feel that the centre of the village is not the right location as it will look out of place with the other greens in the village.

They suggested that the grass area in front of the playground or Chapel would be more suitable, or the area behind the Garden of Remembrance at the Cemetery.

IT WAS AGREED: That the Council will take onboard the residents' comments and suggestions and give the proposal further consideration.

Councillor David Horne from Tideswell Parish Council introduced himself as he has recently moved into Litton. He is particularly interested in environmental and wildlife issues in the community. He is also a member of the Tideswell Community Park Pavilion Committee who are working on a project to provide indoor sports facilities for the local communities.

2754 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.

2755 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17TH JULY 2023

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

2756 ACTIONS FROM THE MINUTES

-2734 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MINOR MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT 2023-24

IT WAS RESOLVED: That as the agreement does not cover the works that the Parish

Council had intended to carry out it would not be able to participate in the scheme this year.

2757 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application was received August and a response of no objection was given.

NP/DDD/0723/0846 Site address -Lane End Farm, Mires Lane, Litton

2758 FINANCE

(i) Accounts for payment

The Clerk submitted a schedule of payments in the sum of £4,087.32 for approval.

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

It was noted that income totalling £444 had been received since the last meeting, in respect of table rents and memorials placed at the cemetery.

It was also noted that the current account balance as at 18th July 2023 was £9,245.98 and the reserve account balance was £10,439.01.

2759 WILDING AREA IN LITTON

Following discussions **IT WAS RESOLVED** to look into creating a wilding area at the cemetery rather than the Village Green in Litton.

It was also proposed that small circles around some of the trees in the parish could be left for rewilding.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To initially trial one tree in Litton near the shop to see how successful it is.

IT WAS AGREED: That the Clerk will ask the mowing contractor whether his machinery would be able to cut a wilding area once a year and remove the grass.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED: To ask District Councillor Buttle if he could contribute, through the District Council's Local Projects Fund, to the purchase of some plant plugs to assist the rewilding.

2760 FEEDBACK ON PLAYGROUND SAFETY INSPECTION TRAINING

John Hattersley, from the Playground Committee gave his feedback on the Playground Inspection Training he had recently attended.

John stated that the inspections undertaken by the Playground Committee are more rigorous than the guidelines suggest. The main things that the Council currently needs to consider are that the canopy of the trees near the swings could be hazardous to users and the playground signage should make its location clear for the emergency services in case of an incident.

Councillors expressed their thanks to John for attending the course and his continued regular safety inspections of the playground.

IT WAS AGREED: That the Parish Council's email address should be added to the Playground Noticeboard so that any problems with the playground can be reported to the Clerk.

2761 PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE AND BIN EMPTYING

Councillor Gamble stated that the trapping hazard on the roundabout had now been fixed and suggested that barafoam could be an effective way of covering the exposed metal on the infant swing cradles.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To cover the infant swings with barafoam and monitor its durability.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: To ask the handy person to provide a quote for cleaning and treating the wooden benches at the playground with wood preserver.

Councillor Rooke reported that the bin at the playground did not appear to have been emptied over the summer as it was continually overflowing.

IT WAS AGREED: that the Clerk will write to DDDC asking for a copy of the terms of the Parish Council's bin emptying contracts with them.

2762 BARRET LANE

Councillor Robinson stated that the bottom end of Barratt Lane was overgrown and becoming impassable.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to ask the mowing contractor to undertake the annual strim of Barratt Lane.

2763 LOCATION OF BICYCLE RACK IN LITTON

IT WAS AGREED: That the bicycle rack should be secured against the wall in front of the playground, near the charity bins as there is already a concrete base at this location.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED: That Councillor Gregory will arrange for a sign to be made asking people not to block access to the bicycle rack.

2764 20S PLENTY AND 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION

It was noted that the Council had not received a response to its letter to DCC requesting that it implements 20 mph limits on roads in the villages of Litton, Litton Mill and Cressbrook.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To ask DCC whether they have had the opportunity to consider the Parish Council's letter.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: To undertake a survey of residents, using Survey Monkey, to ascertain their views on getting the speed limit lowered to 20mph and the speed limit signs moved to cover more of Cressbrook village.

2765 CRESSBROOK LINKING FOOTPATH APPLICATION TO DCC – LINKING FOOTPATH 13 TO LITTON FOOTPATH 14

Councillor Brunt circulated diagrams showing footpaths 13 and 14 together with a proposed new footpath across the top of open access land at Cressbrook Dale, to link the

2 paths together.

IT WAS AGREED: That Councillor Brunt should investigate the application process further.

2766 SNOW WARDEN SCHEME 2023/24

The Chair agreed to act as Snow Warden again for winter 2023/24.

2767 CORONATION COMMEMORATIVE TREE

IT WAS AGREED: To plant the commemorative tree on the Village Green in front of Post Office Row.

2768 TOMLINSON QUOTE/WYCH ELM TREE AT WAR MEMORIAL

It was noted that the Council now owns the War Memorial and surrounding piece of land.

The Council has been informed by the owner of a property neighbouring the land that DCC inspected the Wych Elm tree on the land and deemed it to be unsafe.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Clerk will request a copy of the report from DCC.

2769 SEATING IN LITTON'S BUS SHELTER

The Chair reported that a resident had asked whether seating could be provided in the bus shelter in Litton.

IT WAS AGREED: That the Clerk will look at the cost of a 2m standing perch seat for the bus shelter.

2770 REMEMBRANCE DAY WREATH

IT WAS AGREED: That the Parish Council will give a donation of £25 and order a wreath for Remembrance Day.

2771 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- 2023 Derbyshire Dales Community Walking Festival - noted
- DDDC - Change of bin collection from 18 September – advertised on Facebook
- DALC August and September newsletters - noted
- Safer Neighbourhood Team's August newsletter – copy on website
- Numerous emails from residents relating to the proposed wilding area in Litton – dealt with above.
- It was also noted that Councillors Gregory and Gamble and now unable to attend the Peak Park Parishes' Day and so Councillor Brunt will attend instead.

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