

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
held on 21st September 2020 at 7pm via ZOOM

PRESENT: Cllr G Rooke in the Chair
Cllrs J Mason & R Rennie

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk
District Cllr C Gamble

2260 ELECTION OF CHAIR

The first item of business transacted was the election of a Chair for the meeting. Councillor Mason proposed and Councillor Rennie seconded that Councillor Rooke be elected as Chair for the meeting.

There being no further nominations it was therefore

RESOLVED: That Councillor Rooke be elected as Chair of the Parish Council for the September Monthly Meeting of the Council.

Councillor Rooke took the Chair.

2261 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors K Oscroft (holiday) C Robinson (family commitments), C Saxby (work commitments) and N Gregory (work commitments).

2262 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared for agenda items.

2263 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The link to enable members of the public to join the monthly meeting via Zoom was included in the agenda, which was posted on the Parish Council website.

There were two members of the public present at the start of the meeting.

The members of the public indicated that they wished to speak in relation to item 6 on the Agenda. The Chair proposed and Councillors **AGREED** that this item be move to be the first item for discussion on the Agenda.

2264 MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 to exclude members of the press and public to items 20 and 21 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. A separate confidential link was given to Councillors

to facilitate this.

2265 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20TH JULY 2020

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

2266 CAMPER VANS PARKING IN CRESSBROOK CAR PARK

A letter was circulated to members, from the Highways Hub at DCC following contact from a resident suggesting that campervans parked in the car park at Cressbrook are being stored there rather than parked which is forcing would-be-users to park on the street.

The members of the public both stated that the campervans were used as second vehicles and would therefore need to be parked on the road if not in the car park which would cause even more disruption.

They also stated that this issue was discussed at the Cressbrook Community Group meeting held in October 2019 and was not regarded as being an issue.

It was also noted that a campervan owner who was unable to attend the meeting had submitted an email with the same assertions.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That as the campervans are used as second vehicles the Parish Council would not intervene.

2267 ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

-2174 Litton telephone kiosk adoption contract

The Clerk reported that she is arranging for an isolator to be fitted immediately after the main fuse so that the electricity can be safely isolated.

-2177 Dog Fouling

It was noted that Evie Rowarth-Warriner had won the poster competition and that the posters are now displayed in Litton.

-2221 Seating area of Cressbrook Village Green

Councillor Mason stated that she and her partner, who is a stone mason, had inspected the seat on the village green in Cressbrook and would make the necessary repairs and reattach the seat in the next couple of weeks free of charge.

The Council requested that Councillor Mason convey its thanks to her partner Andrew.

-2236 Website Accessibility Regulations

A draft website accessibility statement was circulated to members.

It was noted that Councillor Rennie had revamped the Parish Council's website and fixed the majority of issues with accessibility so that it is now predominantly compliant with The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (known as WCAG 2.1).

The Council thanked Councillor Rennie for her work on the website and **RESOLVED:** That the Accessibility Statement be approved and displayed on the Council's website.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: That the Clerk and Councillor Rennie will work towards full compliance as soon as practicable.

-2250 PARKING, SIGNAGE AND OVERGROWN VERGES AT CRESSBROOK

A third member of the public joined the meeting to talk on this issue. She stated that the 30mph sign and grit bin at the top end of the village were completely obscured by overgrowth.

It was noted that despite DCC cutting back the verges along Middle Row the white lines along the edge near the overgrown holly bushes in the middle section of the road, were still obliterated and so visitors to the village were unaware that they should not park on these narrow sections of the road.

District Councillor Gamble explained that following the issues in Cressbrook, DCC's contract for flail mowing at Cressbrook will be changed to strimming as the flail mower cannot cut back the verges.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That photographs of the overgrown verges will be sent to District Councillor Gamble so that she can investigate this further.

Signage to highlight the need for emergency and service vehicles to travel through Cressbrook village was also discussed.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That new signage stating 'Please do not park in areas marked with white lines' should be requested from DCC to be placed on the 30mph signs at either end of Cressbrook Village.

-2251 RENEWAL OF PLAY CHIP AT THE PLAYGROUND

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Clerk will apply to the District Councillor's Local Projects Fund for funding towards the cost of renewing the play chip at the Playground.

-2252 PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

The results of the playground improvements survey were circulated to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Playground Committee should produce 3 scenarios for playground improvements, to reflect minor, medium and major changes.

2268 RETENDERING OF HANDY PERSON AND GRASS CUTTING CONTRACTS FROM 1ST APRIL 2021

The current handy person and grass cutting contracts were circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That Councillors Rennie and Gregory will review the contracts prior to the retendering process commencing.

2269 REQUEST FOR ONGOING SUPPORT FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR AT LITTON VILLAGE HALL

An email was circulated from the custodian of Litton's defibrillator stating that the pads and battery were in need of replacement.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To approach Friends of Litton for the funds as they have previously agreed to fund the maintenance of the defibrillator.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: To thank Sarah Bottomley for taking on the custodian role for Litton's defibrillator.

2270 REQUEST FOR MEMORIAL TREE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN IN LITTON

The Clerk reported that Derek Robinson's family had approached the Council about contributing to a tree on the village green in his memory.

Councillors expressed concerns that if permitted this could lead to a wave of similar requests which could lead to the village green becoming overcrowded with trees again.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To contact the family for more details.

2271 ALTERATIONS TO WEED SPRAYING BY DCC IN LITTON

An email from DDDC regarding the frequency of weed spraying in Litton was circulated to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Parish Council will request that there is no change to the frequency of weed spraying in Litton, however, this should not be undertaken during the times when schoolchildren are either going to or coming home from school.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: To ask that more care be taken during the next weed spraying session to avoid also spraying the grass on the village greens.

2272 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application Number: NP/DDD/0920/0812 - Lane End Farm, Mires Lane, Litton,
Development Description: Erection of agricultural barn

IT WAS RESOLVED: To support the application.

Application Number: NP/DDD/0920/0811 - 85 Ravensdale Cottages, Unnamed Track from C97 to Ravensdale Cottages, Cressbrook,
Development Description: Listed building consent: Relocate existing stud-partition 300mm, removal of plasterboard sheet 500mm x 750mm in cupboard, new simple narrow 400mm staircase to access attic.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To support the application.

2273 REPORTED DAMAGE TO GRAVE STONE AT LITTON CEMETERY

It was noted that following damage to a gravestone in Litton cemetery being reported by a resident, Councillor Rooke had visited the site and taken photographs which were circulated to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That although the damage was more likely to have been a result of the deterioration of its mortar over a number of years, as a goodwill gesture, Councillor Mason will arrange for the memorial to be fixed.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: To contact the grass cutter and remind him that extra caution is required around the graves.

2274 TREE GUARDS

It was noted that tree guards would be required for the new saplings that had been purchased for the village green in Litton.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Councillor Rennie will obtain a quote for these to be made.

2275 EXTENSION OF WHITE LINE OPPOSITE HALL LANE TO ENABLE THE SERVICE BUS SPACE TO TURN ROUND

It was noted that cars parking on Main Road opposite the junction with Hall Lane are creating a problem for the bus to turn round.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To write to DCC and request that the length of the white lines on Main Road are doubled, as the parked cars are causing problems for the service bus to make its usual turn around at the junction.

2276 SPECIAL DISPENSATION REQUEST FROM COUNCILLOR GREGORY

The Clerk informed the meeting that Councillor Gregory had submitted a request for special dispensation not to attend Council meetings until February 2021 as he doesn't currently have the necessary time to fully commit to Council matters.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To grant the special dispensation request to Councillor Gregory as he is a valued member of the Council.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: To thank Councillor Gregory for all his work on the Council so far, especially his work on the tree maintenance project.

2777 PROPOSED DONATIONS UNDER S137

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Parish Council will order its usual wreath from the Royal British Legion for a donation of £25.

It was noted that Councillor Robinson had asked whether the Parish Council would consider supporting Cressbrook band who had been financially adversely affected by COVID-19.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Cressbrook band should submit a grant application to the Parish Council for consideration.

2778 REQUEST FOR FOOTPATH NEAR NEW HOUSES AT LITTON DALE

It was reported that a request had been made by a resident for a footpath to be installed at Litton Dale.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To defer this item to the October meeting to enable Councillors to take a look at the location.

2779 FINANCE (SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS ATTACHED)

Accounts for Payment

The Clerk submitted a schedule of accounts in the sum of £2,230.87 for approval.

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

It was noted that the current account balance as at 21st September 2020 was £5,832.26 and the reserve account balances £10,155.64.

2780 CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that the Monsal Trail will be temporarily closed for 2 weeks, Monday to Friday, from Monday 28th September from conservation and essential maintenance work. The closed sections are between the beginning of Litton Tunnel and the end of Cressbrook Tunnel and also Headstone Tunnel at Monsal Head.

The trail will be fully open at weekends.

It was also noted that the road at Litton Dale will be closed between 1st – 3rd October 2020 for a new water connection.

MATTERS DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

2281 VEHICULAR ACCESS ACROSS THE VILLAGE GREENS

IT WAS RESOLVED: To write to the new owners of The Hillock regarding the Licence to have vehicular access for private use only to and from their property across Litton Village Green.

2282 SUNNYBANK

Members were informed that the owners of Sunnybank had requested that the Parish Council reconsiders their request to purchase a piece of the village green.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Councillors Rooke & Mason will meet with the owners again, in an attempt to resolve the boundary issue.