

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual & Monthly Meeting
held on 21st May 2018 at 7.30pm at Litton Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr N Gregory in the Chair
Cllrs J McMillan, R Rennie, K Oscroft, C Thirtle, J Evans

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk

1939 ELECTION OF CHAIR

The first item of business transacted was the election of Chair. Councillor R Rennie proposed and Councillor J Evans seconded that Councillor N Gregory be elected as Chair.

There being no further nominations it was therefore

RESOLVED: That Councillor N Gregory be elected as Chair of the Parish Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

Councillor Gregory took the Chair.

1940 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor N Gregory proposed and Councillor R Rennie seconded that Councillor J McMillan be elected as Vice Chair.

There being no further nominations it was therefore

RESOLVED: That Councillor J McMillan be elected Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

1941 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Rooke – work commitments

1942 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Evans declared an interest in agenda item 11 planning applications as his property overlooks Lomas Cottage.

1943 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was 1 member of the public present at the meeting.

Mr K Wright spoke about the abridged article in the Village Voice which Friends of Litton had placed and which due to the shortening of the article erroneously read as if

it had been written by the Parish Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That a Councillor will be present at the next tree maintenance Phase to ensure a fair distribution of any wood.

Mr Wright then spoke regarding a request received from Litton Village Shop to erect a gazebo on the village green, on weekends when high footfall was anticipated, in order to boost sales.

IT WAS AGREED: That the item which was 16 on the Agenda would be discussed now as it had been raised.

RESOLVED: That Litton Village Shop will furnish the Council with a list of possible dates that it would like to erect the gazebo so that the Council can cross reference them with other planned community events,

Councillor Thirtle advised that he had not received a report from the PCSO for this month.

1944 MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16th April 2018

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

1945 ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

-1847 Memorial Playing Field (MPF) – It was reported that the ‘No dogs sign’ had been received.

IT WAS AGREED: That Councillor Gregory will liaise with the Handyperson to get the sign fixed onto a low stake just inside the MPF.

It was noted that Councillors Evans and Rooke had carried out the repairs to the slide in the playground.

-1871 Councillor Thirtle reported that the Handyperson had signed the new 1 year rolling contract and a copy was handed to the Clerk for safekeeping.

IT WAS AGREED: That the Clerk will circulate a copy of the contract to Councillors for information.

-1895 A letter from DDDC was circulated to members.

Councillor Rennie reported that James Warriner and Robin Broadbent had offered to erect the proposed post and rail fence at the top of the playground.

IT WAS AGREED: That Councillor McMillan will contact DDDC to obtain the necessary licence to erect a post and rail fence at the playground as it is still currently their land.

-1897 It was noted that the paperwork relating to the land exchange at the playground and details of the council's solicitor had been handed to Neil and Kerry Burrows. The council is now waiting for Neil & Kerry to appoint a solicitor.

-1906 See minute 1943 above.

-1907 It was decided that due to the nesting season the clearance of shrubs at the cemetery would be deferred to the September agenda.

-1922 It was reported that Friends of Litton School were reluctant to pay the additional £50 delivery charge for Litton's Christmas trees to be delivered in time for the School's Christmas Fair.

IT WAS AGREED: That it was not appropriate for the Friends of Litton School to get involved with a Council contract and so their request to contact the Christmas Tree supplier directly was declined.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Councillor Rennie will approach Friends of Litton to see if they are willing to contribute towards the additional delivery charge.

-1930 Clerk's remuneration - This item to be deferred to the June agenda.

-1933 It was noted that no response had been received following the Council's letter to DCC regarding the PDNPA's proposed parking charge enforcement.

-1935 It was noted that investigations as to responsibility for maintenance of the retaining wall opposite Lower Wood, Cressbrook were ongoing.

IT WAS AGREED: That Councillor McMillan will investigate the matter with the Land Registry.

-1938 It was noted that the Council had offered to meet with the organisers of Action Challenge UK regarding their use of the MPF and were awaiting a response.

1946 RESIGNATION AND COUNCILLOR APPLICATION

It was noted that the Clerk had received Councillor Evans' resignation as Councillor effective as of the end of the May meeting.

The Chair thanked Councillors Evans and Thirtle for everything they had done for the parish and for their offer of continued support where appropriate in the future.

An application to become a Councillor was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That as no applications have been received from Litton Mill or Cressbrook, Christine Robinson will be co-opted as Councillor as soon as practicable.

It was noted that retiring Councillors are required to delete all council emails and documents from their personal email accounts and electronic devices.

RESOLVED: That the Council will look into obtaining Council emails for Councillors and also at ways of encrypting documents with the advent of the new General Data Protection Regulations coming into effect on 25th May.

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 for the discussion on the following part of action 1881 under item 9, 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.

1947 LAND MATTERS

A report and maps were circulated to the meeting, outlining the current position on a number of land matters affecting the parish.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Thirtle will hand over the co-ordination of the Sunnybank land swap to Councillors Oscroft and Gregory.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED: That Councillor McMillan will take over the co-ordination of the playground land transfer.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED: That the Council will contact the Land Registry to obtain the land registry number for Cressbrook Club.

Following the above item, the press and public were readmitted to the meeting.

1948 CONTRACTED WORK AT THE CEMETERY

Councillor Thirtle gave a brief history of works completed in the last 5 years at the Cemetery and what and when the next phase is planned.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Councillor Gregory will take over liaison with the contractors for the cemetery drive which should be taking place imminently.

1949 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning application NP/DDD/0318/0268 Lomas Cottage Litton Dale
Demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of domestic extension and garage.

The above planning application was circulated to members for consideration.

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the application in principal but has reservations over the size and visual impact of the development.

Notice under Article 11 of Application for Planning Permission for Household Development – Lytton Edge Farm, Litton

IT WAS AGREED: That the council does not support the application and will write to the PDNPA setting out the reasons.

1950 FINANCE (SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS ATTACHED)

The Clerk submitted accounts for which cheques numbered 1579 to 1585 in the sum of £3,983.76 had been drawn.

It was also noted that the 2018/19 precept of £7,924 had been received from DDDC as well as a VAT rebate from HMRC for VAT paid on expenditure incurred in 2017/18 of £1,961.45.

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

A copy of the internal auditor's report on the 2017/18 Annual Return and associated papers was circulated to members for information.

1951 DOCUMENTS REVIEW FOLLOWING IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW GDPR

A General Privacy Notice was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That the General Privacy Notice be approved.

A Privacy Notice for staff, councillors and other role holders was circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That the Privacy Notice for staff, councillors and other role holders be approved.

A revised Retention Policy and Schedule were circulated to members.

RESOLVED: That the revised Retention Policy and Schedule are approved following minor amendment as discussed.

1952 INCIDENT AFFECTING COUNCILLORS

Councillor Evans reported that on Sunday 13 May he had been threatened with physical violence by a Litton resident in what he believes to be an attempt to coerce him to change Parish Council policy (police incident reference 573130518).

Litton Parish Council wish to make clear that it is committed to acting without fear or favour for the benefit of the residents of Litton Parish. The Council acknowledges that not all parishioners will always agree with the Council's decision making, but

encourages all parishioners to engage in open, transparent debate and the democratic process to have their say and so assist the Council in its decision-making process. The Council will not tolerate threatening or aggressive behaviour toward Councillors intended to influence Council policy or decision making.

1953 FACEBOOK

IT WAS RESOLVED: That in the absence of Councillors from both Litton Mill and Cressbrook a public Parish Council Facebook page will be set up in order to be able to engage with these villages.

1954 CORRESPONDENCE

A request from Litton Mill residents relating to the placing of memorial benches on Litton Mill Village Green and the possibility of creating a raised bed from the old railway sleeper benches, was circulated to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To write in support of the placing of the memorial benches on the village green in principal, although a few more details regarding the positioning and fixing of the benches is required.

An application was received from Mr Birkle of The Old Mill, Litton Mill, in relation to placing a gate in the wall at Litton Mill Village Green, in order to obtain private pedestrian access to his property.

RESOLVED: That due to time pressures and the need for more detailed debate this item be placed on the June agenda.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.25pm.