

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
held on 20th October 2025 at 7.15pm in Litton Village Hall

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

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk

3076 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Rooke who was unable to attend due to holiday.

3077 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared for agenda items.

3078 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was one member of the public present at the meeting who wished to speak on behalf of the Community Land Trust about the Tideswell Housing Needs Survey.

One hundred and forty-six responses were received of which 62 were qualified. The threshold to move to the next phase was 40. The next stage has commenced and a contractor has been found that is willing to carry the plans through planning at their expense.

3079 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.

3080 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2025

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the monthly council meeting held on 15th September as being a true and correct record.

ACTIONS FROM THE MINUTES

- **2990 Update on War Memorial and Land at Cressbrook** –It was **agreed** to look for funding from PDNPA towards the war memorial repairs and from DCC's Community Leadership fund and DDDC's Local Projects fund for the tree maintenance.
- **3074 To consider overgrown hedges in Cressbrook** – The overgrown hedges in Cressbrook appear to be on land either belonging to Stanton Estates or the Old Chapel.

3081 PLANNING APPLICATIONS - none

3082 FINANCE

- (i) The Clerk submitted a schedule of payments in the sum of £5,058.49 for approval together with a bank reconciliation as at 20th October 2025.

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

It was noted that a grant was received from DDDC on behalf of Litton Mill for a community marque. This money was paid out and included in the payment schedule.

The current account balance as at 20th October 2025 was £11,513.25 and the reserve account balance was £7,669.41.

(ii) Quarter 2 actual income and expenditure compared to that budgeted was circulated to members and noted.

3083 TREE MAINTENANCE

Councillor Gregory informed members that he had met with the tree surgeon regarding the dead trees and those showing signs of ash dieback, on the land at Cressbrook War Memorial, but that to do the works the road would need to be closed and this would involve a cost. Once the cost is ascertained the tree surgeon will be able to provide a quote for the works. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should write to County Councillor Alasdair Sutton to see if he could chase up Highways.

3084 TO CONSIDER THE PLACING OF NO PARKING SIGNS IN LITTON

It was noted that the 'No Parking' signs positioned on the Village Greens in Litton to enable residents to exit their roads are constantly being knocked over or ignored. It had been suggested that the signs could be secured with postcrete, however Councillors concluded that this was not the answer as it may make the signs more likely to snap if driven into, which could create a health and safety issue. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council will monitor the situation and also ask the grass contractor to check the signs are in place when he is mowing the village greens.

3085 TO CONSIDER THE CONDITION OF THE ROADS IN THE PARISH

It was noted that the micro patching in Cressbrook appears to have been successful, but that this has highlighted the poor condition of Mires Lane in Litton. It was **agreed** that the Clerk will contact County Councillor Alasdair Sutton and ask him to chase up the repairs to Mires Lane between the 2 30mph signs at either end of the village.

3086 TO CONSIDER THE MONTHLY PLAYGROUND REPORT

John Hattersley's monthly Playground Report was circulated to members and noted.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk will see if replacement caps for those missing on the play equipment can be purchased.

It was noted that the laurel bushes on the property abutting the playground are beginning to push against the playground wall. It was **agreed** that the Clerk will write to the owners and ask them to prune them.

3087 TO CONSIDER REVISED BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A revised biodiversity plan which had been updated by Councillor Brunt, was circulated to members.

It was **resolved**, following minor amendment, to adopt the revised Biodiversity Action Plan and publish it on the website.

It was also resolved to ask the insurance company whether our insurance would cover a small pond in the cemetery.

3088 TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF CHRISTMAS TREES

The Clerk stated that the quote for the Christmas trees this year was the same as last year at £485 including delivery. It was **resolved** to order the Christmas trees from David Howe again this year.

It was also **agreed** that it would not be necessary to ask the villages for a contribution towards the trees this year.

3089 TO CONSIDER LAYING OF THE WREATH AT LITTON REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Councillor Rennie stated that the person who usually organises the Remembrance Service has moved away and so it is unclear whether a service will be held this year. In the event that a service is not held the Parish Council wreath will be passed to Cressbrook to be laid at their Remembrance Service.

3090 TO CONSIDER SNOW WARDEN SCHEME 25/26

The Clerk stated that she had asked the Snow Wardens who had performed the task in previous years whether they would be willing to once again be Snow Wardens for the parish.

3091 TO CONSIDER SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR 2026/27 BUDGET

Councillors were asked to consider what projects they would like included in the 2026/27 budget before the next meeting when the first draft will be considered.

The following items were considered for the first draft of the budget

Cemetery paths - £4,000

War Memorial - £2,000

S137 expenditure on materials for the forest school - £50

3092 CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter received from DCC regarding overgrown vegetation at the War Memorial land. It was agreed to write to DCC explaining that tree work is planned at the War Memorial land, but that it would be necessary to close the road and permission was being sought.
- The mobile phone service provider has contacted the Clerk to say that they will no longer have a PAYG offering after October and the account will be moved to a pay monthly service at a cost of £2.50 per month.
- Request from Litton Mill for a contribution towards the cost of a marquee. It was agreed to consider the request when preparing the 2026/27 budget.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.55pm.