

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
held on 18TH July 2022 at 7pm in Litton Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Robinson in the Chair
Cllrs N Gregory, T Howe, K Oscroft, P Oscroft, G Rooke, C Saxby

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk

2533 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Following the resignation of Councillor K Oscroft as Chair, the first item of business transacted was the election of a Chair. Councillor K Oscroft proposed and Councillor G Rooke seconded that Councillor C Robinson be elected as Chair.

There being no further nominations it was **RESOLVED:** That Councillor C Robinson be elected as Chair of the Parish Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

Councillor C Robinson took the Chair.

2534 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor C Robinson proposed and Councillor N Gregory seconded that Councillor C Saxby be elected as Vice Chair.

There being no further nominations it was therefore **RESOLVED:** That Councillor C Saxby be elected Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

2535 CO-OPTION POLICY AND APPLICATION

A draft co-option policy was circulated to members.

IT WAS AGREED TO: Postpone adoption of the co-option policy to the September meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Tom Howe be co-opted as a Councillor to the Council.

2536 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillor Gamble.

2537 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared for agenda items.

2538 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

2539 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 agenda items 8 (2450) on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

IT WAS AGREED: To move item 16 on the agenda, Development of land above Ravensdale cottages to be the first matter discussed.

Due to the unprecedented hot weather **IT WAS ALSO AGREED:** To postpone agenda items 9 – 11 until the September meeting to shorten the length of the meeting.

2540 DEVELOPMENT OF LAND ABOVE RAVENSDALE COTTAGES

Two residents from Cressbrook updated the Council of the developments at Cressbrook Dale following the recent Buxton Advertiser article referring to the plans for a Community Farm on the site, by an eco-community group who have taken ownership of the land from Stanton Estates.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Clerk will write to Peak District National Park Authority requesting an update on the situation.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED: That Councillors will try and meet with the eco-community group to get an understanding of their longer-term plans.

2541 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20th JUNE 2022

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

2542 ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

-2420 WAR MEMORIAL AND ADJACENT LAND

Councillor Gregory stated that he had not yet had an opportunity to ask N&G Tomlinson to assess the safety of the Wych Elm on the site.

A vote took place to determine whether the Council should take over ownership of the site if it was able to secure the land free of charge.

Five Councillors voted in favour of the Council taking over ownership and responsibility of the land and 2 Councillors abstained from the vote.

IT WAS THEREFORE AGREED: That the Clerk will contact the current owner to see if he is willing to transfer the land to the Parish Council free of charge in return for the Council taking on the required maintenance.

-2450 SUNNYBANK LICENCE AGREEMENT

It was noted that Councillors Oscroft & Robinson had met with the owner of Sunnybank and the area of land subject to the licence had been agreed,

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Clerk will send out the licence agreement with the amended map, for signature.

-2497 REPLACEMENT BENCHES

It was noted that the handy person had repaired 'Sarah's bench' free of charge and that the family sent their thanks.

The Clerk informed members that Rosemary was meeting with Andrew Marper next week to discuss the timeframe for the laying of slabs on the village green and the anchoring of the new bench near the phone box. The Clerk also stated that she had asked Rosemary to ask Andrew whether he could lay slabs and anchor the bench that is going on the opposite village green at the same time.

-2527 PLAYGROUND SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT FINDINGS

Councillor K Oscroft stated that he had sawn off the projecting bolt threads on the entrance gate to the playground.

Councillor Rooke presented the findings and actions following a recent playground committee inspection of the playground to look at issues raised in the annual ROSPA inspection.

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT:

- Councillor Rooke will contact Proludic Ltd and ask for the missing ties and caps highlighted in the Annual Inspection Report.
- That Councillor Rooke will obtain a quote for replacing the boards on the roundabout to prevent the possibility of finger entrapment.
- The steps leading to the slide should be removed.
- Councillor Rooke will consult with the handy person about the possibility of removing some of the wooden posts in the infant playground and creating a slope instead.

-2529 LEAFLETS FOR BADLY PARKED CARS

IT WAS AGREED: That this action would be unlikely to give the desired result in view of the number of cars still parking on the junction opposite Hall Lane despite the A3 size 'no parking' signs.

2543 CO-OPTION POLICY AND APPLICATION

IT WAS AGREED: To defer this item until the September meeting.

2544 REVIEW STANDING ORDERS

IT WAS AGREED: To defer this item until the September meeting.

2545 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

IT WAS AGREED: To defer this item until the September meeting.

2546 USE OF FACEBOOK PAGE

Councillor K Oscroft informed members that following an incident where a resident did not receive a response from the Council after sending a message via Facebook, he had changed the auto reply to state that all messages should be sent to the Clerk at the

Council's email address.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Councillor Saxby will be made an administrator of the Facebook page and that all communications should, in the first instance, be published on the Parish Council's Facebook page before being shared to the 'All Things Litton' Facebook page.

2547 DISPOSAL OF CUT DOWN TREES

Councillor Robinson asked what the protocol was for disposing of the wood when a tree is cut down.

Councillor Gregory stated that the fair disposal of wood was an ongoing issue which due to the size of the logs was almost impossible to solve.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To take no action at the current time.

2548 CEMETERY REGULATIONS AND GRASS SEEDING AND LEVELLING

The Cemetery Regulations were circulated to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That due to the ambiguity of the Cemetery Regulations, Councillor Gregory will ask the handy person to level the graves of H Facer and M Hodgson.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED: To amend the Regulations to make it clearer that it is initially the family's responsibility to level the graves following an interment.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED: To ask the grass contractor if he could prune the Beech trees on the right-hand side of the cemetery as the grass doesn't require cutting at the moment.

2549 DEFIBRILLATOR PLANS/PHONE BOX

IT WAS RESOLVED: To install the spare defibrillator, given to the Council by Cressbrook Community Group, in the phone box at Litton.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED: That Councillor Oscroft will contact an electrician regarding the installation of a light and the defibrillator in the phone box.

2550 PLANNING APPLICATION

Application Number - NP/DDD/0622/0813 Alstonfield Cottage, The Green, Litton
Development Description – Listed Building Consent - Fit new chimney pot, replace all existing modern windows and external doors, rebuild short masonry boundary wall and gate, replace existing modern staircase and internal doors, form new loft access and insulate bedroom ceilings, fit new bathroom and kitchen fixtures and units, install two mechanical air extraction vents, install gas fired boiler and new radiators, remove modern fireplace to expose historic fireplace opening and install new cast iron multi-fuel appliance.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to support the planning application.

2551 FINANCE

Accounts for payment

The Clerk submitted a schedule of payments in the sum of £6,357.01 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 the current account balance as at 18th July 2022 was £13,757.43 and the reserve account balance was £10,315.04.

A schedule of actual income and expenditure compared with that budgeted for the first quarter of the financial year was circulated to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That there were no queries on the figures.

2552 CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that the following correspondence had been received by the Clerk and circulated to Councillors.

A noise complaint had been directed to the owners of the large holiday accommodation in Litton Dale, and that the local residents were advised to monitor the noise levels over the summer months.

An email regarding Derbyshire Environmental Trust's 25th Anniversary funding scheme for 2022.

An application for a felling licence at Millers Dale.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.20pm.