

## LITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting  
held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7pm via ZOOM

PRESENT: Cllr K Oscroft in the Chair  
Cllrs J Mason, R Rennie, G Rooke & C Saxby

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk  
District Cllr C Gamble

### **2244 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors C Robinson (holiday) and N Gregory (work commitments).

### **2245 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no interests declared for agenda items at the beginning of the meeting however when Councillor J Mason joined the meeting, she declared an interest in Agenda item 13.

### **2246 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 was one member of the public present at the meeting.

The resident wished to speak with the Council about the recent spraying of the curbs in Litton with weed killer which had resulted in the edges of the village green also being sprayed and killing the grass.

The spraying had also taken place near to the school at a time when the children would be starting to arrive for the day.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Gamble would approach Derbyshire Dales District Council to find out why the spraying had been done in such an aggressive manner.

### **2247 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 item 16 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.

### **2248 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020**

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

## **2249 ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING**

### **-2174 Litton telephone kiosk adoption contract**

The Clerk reported that the adoption of the telephone kiosk from BT has now been finalised.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That Councillor Oscroft will speak with the electrician to understand what needs to be done to make the electrics conform to current regulations.

### **-2177 Dog Fouling**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That Councillor Rennie will put a post of Facebook asking children in the parish to design posters to highlight the dog fouling problem.

### **-2215 REQUEST FOR ONGOING SUPPORT FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR AT LITTON VILLAGE HALL**

It was reported that a new guardian to take over the daily checks and maintenance necessary on the defibrillator had been found.

### **-2221 Seating area of Cressbrook Village Green**

It was reported that the bench currently on the village green was not put there by the Council and it should therefore be removed if it is unsafe.

It was also noted that the handy-person was looking into the possibility of obtaining a grant to improve the area where the bench is located.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Rennie will speak with the handy-person before removing the bench.

Councillor Mason stated that her partner, who is a stone mason, had volunteered to reaffix the loose paving slabs near the seat.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mason will obtain a costing for the materials required to reaffix the loose paving slabs.

### **-2224 Climate Change Environment Champion**

It was noted that Mike Jackson had agreed to be the Climate Change Champion for the parish.

Mike asked whether the Council had done anything towards reducing the parish's carbon footprint. Councillor Oscroft stated that it had been the intention of the Council to ask residents for ideas and opinions at the Annual Meeting, but it had not taken place due to the pandemic.

It was suggested that the grass verges along the main roads should not be cut back unless there was a safety issue.

### **-2236 Website Accessibility Regulations**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That Councillor Rennie will work with the Clerk to ensure that the Council's website accessibility statement is on the website by September.

Councillor J Mason joined the meeting at this point.

### **2250 PARKING AND OVERGROWN VERGES AT CRESSBROOK**

It was noted that Hulleys have suspended the 173 bus service through Cressbrook due to parked cars and overgrown trees making it impossible to operate via Cressbrook without damaging their vehicles.

The Clerk reported that she had written to Derbyshire County Council asking them to cut back the overgrown verges in Cressbrook.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk will write to Cressbrook Community Group to see if a solution to the parked cars along the road in Cressbrook can be found.

### **2251 HANDY-PERSON CONTRACT AND QUARTER 1 REPORT**

The handy-person's quarter 1 report and programme of works was circulated to members.

It was noted that the report identified that the play chip surfacing requires topping up at the playground.

**RESOLVED:** That District Councillor Gamble would investigate whether the Parish Council is entitled to any free play chip for the playground.

**IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED:** That the new 3 year handy-person contract to start on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 will be discussed as the September meeting.

### **2252 PLAYGROUND**

Councillor Rennie reported that a playground committee had been formed and they had held their first meeting last week to discuss possible improvements to the playground.

Councillor Oscroft stated that a resident had offered to purchase and install bird spikes on the pod swing to prevent the birds from landing on it.

**IT WAS AGREED:** That the Council would be happy for this to go ahead. Councillors Oscroft and Rooke reported that they had met at the playground to inspect the equipment and determine what remedial works were required following the recent ROSPA Report and closure of the playground due to coronavirus.

It was noted that another timber support had broken at the playground and that the trees required pruning as well as the litter bin moving.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That Councillor Rennie would ask James Warriner for a quote for these works.

### **2253 HGVs USING LITTON AS A SHORTCUT**

Councillor Mason reported that she had been approached by a resident on behalf of a number of other residents to see if there was anything further that the Council could do to stop the HGVs travelling through Litton.

It was noted that the Council had already investigated this issue thoroughly and that a study of traffic types and speeds had been conducted by DCC in 2019, but that they had concluded that the problem was not sufficient to warrant any action.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mason will share DCC's survey results with the residents and ask if they themselves have any ideas on how the problem can be mitigated.

#### **2254 DALC PLANNING IN DEPTH TRAINING**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That Councillors Oscroft and Rooke will attend the Planning in depth training in September at a cost of £100.

#### **2255 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Land End Farm - Proposed Caravan Site

Following detailed discussion on the proposed caravan site **IT WAS RESOLVED:** That the Council would not comment on the application.

Application Number: NP/DDD/0720/0608 - Leahurst, Litton Slack, Millers Dale  
2 storey side extension

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** To support the application on the understanding that it does not impact on the neighbouring houses.

#### **2256 COMPLAINT REGARDING OBSTRUCTION OF THE ROAD OUTSIDE THE RED LION PUB**

Councillor Oscroft outlined a complaint that he had received from a resident stating that the Red Lion had blocked the road in front of the pub resulting in the school children having to walk into the road to get to school.

Councillor Mason informed the meeting that this was a complete oversight on her behalf and that as soon as it had been brought to her attention she had apologised to the complainant and rectified the situation so that the children now have a safe route to school.

#### **2257 FINANCE (SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS ATTACHED)**

##### **(a) Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk submitted a schedule of accounts in the sum of £2,621.01 for approval.

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

##### **(b) Quarter 1 Actual -v- Budget comparisons**

A comparison between the actual quarterly income and expenditure and that budgeted was circulated to members.

#### **2258 CORRESPONDENCE**

An email regarding a claim under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to add a restricted byway along the non-classified highway between Meadow Hill House and Mayfields Farm and to add a public bridleway between the non-classified highway from Bottomhill Road was circulated to members.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** That the Council does not see a need for the classification of this road to be changed and will response accordingly.

**MATTERS DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**2259 VEHICULAR ACCESS ACROSS THE VILLAGE GREENS**

It was noted that a further letter had been sent clearly outlining why a licence was required.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.