Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held at Chester Rugby Football Club on Monday 11 July 2022

PRESENT: Parish Councillor Caroline Marrison Gill (in the Chair) and Parish

 Councillors Bettie Gilliatt, Anne Stockdale, Rob Evans and Hilary

 Davies

IN ATTENDANCE: CW&C Councillors Stuart Parker and Mark Williams

 PCSOs Linda Bailey & Deborah Netherton

 Local residents J O’Connell, W & A Hassall, M Rocke,

 P Lynn and A Parker

22/41 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor Huw Morgan.

22/42 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

1) Campsite - several local residents from Brickfield Lane and Tarvin Road attended the meeting to express their concern about the operation of a commercial campsite in the field beyond and bordering their properties.

The Brickfield Lane residents were anxious about the use of the narrow, unadopted lane as the sole access to the campsite both in terms of the safety in the lane, nuisance and also hazards presented by vehicles turning off/onto the very busy main road where there had been some serious collisions recently. There were also concerns about damage to the lane and the impact the campsite operation would have on the value of houses nearby.

The Tarvin Road residents complained about the way the field was being used eg the erection of structures unreasonably close to their boundaries eg polytunnel. The Parish Council undertook to contact Planning to express concerns about this and that the current temporary structures could become permanent. **DT**

Evidence was presented which showed that in the past planning applications had been refused on the basis of the lane being unable to accommodate extra traffic. Now the Government had changed the law with regard to pop up campsites there was the potential for significant numbers of vehicles to use the lane. It was clarified by CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker, however, that the campsite operation was not currently infringing any Planning rules.

It was unclear what Littleton Parish Council could do to help in this matter other than to encourage the residents concerned to check the deeds to their houses and any covenants attached to them and the lane. Pressure would be brought to bear on the Highways Service by Councillor Parker and the Parish Council to examine critically the implications of increasing numbers of vehicles negotiating a difficult junction. The residents were also encouraged to monitor the site to ensure it was only operating within the time period restrictions allowed for temporary camp sites.

 **SP/DT**

2) Ticketing of Parked Cars on Tarvin Road – Mr M Rocke raised the question of cars parked on Tarvin Road northern side getting ticketed for obstructing the very wide pavement. He was unhappy that residents had not been informed this could happen. It was pointed out that this stretch of pavement had been Shared User status for quite some time and there was the appropriate signage in place but it was understood that in some instances the parking fines had been overturned on appeal.

22/43 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 May 2022 be confirmed

 as a correct record

22/44 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Hare Lane Copse – the Clerk reported on the maintenance work being carried out to the Copse.

2) TPO - the Clerk reported that plans to get protection for trees adjacent to Fir Tree Lane were being delayed due to lack of resources on the part of CW&C.

**22/45 ROAD MATTERS**

1) Lines on Roundabout - The Clerk reported that the CW&C Highways Service had scheduled work to re-instate the lines around the roundabout but it was unclear when this would be carried out.

2) Pot Hole – the Clerk was asked to report a large pothole adjacent to 76/78 Tarvin Road. **DT**

3) A51 Pedestrian Crossing – Safety – Councillor raised the issue of drivers jumping the lights at the crossing. It raised the question as to whether some drivers were realising this was a controlled crossing. Was warning signage needed? Clerk to raise with Highways Service. **DT**

4) Roundabout Vegetation – it was noted that several birch trees were growing within the structure of the roundabout. The question was raised as to whether they were threatening the integrity of the structure. The Clerk was asked to take this up with the Highways Service. **DT**

**22/46** **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1) 22/01587/FUL – Windleheath, 1 Littleton Lane – Single Storey Side Extension

RESOLVED : that the Parish Council make the following comments:-

i) in the application it states that the plans do not affect existing parking yet the photo in the application clearly shows that cars park right up to the current fence which will be in the proposed development of the site.

ii) in the application it also shows that 3 cars are proposed to park in front of the building.  This is not where cars park currently, as it is the grassed area.

iii) in the plans a garage is referred to as being behind the current
building.  That was a small garden shed according to the neighbours, and the large wooden garage was part way down the current front drive, in front of the current parking area, but was removed prior to the 1994 application.

iv) 3 large beech hedging plants were removed from the side of the drive very recently, after the application was submitted to the Council.  The stumps are clearly visible from the road.

v) the plans for the application to enlarge the property are appropriate.

2) 22/02046/FUL – 53 Tarvin Road – Single Storey Rear Extension, Erection of Building for Existing Swimming Pool Enclosure

RESOLVED: the Parish Council has no objection in general to the proposed development but points out that there are inaccuracies in the plans which need to be corrected before any meaningful view should be taken by the planning authority.

**22/47 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council making particular reference to the report of the Internal Audit.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk be received

**22/48 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised:- £

1) Clerk’s salary – June & July (less tax) 257.60

2) HMRC – PAYE – June & July 64.40

3) Typing and office services 34.42

4) Dougherty & Allen – Room Hire 48.00

5) JDH Business Services Ltd – Fee for audit 216.00

6) Aboreal – Clearing of Hare Lane Copse 550.00

7) Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society – Annual Sub 8.00

8) Litter Warden 13 weeks @ £15 195.00

**22/49 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £29.60

**22/50** **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

Since their last meeting the Parish Council had received correspondence which included:-

Cheshire West and Chester Council -

Planning notifications

Democracy & Elections – notification that no election had been called in respect of the Casual Vacancy – thus the Parish Council was free to co-opt

Cheshire Constabulary – PCSO Linda Bailey – Newsletters

Cheshire Association of Local Councils - E Bulletins including briefing note on new Code of Conduct

**22/51 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: That the next Meeting of the Parish Council be held on

 Monday 5 September 2022

**22/52 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1) Permanent SID – it had been suggested it might be a good idea for Littleton to have its own SID unit and that it was worth contacting Waverton PC in this regard.