Minutes of the Meeting of Littleton Parish Council held at Chester Rugby Football Club on Monday 5 December 2022

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

 Councillors Bettie Gilliatt, Anne Stockdale, Huw Morgan

 and Rob Evans

IN ATTENDANCE: CW&C Councillor Stuart Parker

 Local Resident Andy Marsden

 PCSOs Linda Bailey and Eva Williams

22/75 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor Hilary Davies

22/76 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

1) UOL Development – Problems Arising From Construction Traffic - the Parish Council discussed the issues that had arisen as the contractors started work on site. They fully supported the work being carried out by Christleton Parish Council to liaise with the developers and the contractors to minimise the disruption and hazards being caused by heavy construction traffic moving to and from the site through Christleton and Littleton.

The Parish Council however expected to be involved in any discussions in relation to this, particularly in the face of problems such as HGVs parking on Pearl Lane whilst they awaited the time slot in which they could pass through the villages. Problems were also arising from vehicles parking up outside properties on Little Heath Road.

There were many instances of HGV drivers not adhering to the conditions under which they were meant to operate and this was causing concerns about the safety of other users of the road such as schoolchildren.

The Highways Service had been adamant that HGVs should not use Pearl Lane yet there was evidence this was occurring. The Clerk was asked to alert Highways that this was happening. DT

2) Accident at Plough Lane – it was understood that the investigation into the tragic death of a cyclist at the crossroads was still ongoing. Councillor Parker reported that the petition calling for action to be taken to make the roads in the locality safer was hopefully going before the February Council. The incident had raised serious questions about the visibility and signage at the junction in question but also problems with the network of roads in the wider locality e.g. the inadequacy of the hamburger and Littleton roundabouts which caused drivers to divert through the country lanes.

22/77 CASUAL VACANCY

RESOLVED: that Andy Marsden be co-opted to the Parish Council

Councillor Marsden completed and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his place on the Parish Council.

22/78 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 October 2022 be

 confirmed as a correct record

22/79 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1) Lines on Roundabout - The Clerk reported that the CW&C Highways Service hoped to carry out their scheduled work to re-instate the lines around the roundabout in the near future.

2) Christleton & Huntington – Neighbourhood Pride and Members Budget Award Scheme – the Clerk reported he had completed and submitted the form provided by Councillor Parker requesting funding for the replacement of a notice board.

3) Littleton Lane Trees – the Clerk reported he had reminded the owner of Littleton Hall that vegetation obscuring the streetlights needed cutting back and was told that this was in hand.

4) Maintenance of Open Ditch - the Clerk informed Members he was still awaiting a response in relation to action to be taken by the Highways Service to resolve the problem of the lack of maintenance to the open ditch system to the north of Fir Tree Lane.

**22/80 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1) Planning Application 22/03522/AGR – Erection of agricultural building – it was noted that the application to which the Parish Council had objected most strongly had been refused by the Planning Authority.

Councillors discussed the reclaiming of the footpaths that had been closed and compromised by the landowner. Whilst an application to the local authority had been made for an order to modify the definitive map and effect a return to how the paths were previously, it was understood that this was being delayed by a massive backlog of cases being handled. In the meantime, the existing Public Rights of Way were being neglected and there were issues with hazardous barbed wire being used by the landowner.

2) 21/04538/FUL – Vicars Cross Golf Club – Proposed level changes of the driving range and short game area and extension to the existing driving range

Concern was expressed about significant amounts of mud being deposited on the road by the large number of HGVs approaching the site via the A51. In addition a footpath had been diverted but no sign had been posted.

**22/81 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES**

# The Clerk presented his customary report on the finances of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Clerk be received

**22/82 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised:- £

1) Clerk’s salary – Nov & Dec (less tax) 257.60

2) HMRC – PAYE – Nov & Dec 64.40

3) Typing and office services 27.92

4) Dougherty & Allen – Room Hire 48.00

5) Clerk – reimbursement for purchase of wreath 48.40

6) Donation to Royal British Legion 50.00

**22/83 CLERK’S EXPENSES**

RESOLVED: that the Clerk’s expenses be reimbursed in the sum of £2.00

**22/84** **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

Cheshire West and Chester Council -

Planning notifications

Parish Precept request

(via Cllr Rob Evans) – Highways response to A55 slip road queue caused by lights on A51 roundabout

Cheshire Constabulary – PCSO Linda Bailey – Newsletters

Cheshire Association of Local Councils

E Bulletins

Boundary Commission for England 2023 – Boundary Review

Cllr John Beckitt (Christleton PC) and M Campbell re UOL Construction Traffic

Samantha Shields, Jacobs Ltd – invitation to A51 Corridor Baseline Study – Stakeholders Workshop – Councillor Rob Evans to attend.

**22/85 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

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

 Monday 9 January and the AGM be moved to 15 May 2023 **DT**