

LITTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
held on 13th February 2023 at 7pm in Litton Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Robinson in the Chair
Cllrs N Gregory, I Rennie & G Rooke

IN ATTENDANCE: G Turner, Clerk & District Councillor C Gamble

2626 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Brunt, Howe and Saxby, who were unable to attend due to other commitments.

2627 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared for agenda items.

2628 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Footpath Officer was present for agenda item 11 and then left the meeting. There were no other members of the public present at the meeting.

2629 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.

2630 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER 2022 AND THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 18TH JANUARY 2023.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the monthly council meeting held on 12th December and the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 18th January as being true and correct records.

2631 ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

-2497 REPLACEMENT BENCHES

The Clerk reported that the new benches had arrived and are being stored by the Red Lion until they can be installed.

-2540 DEVELOPMENT OF LAND ABOVE RAVENSDALE COTTAGES

The Clerk informed members that she had sent a follow up letter to PDNPA but had still not received a response.

-2610 NOTICEBOARD FOR LITTON MILL

The Clerk reported that delivery of the noticeboard would cost £54.

IT WAS RESOLVED: To pay the delivery charge as other options cost considerably more.

-2614 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION REPORT

Councillor Gregory informed members that the wall at the playground had now been repaired.

The Clerk stated that the handyperson was aiming to start work on replacing the wooden stumps at the playground in mid-March.

2632 FINANCE

(a) Accounts for payment

The Clerk submitted a schedule of payments in the sum of £1,078.89 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 13th February 2023 was £3,783.45 and the reserve account balance was £10,317.39.

(b) Quarter 3 Actual -v- budgeted income & Expenditure

Actual income and expenditure were compared to the budget and circulated to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That Councillors had no queries on the figures.

(c) Current Account Signatories

The Clerk informed members that she intends to resubmit the form to add Councillors Robinson and Saxby as bank signatories this week.

The Clerk informed members that the handyperson contract is due to roll over on 1st April and that the handyperson had asked the Council to consider a rise in the contract for 2023/24. It was noted that the contract price has not been reviewed since 2021/22.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the handyperson contract should be increased by 8% to £1,246 for the year 2023/24.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: To thank the handyperson for his continuing support with maintenance and projects in the parish.

2633 CEMETERY PLOT PRE-PURCHASE TERMS

Discussions took place around how the Council can ensure that cemetery income continues to support cemetery expenses in the future. This has become a concern due to a rise in people wishing to pre-purchase burial plots in the last few years.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That in order to safeguard future income it would no longer be possible to pre-purchase plots. Instead, it would be possible to choose and reserve a plot for an annual fee of £10 payable in January each year by standing order. The plot would then be purchased at the cost applicable at the time of interment.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Clerk will prepare a draft agreement for discussion at the March meeting.

2634 CEMETERY LAND

Following discussion **IT WAS RESOLVED:** To put this item into abeyance.

2635 TREE MAINTENANCE

IT WAS AGREED: To ask N&G Tomlinson to look at the Wytch Elm tree that is overhanging a neighbouring property, at the war memorial in Cressbrook.

2636 MAY ELECTIONS

An email stating that those who wish to stand for election can download nomination packs from DDDC's website at <https://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/elections2023> was circulated.

The Clerk highlighted to members that as well as at Matlock Town Hall, the Returning Officer will accept nominations at the Agricultural Centre in Bakewell on Friday 24 March between 2pm & 4pm and Monday 27 March between 10am & 12 noon.

2637 UPDATE FROM FOOTPATH OFFICER ON BRIDGE AT CRESSBROOK & FOOTPATHS

The Footpath Officer circulated an email regarding the current situation with the footbridge at Cressbrook which has been closed due to safety concerns.

The email stated that an opportunity has arisen via the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) scheme for the PDNPA to apply for funding to replace the bridge. This application will proceed in 2023.

2638 DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING SESSION/FUNDRAISER

Tideswell CFRs have offered to provide training for Litton Parish residents, dedicated to lifesaving skills and use of the defibrillators with some fundraising anticipated to support Tideswell CFRs.

IT WAS AGREED: That the Council will arrange for a fundraising/training session on a date between 21st and 23rd May.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED: That the Chair will ask David Hoyle his availability during those dates.

2639 BICYCLE PARKING AND 20'S PLENTY CAMPAIGN

An email from Tideswell and District Environment Group's Cycling Group lead regarding the possibility of installing bicycle stands in the centre of Litton as well as the 20's plenty campaign aimed at making active travel safer was discussed.

IT WAS AGREED: To invite a representative to the Council's March meeting to discuss the opportunities further.

2640 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

NP/DDD/1122/1356 - Cressbrook Hall, Bottomhill Road, Cressbrook

Development Description - Listed Building consent - Replacement roof finish to northern conservatory from polycarbonate to traditional zinc standing seam.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That the Council has no objection to this planning application.

2641 CORRESPONDENCE

An email was circulated from Derbyshire Police regarding the purchase of an emergency bleed kit for £105 for the parish.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That whilst the Council supports this scheme it was felt that there was no suitable place to locate a kit that would be available 24/7 in the parish.

An email was circulated to members regarding Hedgehog Highway Project.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to put this item on the March agenda.

An email was received by a concerned resident about the removal of a bird's nest on Litton Village Green.

The Clerk and District Councillor Gamble have looked into this matter and can confirm that the work had not been sanctioned by the Parish Council, DDDC or DCC.

A report was also received of a resident driving a vehicle across the Village Green in Litton and causing damage.

IT WAS RESOLVED: That as there have been a number of new residents to the parish since the Village Green Regulations were last circulated, they should be re-circulated.

IT WAS ALSO RESOLVED: That the Clerk will investigate the possibility of distribution via the Village Voice.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.03pm.