

## **Meeting of Little Leigh Parish Council held on 31 March 2017 in Little Leigh Village Hall at 7.15pm**

Attendance Councillors Jones, King, Lawless, Tomlinson and Williamson were present with 1 member of the public and with apologies from Cllr McSweeney and CWAC Councillors Gibbon and Wright. The Chairman welcomed councillors to the meeting which he opened at 7.15 pm.

### **1) Declarations of interest**

As all the parish councillors lived in the village they all had personal interests. In addition Cllr Jones was a trustee of the Little Leigh Community Trust and Councillors Jones and King were trustees of the Village Hall Committee.

### **2) Public submissions**

A resident had complained that a native hedge had been replaced with a laurel hedge at Poole Field and this was not in accordance with the planning conditions for the development. The Clerk had contacted Muir housing who had written to the resident concerned. Councillors asked the Clerk to contact CWAC's planning enforcement officer to see what action could be taken.

### **3) Minutes of Meeting held on 9 March 2017**

*Resolution 1 31.03.17 : Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2017 as being a true record of that meeting.*

*Proposed Cllr King    Seconded Cllr Williamson*

*Voting Unanimous*

### **4. Clerks report**

- The Clerk would purchase another 12 verge markers for installation in May.
- The Village show would be held on 16 September.
- Broadband progress – The Clerk would contact CWAC's Rural Development Manager to arrange for Connecting Cheshire and BT to attend the 11 May parish council meeting.
- Highways had advised that a limited waiting traffic regulation traffic order could be applied to the laybys to prevent overnight parking but that enforcement would fall to CWAC's civil parking enforcement officers and not to the police. The Clerk would seek a limited waiting traffic order.
- A litter pick would be advertised in Grapevine for late May.
- The Clerk had arranged for additional access only signs to be placed at the junction of Smithy Lane and the A533 and Smithy Lane and Willowgreen Lane. She had received thanks from residents.

### **5. Future of the Hollybush public House**

- New regulations meant that any change of use would require a full planning application so no further action was required at this time.

### **6) Village hall strategy update**

- Councillors agreed the parish council would purchase a small microwave oven for the kitchen.
- Volunteers would cut the hedge, sweep the car park and form a new border in the front of the village hall on 23 May.
- A quotation was being sought for removing the railings which divided the front garden of the village hall to form a more usable space. The conifer hedge would be replaced with post and railings if funds permitted. Councillors agreed in principle to fund the work.

- New low power lights were to be obtained for the tree, a baby changing table was being organised, an electrician would be engaged to install more sockets and a light outside the front door and insurance was being obtained for the village hall trustees to supplement that held by the parish council.

**7) Changes to operation of the waste tip**

The Northwich tip was to be closed on a Wednesday and Thursday and regular users were being queried. Councillors agreed that this was regrettable and that it could lead to increased flytipping; the situation would be monitored.

**8) Correspondence**

- Police and Police commissioner newsletters
- ChALC e bulletins
- Electoral reform of CWAC wards - councillors decided to comment on the draft recommendations once they were available.
- Letter of thanks from the Youth Club for their grant.

**9) Finance**

- The bank balance as at 28 March was £20,157.57
- *Resolution 2: 31/03/17\_ Council completed the Annual Governance statement part 1 of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2017 and the Chairman and the Clerk signed the relevant parts of the form  
Proposed Cllr Williamson                      Seconded Cllr Jones Voting Unanimous*
- *Resolution 3: 31/03/17\_ Council reviewed and approved the assets register produced by the Clerk for 2016/17  
Proposed Cllr King      seconded Cllr Tomlinson                      Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 4: 31/03/17\_ Council reviewed and approved the risk assessment produced by the Clerk for 2016/17  
Proposed Cllr Williamson      seconded Cllr Lawless                      Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 5 : 31/03/17\_ Council approved the statement of receipts and payments for 2015/16 produced by the Clerk as presenting fairly the financial position of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2017  
Proposed Cllr Lawless                      Seconded Cllr King                      Voting Unanimous*
- *Resolution 6: 31/03/17\_ Council approved the bank reconciliation produced by the Clerk for 2016/17  
Proposed Cllr Lawless                      seconded Cllr King                      Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 7: 31/03/17\_ Council reviewed and approved the significant variations between the years ended March 31 2016 and 2017  
Proposed Cllr Williamson                      seconded Cllr Tomlinson Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 8: 31/03/17\_ Council approved the Accounting statements for 2016/17 and the Chairman and Clerk signed the form  
Proposed Cllr Lawless                      seconded Cllr King Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 9: 31/03/17\_ Councillors decided to appoint Mr Swallow of Chris Swallow Ltd as the internal auditor.*

*Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Lawless Voting unanimous*

- *Resolution 10: 31/03/17\_ Councillors agreed to hold the clerks hours to 6 a week and to hold the salary scale point at an hourly rate of £11.545 per hour. The Clerk had been working additional hours to produce the end year financial papers so the council agreed to pay her an additional 5 hours for this work.  
Proposed Cllr Lawless seconded Cllr Jones Voting unanimous with Cllr King abstaining*
- *Resolution 11:31/03/2017 Councillors decided to continue to use the Cooperative bank for the parish councils account  
Proposed Cllr Lawless seconded Cllr King*
- *Resolution 12: 31/03/2017 Councillors asked the Clerk to arrange for the signatories on the account to be amended  
Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Tomlinson*

10) **Planning**

- Land adjacent to Beech Haven Church Road permission had been sought for a dormer bungalow. Councillors were informed that a previous application had been turned down on this site in 2001 as it was inappropriate development in the greenbelt with no special circumstances advanced to warrant an exception. Councillors decided to write to CWAC explaining the circumstances had not changed.

11) **Matters for next meeting**

- BT and connecting Cheshire presentation
- Date for litterpick in late May
- June family funday
- Village show 16 September

12) Date of next meeting 11 May 2017 at 7.15pm. The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Provisional future meeting dates which are subject to change: 6 July, 14 September, 9 November.