

Meeting of Little Leigh Parish Council held on 13 September 2018 in Little Leigh Village Hall

Attendance Councillors Beecroft, King, McSweeney, Tomlinson and Williamson were present with apologies from CWAC councillors Wright, Gibbon and Hammond and councillors Jones and Kirkland.

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, King and McSweeney were also trustees of the Village Hall Committee.

2) **There were no Public submissions.**

3) **Minutes of Meeting held on 5 July 2018**

Resolution 1 13.09.18 : Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2018 as being a true record of that meeting.

Proposed Cllr Beecroft

Seconded Cllr Tomlinson

Voting

Unanimous

4) **Clerks report**

- Work on the village hall electricity supply had been completed. Cllr King would obtain quotations for work on the heating system and rear door lights.
- Work had been completed on installing double glazing at the village hall. Marbury ward councillors had contributed £900 to the Village Hall Committee to part fund the work as a result of the Clerk's grant application.
- Marbury Ward councillors had funded the litterpicking kits and an article had been placed in Grapevine to keep the 20 road adopters motivated and to encourage people to order the free wheelie bin stickers. Further regular updates would be provided and adopters would be encouraged to feedback as to whether the situation was improving. An article would be placed in Grapevine regarding the increase in dog waste in the village.
- Cllr Kirkland had purchased additional equipment which had now all been issued.
- Some Willow Green Lane adopters were moving house so part of this lane was available for a new adopter.
- Litter pickers and Grapevine deliverers would be invited to an event after the January parish council meeting. Arrangements would be discussed at the November meeting.
- The Clerk and Cllr Beecroft had contacted CWAC twice regarding the full litter bin on the Trent and Mersey canal at bridge 204. It had now been emptied.
- Cllr Kirkland had requested a further litter bin for outside the village hall.
- The Clerk had written to the volunteers who had helped at the Family Fun Day.
- CWAC had replied to the Chairman's enquiry regarding the standard of temporary pothole repairs. CWAC had explained the monitoring and quality control procedures for pothole repairs. The Chairman would write again about the remaining potholes in minor roads and the state of repair of the pavements.
- 20mph speed limits were being implemented in the centre of the village and in Hole House Lane. Smithy Lane had also been monitored but the data had not yet been analysed.

- The Clerk and Cllr Beecroft had contacted the Canal and Rivers Trust and the PCSO regarding people living on a boat near bridge 206 on the Trent and Mersey Canal. Their dog was aggressive, their equipment and litter was obstructing the towpath and paint had been spilt on the grass and hedges. They were thought to be in breach of their licence as they had not moved from the area after 14 days but had been in Little Leigh for most of the summer.

5) Broadband update

- Fibre to premises was now available in much but not all of Little Leigh which should enable good broadband speeds to be achieved in some locations. VISPA were also interested in 4G applications.
- Councillor King and the Clerk had met with Esther McVey MP who had subsequently written to Openreach regarding the lack of progress in the remaining parts of the village.
- Openreach had advised Cllr King to contact Connecting Cheshire to ascertain which parts of the village were in phase 3 of the upgrade. Hole House Lane had been surveyed.
- Openreach had also recommended a Community Partnership to fill in remaining gaps but this involved contacting individual homeowners and it was not known which were in phase 3 of the upgrade.

6) Village show 8 September

- Despite the wet weather and competition from a dog show at the Leigh Arms the dog show and village show had both been successful with 28 entries in the dog show and 99 entries in the village show.
- Next years date would be communicated to the Leigh Arms to avoid a clash.
- Judges had received thank you gifts and the Clerk had written to Mr and Mrs Horton, the village show volunteers, Gill Hampton, the dog show sponsor Barnyard and Lizzie Mint who had donated a photographic sitting to the Best in Show winner.
- The dog show had raised £42 and the village show had made a net profit of £72 when the prizes and rent had been deducted from the takings.

7) Remembrance event 11 November

- National Battles Over events were planned. Little Leigh would have a beacon and activities on 11 November in Mr and Mrs Horton's field. Mr Horton would erect the pole on which the beacon would be fixed.
- The Chairman had circulated a list of ideas, had placed an article in Grapevine and had engaged a musician from the village to play the Last Post. The parish councillors agreed to donate £50 to Barnton Silver Band in recognition of the musician's services.
- The church bells would be rung, the names of the fallen would be read out and a poem would be read.
- Light refreshments and a bar at pub prices would be provided and the parish council would pay for the food.
- Workshops would be held in advance of the event to make ceramic poppies. The Chairman would contact Cllr Jones as to where to display them. Cllr Beecroft and King would provide lighting for the village hall lawn.
- Cllr Jones was contacting the school and Gill Hampton regarding displays of commemorative materials.
- Cllr Williamson would contact the Grapevine editor to ensure the November edition was distributed prior to the event.

8) **Correspondence**

- Salvation Army request to site a clothes bank- the Clerk would write declining the invitation in view of limited space in the village hall carpark.
- CWAC were consulting on council tax on properties empty for more than 2 years. The proposal was to increase the premium from 50% to 100% so as to augment the available housing stock. There were exceptions as to when the increase would be applied. The aim was to bring 900 empty homes back into use over a 5 year period. This was not a big issue in our parish; individual councillors would respond.
- Police and Police commissioner newsletters
- ChALC e bulletins

10) Finance

Resolution 2 13.09.18 Council approved the following receipts and payments: Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Tomlinson Voting unanimous

£29.98	J Davies youth club books
£1612.33	Eric Johnson of Northwich Ltd village hall distribution board
£240	PFK Littlejohn LLP external audit fee
£210	Vision ICT website hosting
£56.45	Clerk plants for village hall
£565.72	Eric Johnson of Northwich Ltd village hall additional sockets
£11	Clerk gifts for Mr and Mrs Horton and dog show judge
£19.32	Cllr King reimbursement of payment to 1 and 1 for website domain name registration
£22.45	Cllr Kirkland additional litter picking equipment
£39.38	Tyrella rosettes Ltd dog show rosettes
£106.12	G Hampton village show prizes and expenses
£1860	ID Glass and Glazing balance for double glazing village hall windows

- Councillors noted the accounts had passed the external auditor with no problems identified and they accepted the auditor's report. Proposed Cllr McSweeney seconded Cllr Beecroft.
- The Clerk would discuss the system of not having an external audit in future years with the internal auditor.
- The required notices had been placed on the website and noticeboards.
- The balance in the accounts as at 30 August was £24,069.51

11) **Planning**

- Extension at Hunters Lodge-refused
- Extension at Dane House- approved
- Ashcroft Shutley Lane –councillors had no objections provided CWAC planning did not consider the extension to be overdevelopment in the Green belt.
- The Chairman had written to CWAC for a second time regarding the untidy site at Cherry Tree nursery. Work had been carried out to improve the site's appearance but firm action would be needed to achieve more clearance work.

12) **Matters for next meeting**

- Budget for 2019/20
- Finalisation of arrangements for Battle's Over Event
- Christmas events- carols around the tree 22 December
- Spring event
- January event for litter pickers and Grapevine distributors
- Village hall improvement plan.

13) Date of next meeting **8 November 2018**. The meeting closed at 8.10pm