

## LITTLE LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 23 April 2020

Due to the COVID -19 pandemic the meeting was held in accordance with the Local Authority (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) ( England) Regulations 2020. Councillors Beecroft, Jones, King, Kirkland, McSweeney, Tomlinson and Williamson were present with apologies from Ward Councillors Gibbon, Marshall and Wright.

Standing orders and Financial regulations were amended to enable the Clerk as Proper Officer to take decisions in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman and to use online banking.

- 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 Management Committee.
- 2) Public submissions – reports of an accident at the Smithy Lane A533 junction had been forwarded to Highways.
- 3) Minutes of January meeting  
*Resolution 1:23.04.20 The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2020 were approved. Proposed Cllr Kirkland seconded Cllr McSweeney.*
- 4) Clerks report
  - The village was in ‘lockdown’ due to the Coronavirus Covid -19 pandemic. An active support group Little Leigh Villagers Supporting Villagers had been set up to support people who were self -isolating. A Facebook group had been designed to provide information such as supermarket opening times and companies who would deliver to the village.
  - Hand sanitiser had been provided to some key workers.
  - Cllr Jones would organise Operation Sunshine to provide projects for children and adults during lockdown. The operation would be funded by a £150 grant from Marbury ward councillors.
- 5) Village hall porch  
The Parish council, as lease holders with responsibility for maintaining and repairing the hall, had gained planning permission for the porch. Following discussion between the Village Hall Management Committee Chairman and the LLPC Chairman, the proposed development has been postponed for further consideration and consultation. A paper would be prepared on the respective roles of the church, village hall management committee and parish council.  
  
The village hall has been closed until further notice on government advice, due to the coronavirus Covid – 19 pandemic.
- 6) Canal and River Trust adoption of part of the Trent and Mersey canal- the initiative had been postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Clerk had notified the Canal and Rivers Trust.
- 7) VE day party 9 May- cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic
- 8) Canal photography walk 20 June- cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic



- *Resolution 6: 23/04/20 Councillors reviewed and approved the risk assessment produced by the Clerk for 2019/20  
Proposed Cllr McSweeney            seconded Cllr Tomlinson            Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 7 : 23/04/20 Councillors approved the statement of receipts and payments for 2018/19 produced by the Clerk as presenting fairly the financial position of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2020  
Proposed Cllr McSweeney    Seconded Cllr Beecroft            Voting Unanimous*
- *Resolution 8: 23/04/20 Councillors approved the bank reconciliation produced by the Clerk for 2019/20  
Proposed Cllr Kirkland            seconded Cllr King            Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 9: 23/04/20 Councillors reviewed and approved the significant variations between the years ended March 31 2019 and 2020  
Proposed Cllr King            seconded Cllr McSweeney    Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 10: 23/04/20 Councillors approved the Accounting statements for 2019/20 and the Chairman and Clerk signed the form  
Proposed Cllr McSweeney            seconded Cllr King    Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 11: 23/04/20 Councillors decided to appoint Mr Swallow of Chris Swallow Ltd as the internal auditor.  
Proposed Cllr Beecroft    seconded Cllr McSweeney            Voting unanimous*
- *Resolution 12: 23/04/20 Councillors agreed to hold the clerks hours to 6 a week and to hold the salary scale point at an hourly rate of £12.89 per hour. The Clerk had been working additional hours on the COVID 19 pandemic and to produce the end year financial papers so the council agreed to pay her an additional 40 hours for this work.  
Proposed Cllr Beecroft    seconded Cllr Kirkland    Voting unanimous with Cllr King abstaining.  
Cllr Beecroft thanked the Clerk for her hard work.*

13) Planning

- Burnside Runcorn Road –approved by CWAC planning
- Little Leigh village hall porch- approved by CWAC planning
- Old Timbers –approved by CWAC planning
- Hunters Lodge extension-refused by CWAC planning
- Willowgreen Farm barns- pending
- 11 Church Meadows lawful development certificate-approved by CWAC planning
- 18 Church Road- pending. Parish council had objected to the size and appearance of the proposed development which was in the Green Belt.
- Horns Inn site- no news on pre application advice

14) Matters for next meeting- to be advised.

15) Date of next meeting 9 July unless otherwise needed.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.