

LITTLE LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 9 JULY 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 and Williamson were present with Ward Councillor Gibbon and one member of the public. Apologies were tendered from Cllr Tomlinson and Ward councillors Marshall and Wright.

- 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.
- Public submissions – Cllr King had responded to a query regarding broadband problems.

3) **Minutes of April meeting**

Resolution 1:09.07.20 The minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2020 were approved. Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Kirkland voting unanimous.

4) **Clerks report**

- The village hall remained closed due to the COVID 19 pandemic. It would reopen only after a risk assessment.
- The village show had been cancelled.

5) **Little Leigh circular walk footpath improvements**

Following an inspection in 2017 Cheshire West and Chester had made several improvements to the well- used circular walk from the A533 to Stoneheyes Lane and Cogshall Lane but further kissing gates were needed to replace stiles. Funds for upgrading footpaths had been set aside in the current budget.

Resolution 2 :09.07.2020 Councillors agreed that Cllrs Beecroft and McSweeney would investigate obtaining permission from the relevant landowners to install kissing gates. Proposed Cllr Beecroft seconded Cllr McSweeney voting unanimous

6) **Village hall management arrangements**

A Memorandum of Understanding was being produced to be signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council and the Chairman of the Village Hall Management committee. A final draft would be circulated to Councillors and Trustees.

7) **Correspondence**

- The Clerk had emailed Highways regarding access to Willowgreen and Leigh Lanes during the planned Winnington Bridge closure in late summer/ Autumn. The Highways response had been that the situation would be monitored to see if signs were necessary.
- **Ash House Lane-** councillors had agreed to make a 50% contribution to the speed limit reduction scheme. The Clerk had applied to Ward Members budgets for a contribution to the work.
- The Clerk was arranging signage for the defibrillators.
- Individual councillors would respond to the Healthwatch survey.

- Individual councillors would reply to the consultation on Future High Streets
- Individual councillors would reply to the consultation on Highways
- Individual councillors would reply to the consultation on COVID 19 scrutiny
- A COVID- 19 outbreak board had been formed to enable local closures if required.
- The Clerk had responded to the consultation on Pop Up cycle routes emphasising the Parish Council's repeated request for a safe route to school from Barnton
- Various other pieces of advice on COVID 19 had been received from NALC, ChALC, CWAC and other sources.
- An accessibility statement had been added to the website.

8) Finance

Resolution 3 :09.07.2020 The following receipts and payments were proposed by Cllr Kirkland seconded by Cllr McSweeney Voting unanimous

£75	Chris Swallow Ltd internal audit fee
£175.32	ChALC membership fee
£54	Vision ICT accessibility statement
£587.07	Zurich Municipal insurance
£1277.68	Clerk salary 1 April to 9 July 2020
£319.40	HMRC tax 1 April to 9 July 2020
£150	Little Leigh Friendly Club Operation Sunshine grant
£20	Cheshire Community Action membership
£93.85	E Cormick plants for planters

- The balance in the account as at 30 June 2020 was £24,968.76 but one cheque was unrepresented.
- Councillors noted that the accounts had been signed off by the internal auditor and the external auditor had acknowledged receipt of the exemption certificate.

13) Planning

- Old Timbers –approved by CWAC planning
- Hunters Lodge extension-appeal against refusal by CWAC planning dismissed by Planning Inspectorate
- Willowgreen Farm barns conversion to accommodation- pending. Councillors agreed a second letter to the MP drafted by Cllr McSweeney should be sent.
- Agricultural Building on Shutley Lane. The parish council had not been consulted. CWAC had refused the initial application

14) Matters for next meeting- Highways defects, litter picking and Memorandum of Understanding between Parish Council and Village Hall Mangement Committee.

15) Date of next meeting 10 September. The meeting closed at 7.40pm.