

DRAFT

Minutes of the Meeting of Litcham Parish Council held on **Monday 1 October 2018**, in The Jubilee Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillor M Oldfield (Chair)
Councillor C Mitchell
Councillor E Christie
Councillor R Fagence
Councillor J Jones
Councillor C Lawrence

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris

One member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Anderson who was on holiday and these were accepted.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Lawrence declared a DPI for Agenda Item 8.3 being the mother of a tenderer.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Jones proposed and Councillor Fagence seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2018 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

4. Public Participation.

4.1 County and District Councillor Reports.

The County Councillor reported that the budget setting period has begun which will run until February for the financial year beginning in April. Since 2011 £189million of income has been lost and there is still a further loss of income from Central Government of £95million. There is to be a 10% reduction in staff by natural wastage and all departments are looking at savings. There is a consultation on Children's Centres of which there are 53 at present under 12 different contracts. These are proposed not to be re-negotiated but outreach centres would be provided working from 7 hubs therefore providing support where it is needed. It is probable that the Litcham Centre will remain open as the school would take on part of the building and Norfolk County Council would provide additional service e.g. Healthy Children support. There was concern from the members that this would be a retrograde step but the County Councillor stated that the officers feel that this is possible, will reach more children and provide a better service. Councillor Lawrence stated that the Children's Centre at Dereham will only have a back room at the library and most children's centres do not have the benefit of the facilities as at Litcham. It is not yet known if the Business Plan put forward by the Police and Crime Commissioner to take over the Fire Service will be submitted to the Secretary of State. Norfolk County Council is against this move and does not believe that there would be the saving proposed by the Police and Crime Commissioner as this would entail reducing the capability of the Fire and Rescue Service. Hertfordshire, which also runs the Fire and Rescue Service, has also undergone a consultation on this matter and when the proposal was forwarded to the Secretary of State he asked for more information at which point the proposal was withdrawn.

4.2 Public Participation.

There were no matters from the public.

5. Matters to Report.**5.1 The Green.**

GG Fencing had confirmed that the posts would be re-sited at accost of £90 plus VAT.

5.2 Community Asset Register.

Nothing more had been heard.

5.3 Gravel Lorries in Litcham.

Councillor Christie raised the matter of gravel lorries travelling at speed through the village. It was felt that these are not gravel lorries but agricultural haulage lorries. The SLOW signs need refreshing and it was queried whether the 30 mph limit could be extended. The County Councillor will have a new post erected for the SAM2 sign and will investigate and monitor the traffic.

5.4 "There but not there" Silhouettes.

These had been ordered.

6. Highways.**6.1 Report on Highways Matters.**

The Clerk had met the Highways Engineer and had again informed him that the Mileham Road needs flailing, the gully on Druids Lane had not been repaired, the road signs need refreshing and the BT ironwork still has a pothole. The Rangers are coming to the village and the Clerk had requested that the footway along Lexham Road be cleared and a gully on Church Street needs clearing. The sweeper had been in Litcham twice. Flagship had been contacted regarding a problem at Litcham Close.

6.2 New problems.

The Clerk will report a pothole on Back Lane and contact the owner of the hedge at The Mount which is encroaching onto Butt Lane. The County Councillor will speak to the owner of the Old Fire Station to have the area tidied up.

7. Planning.**7.1 Applications.****7.1.1 3PL/2018/1065/HOU-20 Wellingham Road-proposed two storey extension to side of property.**

Councillor Oldfield proposed and Councillor Mitchell seconded the resolution that no objection be raised. All were in favour.

7.2 Decisions.

The following decisions were noted.

7.2.1 3PL/2018/0579/F-Litcham Methodist Church Front Street-proposed replacement of selected windows. Approved.**8. Finance.****8.1 Budget.**

Councillor Mitchell proposed and Councillor Jones seconded the resolution that the budget which had been circulated be approved. All were in favour.

8.2 Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.

Councillor Jones proposed and Councillor Fagence seconded the resolution that the following balances and cheques for authorisation be approved. All were in favour.

Balances :-**Bank of Ireland.**

Balance at 31 07 18	9191.16
Less E-on D/Debit-	<u>73.71</u>
	9117.45
Plus Interest 05 06 18-0.81	<u>0.81</u>
Balance at 31 08 18	9118.26
Less un-presented cheques authorised 09 04 18- 54.00	
un-presented cheques authorised 03 09 18- 380.35	<u>434.35</u>
Balance at 03 09 18	8693.91
Plus float for Community car	<u>100.00</u>

Amount available for Section 137 : 494x £7.86= 3882.84
Spend to Date :£0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

520	B J Leigh	Salary-September 324.32 less PAYE 64.80	259.52
521	HMRC	PAYE-September	64.80
522	Mrs E Christie	Community Car July and August	113.75
523	B J Leigh	25% of installation of new Excel Programme	22.50
524	T T Jones Electrical Ltd	Maintenance Oct-Dec	66.55

8.3 Maintenance at Long Meadow.

The Clerk had not heard from the contractor and a decision will be made at the next meeting whether to offer the contract to a different contractor.

9. Correspondence for circulation.

The following correspondence will be circulated.

9.1 Clerks and Councils Direct September

10 Bi-monthly Meetings.

Councillor Mitchell proposed and Councillor Lawrence seconded the resolution that for a trial period the meetings would be held bi-monthly commencing in November 2017. All were in favour. It may well be appropriate that the hours for the Clerk should be reduced and this will be monitored.

11. Matters for the next meeting.

11.1 Children's Centres.

11.2 Donation to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

11.3 Precept

11. Date of the next meeting.

This was confirmed as Monday 5 November 2018 at 7.30 p.m. to be held at The Jubilee Hall, Litcham.

The meeting closed at 2051.