

Minutes of the Meeting of Litcham Parish Council held on **Monday 5 February 2018**, in The Jubilee Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present	Councillor M Oldfield (Chair)
	Councillor C Mitchell
	Councillor M Anderson
	Councillor E Christie
	Councillor R Fagence
	Councillor J Jones
	Councillor C Lawrence
	County councillor M Kiddle Morris
	Three members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from District Councillor E Gould.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Lawrence declared a DPI in Agenda Item 8.3 being the mother of a person quoting.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Anderson proposed and Councillor Christie seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2017 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 Council Tax is likely to rise by 5.99% which is 3.99% which is the increased amount that councils are allowed to put up Council Tax without a referendum plus 2% for Adult Social Services. The increased income will pay for the raised cap on local authority salaries and the previous decision to cut bus subsidies and rescue gritting routes has been reversed. The budget will be set at the Council meeting on 12 February. The Police and Crime Commissioner is pursuing the merger of the police and fire services. Norfolk County Council is opposed to this as the Fire Service is rated as the best in the country. There are few fires today and the Fire and Rescue Service provides paramedics at road accidents and gives advice on safety with inspections and advice on fire alarms especially to the elderly. The Service also does Water Rescue.

There is a worrying trend on Norfolk Lines where drugs are coming into the County. Those on drugs telephone a number and are directed to a person in Norfolk. The young, 12-18, deliver having been groomed and are robbed by the gang of the drugs which means they have to continue delivering to pay back the money owed. Apparently there are 70 lines into Norfolk. They arrive by train or car from London/Birmingham in small quantities and then passed onto a person who is told to deliver them. Operation Gravity is involved with this but it is a very serious problem and one that is difficult to get on top of. All schools have been contacted. The Chairman queried the overspend on the NDR and that money has to be borrowed to pay the overspend and this will take many years to pay back. The County Councillor stated that £12 million has been allocated from the highway budget for this and it is not yet known what the final figure is.

4.2 Public Participation.

A parishioner raised the matter of Breckland Council pointlessly felling a possible 16 oak trees at Wellingham/Weasenham Road. This is in advance of any planning application

for this site. Why is it necessary to fell trees when it will have to be landscaped once any properties are built. Another parishioner stated that at the public consultation on a possible development the developers quoted that no trees would be removed. This is obviously a way of getting round this. The Chairman had spoken to the contractor who stated that he had permission to fell 15 trees. He tried to contact by telephone Breckland Council but there was nobody there to take his call. He therefore went into Breckland Council offices and saw Ralph Burton who confirmed the contractor did have permission but only for the felling of 6 trees. Breckland Council stated that it is minor works to manage and maintain the site partly due to the potential for the site to create some development on the location. A parishioner did not believe that the contractor had the correct felling licence from the Forestry Commission or the correct PPE under Health and Safety Laws. The Chairman will continue to monitor the situation and will contact Breckland Council again.

A parishioner asked if the land near to the village sign is owned by the Parish Council so that a can bank can be sited there. The Chairman informed her that it is not and advised her of the owner.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 General Data Protection Regulation.

The report from the Clerk had been circulated and the matter was deferred until March.

5.2 Royal British Legion Pilgrimage 90.

This was deferred until March to allow Councillor Jones to obtain further information.

5.3 Norfolk Playing Fields Association.

It was agreed unanimously not to become members.

5.4 The Green.

The Chairman stated that he had spoken to the landlord of the Bull Inn and the tables had not been moved. It was agreed to write and state that the tables are to be moved forthwith if it wants to have the tables on during the summer. It was also to be requested that the Bull Inn confirms in writing the terms of the agreement.

5.5 Neighbourhood Watch.

The Chairman stated that the new signs had been erected. The Clerk will check the coordinator for Weasenham Road.

5.6 The Common.

2 new ponies should arrive this spring.

6. Highways.

6.1 Report on Highways Matters.

The Highways Engineer had confirmed that the gulleys on Druids Lane are programmed and the patching at the junction of Druids Lane and Mileham Road will be done by the end of March. It was agreed to suggest that this is done in school holidays to negate any disruption to the school buses.

The clerk had contacted the County Councillor who has agreed that extended H-bars are installed at the Church street area outside the Bull Inn. The installation of STOP signs is being considered for Butt Lane at its junction with Tittleshall Road. The Clerk had also requested that the police attend the site to check on any obstruction being caused by the parking.

The Clerk had contacted the member of the public regarding Roadside Nature Reserves and he is discussing this with Tesco. A street light not working near to Litcham Close had been reported by a parishioner and this had been reported to the contractor. The verge on Pound lane next to Litcham Hall had been cleared but the footway near to the school had only been partly cleared. The Rangers had been programmed to clean all the road signs. The reporting of the damage to the Green had been sent back to the police.

6.2 New problems.

The following will be reported again:-

1. the potholes on Pound Lane and that the repair at the junction of Weasenham Road and pound lane had come out
2. there had been flooding on Mileham Road to the eats on the limit sign.

3. the Clerk will contact the County Councillor regarding the junction of Back Street and Mileham Road in Beeston.
4. Flagship housing to complain about vehicles parked on the footway outside Meadow Cottage.

7. Planning.

7.1 Applications.

There were no applications to consider.

7.2 Decisions.

The following decisions were noted.

- 7.2.1 3PL/2017/1361/HOU-19A Wellingham Road-single storey rear extension and internal alterations. **Approved.**
- 7.2.2 3PL/2017/0833/F-Land at Dereham Road-erection of detached agricultural building. **Approved.**
- 7.2.3 3PL/2017/1519/O-Land adjacent 18 Wellingham Road-erection of detached dwelling. **Approved.**

7.3 Matter referred to Enforcement.

The Clerk reported that he had received an e-mail stating that the new agent appointed will be forwarding a new application.

8. Finance.

8.1 Budget.

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

8.2 Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.

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

Balances :-

Bank of Ireland.

Balance at 31 10 17	10114.81
Less Direct Debit Open Space Society-45.00	
Direct Debit- E-on- 13 11 17-69.38	
Cheques authorised 06 11 17-662.21	
Cheques authorised 04 12 17-1212.71	
Direct Debit E-on- 11 12 17 -100.74	<u>2090.04</u>
	8024.77
Plus Interest 06 11 17-.91	
Interest 05 12 17-.76	<u>1.67</u>
Balance at 31 12 17	8026.44
Less Unpresented cheques authorised 04 12 17-	<u>257.50</u>
Balance at 31 12 17	7768.94
Plus float for Community car	<u>100.00</u>
Balance at 31 12 17	7868.94

Amount available for Section 137 : 511x £7.57= £3868.27

Spend to Date :£0.00

Cheques for authorisation:

483	B J Leigh	Salary-Jan 308.21 less PAYE 61.80	246.41
484	HMRC	PAYE-Jan	61.80
485	Mrs E Christie	Community Car November-	79.10
486	Beetley Parish Council	25% of SLCC membership- 36.75. 25% of GDPR Course- 8.75	45.50
487	T T Jones Electrical Ltd	Maintenance Jan-Mar	66.55

488	Information Commissioner	Data protection	35.00
489	Litcham Jubilee Hall CIO	Hall Hire	65.00

8.3 Maintenance at Long Meadow.

The Chairman stated that he had spoken to a contractor the previous weekend but he had not received a reply. Councillor Mitchell stated that the contractor he had spoken to had suggested taking back the hedge but he was awaiting a different contractor to contact him. Councillor Anderson stated that she may know a contractor. This was deferred to the March meeting as only one quotation had been received.

8.4 Grant from Breckland Council Sport fund.

The notification from Norfolk Community Foundation had been circulated and it was agreed unanimously to request the donation and to pass this to the Litcham Youth Club Football Club

9. Correspondence for circulation.

The following correspondence will be circulated.

- 9.1 **Clerks and Councils Direct January 2018.**
- 9.2 **All Saints Church Litcham.**
- 9.3 **Litcham Common Conservation Group.**
- 9.4 **Litcham Youth Club Football Club.**

10. Matters for the next meeting.

There were no matters raised for the next meeting.

11. Date of the next meeting.

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

The meeting closed at 2115.