

## LITTON CHENEY PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Litton Cheney Parish Council Held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014 At Litton and Thorner's Community Hall

Present: S. Kourik (Chairman); D. Bowen; I. Homer; Dr H. Lantos and Clerk J. Firrell. Also attending :- Cllr R. Coatsworth and three local residents.

1. **Apologies:** Mrs S. Dyke (Deputy Chairman); W. Orchard; Mrs A. Spurrier.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Democratic Time:** Not taken up.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014:** Proposed by I. Homer, seconded by D. Bowen and carried. S. Kourik abstained as he was not present at the meeting.
5. **Matters Arising from the previous meeting:** Village Defibrillator – The Chairman asked Mrs Hannah Bunting who was present at the meeting if she would update the meeting on the project. Funds committed so far amounted to around £900. Further funds would be required in order to include the housing required for the defibrillator and a suitable location was yet to be agreed. Various location options were discussed including outside the main gates of CG Fry & Son and the wall of 1 Rose Cottage (near village noticeboard). The Clerk offered to contact Philip Fry to discuss the viability of the CGF option and at some point Mr & Mrs Gemmill may be approached. It was agreed that the accrued funds would be handed to the Parish Council for safekeeping and the purchase of the defibrillator would be transacted through the PC account. Mr & Mrs Bunting would come up with a definitive amount required to complete the purchase and installation after which it was possible an approach would be made to Relief in Need.
6. **Finance Report:** Current funds stood at £4818.53. Income since July was £0.17p (Interest) and expenditure £414.35 (Lengthsman £150, DAPTC subscription £129.35 and allotment maintenance £135). The second half of the precept payment (£1799) was expected shortly and the PC was committed to pay £100 towards the village defibrillator and £250 towards the replacement flagpole located on top of St Mary's church tower. It was agreed £75 would be set aside to provide for the replacement protection padding for the basketball stand setup at the playing field. Reimbursement of £22.50 would be due from Vat in due course. Approval was given to pay the lengthsman's invoice of £150 for July/August – proposed by I. Homer, seconded by S. Kourik and carried unanimously. The annual Audit Report for 2013/14 had now been received from our external auditor, BDO. No major issues were raised, with only a minor observation noted to be taken account of in the next annual report. The level of income and expenditure for the Parish Council meant that no audit payment was due. The Annual Audit Report was accepted unanimously, having been proposed by Dr H. Lantos and seconded by D. Bowen.
7. **Councillors Portfolios:** Highways – In the absence of W. Orchard, the Chairman reminded the council that repair work would be carried out in Hines Mead/Cow Lane and Whiteway in October. DCC would be asked to attend to Redway which once again was becoming hazardous to transit for cyclists and pedestrians. It was possible that owners of the land fronting Redway where the greenery was growing out of control would be charged for work DCC may carry out. The verge almost opposite the entrance to Charity Farm on Main Street was in a poor state as a result of large vehicles driving on it, and a considerable amount of soil had been pushed into the stream. Some repairs had been made but it was felt the problem was not helped by the parking of vehicles along Main Street and in the vicinity of the damaged verge. An approach would be made to the owners of the vehicles requesting that they park either further up the road or in their own property. Allotments/Playing Field – D. Bowen reported that all was well in this area and there was nothing of consequence to relate. Sustainable/Affordable Housing – In the absence of Mrs S. Dyke, the Chairman raised the subject of the Magna green land that was being put up for sale by Magna. It was agreed that the land was totally unsuitable

for further development and was possibly not commercially viable. It was further agreed to inform Magna and their agent Goadsby that the Parish Council would object to any planning application emanating from the sale of the land. The possibility of the Parish Council acquiring the land was discussed whereby it could maintain the land as a green, much as it is now. The Clerk was asked to inform both Magna and Goadsby of its intent which meant that potential purchasers would have to be informed of the PC's position. After note: This has been done. Superfast Broadband – Dr H. Lantos indicated that this was still on course for 2015 and the Chairman confirmed that radio mast for mobile phone coverage could be installed by the end of 2014. Footpaths/Lengthsman – Finger posts still required attention. Lengthsman James Williams updated the council on work done to date. In addition he suggested that St Mary's church make available village information within its portals as many people had approached him during the course of his duties as asked for this information. The Triangle had been tidied up but a replacement tree would soon be required. The Clerk would follow up with WDDC. At this point Cllr R. Coatsworth excused himself from the meeting.

- 8. Filing of Parish Council Records:** A robust wooden filing cabinet was now available in the plant room of the community hall for parish records. These were in the process of being sorted out by individual councillors and the clerk. It was agreed a date should be set aside when councillors could meet and sort out what records went where, i.e. filed, Dorset Records Office or disposed of.
- 9. Planning Matters:** Response to revised planning regulations (NALC) – A lengthy document had been circulated to councillors highlighting the proposed changes central government were planning to bring in adjusting current planning legislation. Much of it was not relevant to Litton Cheney but the council would forward its observations as depicted by Dr H. Lantos and forwarded to councillors.
- 10. Correspondence:** None, all being dealt with within the agenda.
- 11. Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014, 7.30 pm.
- 12. AOB:** Letter to WDDC – It was confirmed it was still the intent of the Parish Council to send a letter to WDDC expressing concern that the local authority frequently and seemingly routinely ignores the opinions of parish councils. The Localism Act was supposed to offer local councils more influence and control over its affairs. The Parish Council felt it did no such thing and this would be communicated to a senior figure at the district council.
- 13.** There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 p.m.  
J. Firrell – Parish Clerk