

# LITTLE WITLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in Little Witley Village Hall at 7.45pm.

## Councillors Present:

Mr P Cumming (Chairman)  
Mr C Bexley  
Mr P Owen  
Mrs L Slater  
Mrs K Wilson

## In Attendance:

Mrs A Watson (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

**1. Public Participation:** Concerns were raised regarding the state of footpaths around the village and who is responsible for clearing them, as a number are overgrown. Litter continues to be a problem as very little community or district litter picking takes place now. It was noted that the County Council ensured grit bins were refilled promptly during the snow and the Chairman reported that new street furniture/signs have been installed around the parish. He is also to report a 'toilet' as fly tipping in Ockeridge Lane.

**2. Apologies:** These were received and accepted from County Councillor Dr K Pollock, Mr P Hill and Cllr. Mrs P Cumming (arriving at 9.10 pm due to another Parish Council meeting).

**3. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr. Mr P Cumming relating to Planning, Item 12.

## 4. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018:

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## 5. Progress Reports:

5.1 Velo Birmingham – This event will not be held in 2018. The organisers, CSM, have announced that they will hold an event in March 2019 along a different route. To date, no request has been made to Worcestershire County Council in connection with this event.

5.2 Parish Website: Cllr. Wilson has made progress and reported on a local website developer who may be able to take on the project. Once initial costs have been agreed, Councillors will be informed and asked to recommend approval for this to go ahead. Cllr. Wilson will arrange a meeting that will include the Chairman and the Clerk.

5.3 Parish Council Assets are all in working order at present.

5.4 Broadband: The Chairman and Councillors discussed the much improved service being provided by BT within a half mile radius of the village, which all users seem very pleased with.

5.5 Smartwater Scheme. The Chairman reported on a proposed project taking place in Abberley and stated that when he knows the outcome of their efforts in engaging the community he will report back.

## 6. District and County Councillors' reports.

Councillors were given a copy of County Cllr. Pollock's monthly report which was summarised by the Clerk, which is also available on the parish website [www.littlewitley.org.uk](http://www.littlewitley.org.uk).

The Chairman reported that Council Tax has gone up by £5 and that plans are in place to set up a housing company to build homes to rent. Unfortunately, despite ideas to modernise the District Council building in Malvern, English Heritage have put a preservation order on it limiting scope for the new reception area.

## LITTLE WITLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**7. Finance and update on current financial position.** The Chairman provided Councillors with a short update on the accounts and current balances.

**7.1 The following payments were ratified:**

7.1.1 Clerks Salary January 2018	£173.34
7.1.2 Clerks Office Expenses January 2018	£20.00
7.1.3 Lengthsman for work during January 2018	£156.00
7.1.4 Clerks Salary February 2018	£173.34
7.1.5 Clerks Office Expenses February 2018	£20.00
7.1.6 Lengthsman for work during February 2018	£144.00

### 8. Highways

**8.1 Village White Gates and mobile speed signs.** The Chairman reported on the 'A443 Group' that has been set up with other parish councils and impressive white gates installed at Eardiston. Despite suggestions that these gates slow traffic down, information from surveys undertaken show they have made no difference to the speed of the traffic and their effectiveness is in question. Councillors agreed that white gates would not be installed on the A443 at Little Witley at this time, however they would consider the use of mobile speed signs and enquiries will be made regarding 'borrowing' this equipment for a trial period.

**8.2 Lengthsman's work and blocked drains.** The Clerk has reported 3 blocked drains in Well Lane, Reference Numbers; 495531, 495533, 495534 and 495535 on the A443. The Clerk reported that to date, no information has been received regarding the Lengthsman's Scheme for 2018/2019. It was agreed that as the contract for services for Chris Bunn ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, the Clerk will extend this until the information from Worcestershire County Council is received.

**9. Risk Assessments and Data Protection.** Cllr. Bexley provided information on how this is tackled by other parishes and provided a different format to the original. It was agreed that the Chairman is to liaise with Cllr. Bexley to combine both assessments for the next meeting.

### 10. Vacancy for Parish Councillor and Resignation of Parish Clerk.

The Clerk confirmed that as no election was necessary, the Parish Council was now in a position to co-opt and this vacancy is advertised on the parish website. If anyone is interested in the vacancy they are asked to contact the Chairman.

The Chairman confirmed that he had received and accepted the resignation of the Clerk who will finish at the end of March due to other full time work commitments. The Councillors thanked Mrs Watson and the vacancy is advertised on the parish website. If anyone is interested in the vacancy they are asked to contact the Chairman.

### 11. Correspondence for information.

- Invitation to Malvern Hills Area CALC Meeting 13/03/18, 7.30pm County Hall.
- Invitation to South Worcestershire Development Plan Review – Briefing for Parish and Town Councils on 20/03/18 at 4.30pm and 6.30pm.
- Invitation to Malvern Hills Parish & Town Council Forum, 09/04/18 5.30-8pm Council Chambers, Malvern.
- SWDP Consultation on Traveller and Travelling Show people Sites and Statement of Community Involvement.
- Street Naming & Numbering Information which now allows the Parish Council to be involved in street naming of any new developments in the parish.

## LITTLE WITLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### 12. Malvern Hills District Council Planning Notifications

<b>12.1 Application Number: 17/01787/FUL - Approved</b>
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Applicant: Mr & Mrs Geach, Field House, Well Lane, Little Witley, WR6 6LN.
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Proposal: Change of land for the stationing of 2no. Caravans for holiday let purposes.
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<b>12.2 Application Number: 18/00180/FUL</b>
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Applicant: Mr P Clarke, Land at (os 7868 6342), Well Lane, Little Witley.
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Proposal: Proposed polytunnel for livestock housing and three agricultural storage buildings.
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<i>Little Witley Parish Council Response – To be advised at the next meeting.</i>
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### 13. Any other business and consideration of items for the next meeting.

13.1 The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 14th May 2018 at 7.45pm.

13.2 Prince Harry's Wedding Celebrations in Little Witley. Councillors unanimously agreed to contribute to this community event and provide a grant of up to £120 towards costs.

13.3 GDPR. New Data protection regulations were briefly discussed and it was agreed to agenda this item for the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Little Witley Parish Council