

## LITTLE LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Little Leigh 131st Annual Parish Meeting  
Held in Little Leigh village hall on Thursday 16 May 2024 at 7pm

- 1) The Vice Chairman welcomed a member of the public and councillors Beecroft, Geary, King and Mc Sweeney.
- 2) Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs Jones and Littler and from ward councillors Gibbon, Marshall and Wright.
- 3) *Res 1 AGM 16.05.2024:* Councillor Cook was proposed to be co- opted by Cllr King seconded by Cllr Beecroft Voting unanimous
- 4) *Res 2 AGM 16.05.2024:* Cllr Beecroft was proposed as the Chairman Proposed by Cllr McSweeney Seconded by Cllr King voting unanimous
- 5) *Res 3 AGM 16.05.2024:* Cllr King was proposed as the Vice Chairman Proposed by Cllr Geary seconded by Cllr Beecroft voting unanimous
- 6) *Res 4 AGM 16.05.2024 :* Councillors adopted the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations which the Clerk had amended. Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Beecroft voting unanimous
- 7) Councillors received the Little Leigh Parish Council Chairman's report- see attached. The Councillors thanked Cllr Lawless for his long service on the Parish Council.
- 8) *Res 5 AGM 16.05.2024 :*The following councillors were elected to subcommittees:
  - Planning Cllrs McSweeney and Geary
  - Festivals and entertainment Cllrs Jones and Littler
  - Finance Cllr Beecroft, McSweeney and King
  - Village hall sub committee Cllr Jones
  - Environment sub committee Cllrs Beecroft, Cook and King
  - Strategic plan steering group Cllrs Beecroft, Cook, King
- 9) There were no Public Submissions from Little Leigh groups and organisations

## LITTLE LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 16 May 2024 @ 7:15pm

- 1) Declarations of interest- As all parish councillors lived in or near the village they all had personal interests. In addition Cllr Jones was a trustee of the Little Leigh Community Trust and the Village Hall Management Committee.
- 2) Public submissions-residents had complained about the advertising sign which had been erected at the entrance to Orchard Drive. The Clerk had reported this flyposting to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

3) Minutes of April meeting  
*Res 1 24.05.16:* The minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2024 were approved. Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Mc Sweeney voting unanimous

4) **Clerk's report**

- The Green Festival, held in partnership with the school, was a great success with over 30 stalls and activities and 250 people attending. Thanks were extended to the organizers, to the WI for providing refreshments, to all the stallholders, to competitors and to all the attendees.

5) **Little Leigh Strategic plan**

Councillors agreed to form a Steering Group and to invite interested villagers to join. The previous Parish Plan had been formulated in 2005 following an extensive consultation with people from the village.

Questionnaires, focus groups and workshops would be used with differing methods of consultation to encourage a wide range of participation.

The survey would be publicised in Grapevine which was due out at the end of June.

6) **Future events**

- Village wildlife walk- meet at the village hall 6.30pm on 17 May.
- Cycle ride via lanes to Northwich- 15 June date to be confirmed.
- First aid training-the Parish Council would fund the event which Cllr Geary was organizing in July, date to be confirmed.
  
- Dog show -this was planned for 21 September using the field adjacent to the village hall by kind permission of the Horton family. Barnyard were once again sponsoring the dog show rosettes and a judge and stewards had been organized.
  
- Produce show in the hall with tea and cake and 3 categories (all carrying on the theme of The Green Festival). Visitors to the hall would be given tokens to vote for their winning choice (creator's identity not disclosed) in each category (adult & children classes). Children's activities would be organized.
  - A novelty cake on the theme All Creatures Great & Small (only the decorating would be judged)
  - A flower or plant arrangement in an upcycled container eg an old boot
  - A handcrafted creature (All Creatures Great & Small) - knitted, crocheted, stitched, junk modelling etc
  
- Following the success of the Abba event Cllr Littler was investigating a Motown night, details to be confirmed.

7) **Potholes drains and gullies survey**

Councillors Beecroft, McSweeney and Geary would be allocated to highways areas and would report back at the July and September Parish Council meetings. Drains and gullies would also be surveyed and actionable defects would be reported

to CWAC via the Report it app. United Utilities were due to replace the water main in Hole House Lane and to repair the damage to the road surface caused by the numerous leaks, but this could take some time. Cllr Beecroft advocated marking reported and repaired potholes on a geospatial map using information from Cllr McSweeney's spreadsheet of issues.

#### 8) Correspondence

- The Clerk had circulated correspondence from CWAC, NALC, ChALC, and the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- The Clerk had completed the NALC Sector consultation: Committee on Standards in Public Life - public bodies accountability.

#### 9) Finance

- The external auditor had accepted the Certificate of Exemption from external audit
- The internal audit had been completed successfully
- *Res 2 16.05.24*: Councillors approved the following expenditure

Proposed Cllr Beecroft seconded Cllr Mc Sweeney          voting unanimous

£226.90	Cllr King printer
£42	Cllr Jones Green festival prizes
£100	Chris Swallow Ltd internal audit fee
£11.98	Clerk stationery
£16.42	G Hampton Green festival equipment
£6.85	Clerk name badges

*Res 3 16.05.24: Councillors agreed to amend bank account signatories*

*The balance in the account on 15 May was £20,544.22*

#### 10) Planning

- Hydrogen pipeline-consultation expected 2025
- Winnington Tata estate-pending with CWAC
- CO2 pipeline consultation planned for end 2024- Cllr Beecroft had attended an informative presentation and advised councillors to keep an open mind.
- Chapel Farm stables-withdrawn
- Land at Hall Lane extension to stables and forge-pending with CWAC
- Crumleigh Heath Farm- CWAC had refused the application concerning permitted development rights

#### 11) Matters for next meeting

- Potholes and gullies report
- First aid training
- Village show and dog show
- Motown disco

12) The meeting closed at 8pm. Date of next meeting 16 July 2024