

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 4th JANUARY 2021
AT 1930 as a Virtual Meeting via Zoom.

Present:

Councillor M Oldfield (Chairman)
Councillor C Mitchell
Councillor E Christie
Councillor R Fagence
Councillor C Lawrence
Councillor M Brookbank

County & District Councillor Kiddle-Morris

1. Apologies for absence

No Apologies for absence

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

No DPS's were received or noted

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Lawrence proposed and Councillor Brookbank seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd November 2020 having been circulated be approved. The minutes were duly signed.

4. Public Participation-

4.1 To receive report from County and District Councillor.

Budget:

The Council will set its budget for financial year 21/22 at a meeting to be held on 22nd February. The settlement from central government is broadly neutral; there has been a small increase in the Rate Support Grant and the Rural Services Delivery Grant but a reduction in the payment from new homes bonus. Despite this the Council will set a balanced budget which maintains the current level of services. However, inevitably there will be an increase in council tax; a 1.99% increase in the general rate and a 2% increase in the adult social care precept (up to 3% is permitted). As with all local authorities the Council must set a budget which is balanced over a 3-year period; the projection for 22/23 is for a tax rise of 2% plus 1% for adult social care.

Grass Cutting:

As reported in November the Councils mandatory consultation on the budget for 21/22 included a proposal to reduce the highways verge cuts on both C and U roads from 2 to one cut per year. In response to the consultation 63% of respondents agreed with the reduction, this will obviously be the subject of debate at the council tax setting meeting in February

4.2 Public Comment- No Public were present.

5. Highways

5.1 To note any new problems within the parish.

Councillor Oldfield has sent a list of problems within the parish. The Clerk has reported all items and chased up previous items. Councillor Fagence reported a pothole in Pound Lane and edge of road crumbling on Tittleshall road, also a groove in the road in Church Street, near Druids Lane. Councillor Mitchell reported a pothole within the same area. The clerk will report these.

5.2 Update on Highways problems reported

Due to the Christmas/New Year break, no outstanding items have been actioned.

6. Planning

Applications-3PL/2020/1348/HOU-Proposed single storey extension to frontage of dwelling. All Councillors supported this application.

7 Matters for Report

7.1 Precept/Budgets-All Councillors agreed to the precept and Budgets to remain the same.

7.2 Seat/Bench for Manor Drive- Two quotes were obtained for fitting the bench and all Councillors were in favour for D & G fencing to fit the bench. The clerk will contact the school regarding ordering and fitting the bench.

7.3 Zoom Contribution-

All Councillors agreed to contribute £35.00 towards the cost of the Zoom license for the year.

7.4 Slow sign request on Tittleshall Road

County Councillor Kiddle-Morris has put in the request to have this actioned, but we are still waiting for a new highways engineer, to assess the road, to agree for this to be actioned.

8 To Consider requests for Donations

8.1-Church requests for cutting of the Churchyard

This was discussed in length; it was agreed by all the Councillors that they will contribute a donation. The clerk will write to the church warden informing him of the decision and an agreed amount will be donated to the Parochial Church Council.

9 Finances

9.1 Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated

Councillor Mitchell proposed and Councillor Brookbank seconded the resolution on the authorisation of the cheques.

9.2 Budgets to be circulated

Councillor Lawrence proposed and Councillor Brookbank seconded the resolution on the Budgets that were circulated.

10. Matters for next meeting (not for discussion) to be added to the Agenda:

Christmas tree on the green, costings

Rubbish bin on Druid's lane.

11. To Confirm the next meeting of Litcham Parish Council

Monday 1st March 2021

Meeting Closed 20.35

FINANCE:30th Oct 2020-30th Nov 2020

Balances:-

Community Account.

Balance at 15th Oct 2020	£15,423.96
Presented Cheques	£1,833.39
Direct Debit Haven Power	£82.80
 The Open space DD	 £45.00
 Balance at 25th Nov 2020	 £13,462.77

Cheques for
Authorisation

Cheque number	Cheque payable to	Reason for Payment	Cheque amount
630	Steve Jackman	Web set-up for Wix	£80.00
631	TT Jones	Street Lighting Maint Jan, Feb & Mar	£69.85
632	Litcham Common	Donation for conservation group	£300.00
633	J. Bloomfield	Zoom Contribution for May	£15.00
634	D.K.Secker	Zoom contribution for the Year	£35.00
635	D.K Secker	Salary £669.06	£535.26
636	HMRC	PAYE	£133.81
Total			£1,168.92

