

LITTLE LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Little Leigh 132nd Annual Parish Meeting
Held in Little Leigh village hall on Tuesday 6 May 2025 at 7pm

- 1) The Chairman welcomed 9 members of the public and councillors Cook, Geary, Jones, King, Mc Sweeney and ward councillor Gibbon,.
- 2) Apologies for Absence were received from Littler, from ward councillors Marshall and Wright and from PCSO Wiggins.
- 3) *Res 1 AGM 06.05.2025:* Cllr Beecroft was proposed as the new Chairman
Proposed by Cllr mc Sweeney Seconded by Cllr King voting unanimous
- 4) *Res 2 AGM 06.05.2025:* Cllr King was proposed as the Vice Chairman
Proposed by Cllr Geary seconded by Cllr Beecroft voting unanimous
- 5) *Res 3 AGM 06.05.202 :* Councillors adopted the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations which the Clerk had revised. Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Beecroft voting unanimous
- 6) Councillors received the Little Leigh Parish Council Chairman's report- see attached. The Councillors thanked Cllr Beecroft for her report.
- 7) *Res 5 AGM 16.05.2024 :*The following councillors were elected to subcommittees:
 - Planning Cllrs McSweeney and Geary
 - Community events Cllrs Jones and Littler
 - Finance Cllr Beecroft, McSweeney and King
 - Village hall management committee Cllr Jones
 - Environment sub committee Cllrs Beecroft, Cook and King
 - Strategic plan delivery group Cllrs Beecroft, Cook, King
 - Communications steering group Cllrs Beecroft, King
- 8) Public Submissions from Little Leigh groups and organisations
 - Cllr Jones reported a busy year with Drop in Monday, Knit and natter, Friendly club, and coffee morning groups. Relationships with the school were encouraging with children and the Headteacher attending some of the groups.
 - WiFi had been installed in the village hall.
 - Cllr Jones reported that village hall finances were sound and had been boosted by a £9k grant from the National Lottery for acoustic improvements to the hall. She thanked the Clerk for drafting the grant application on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee.

LITTLE LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Tuesday 6 May 2025 @ 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) There were no public submissions

3) Minutes of April Finance meeting

Res 1 06.05.25: The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2025 were approved. Proposed Cllr King seconded Cllr Geary voting unanimous

4) **Clerk's report**

- The village walk on Good Friday had been well attended and the refreshments and piano playing afterwards had been enjoyed.
- Arrangements had been made for VE day 80 anniversary event in the village hall starting at 8pm on 8 May.
- Arrangements were in hand for a tea party with the school on 22 May

5) **Little Leigh Strategic plan survey**

Cllr Cook reported that he had received 74 responses to the Strategic Plan questionnaire which was comparable with the number of responses received in the previous Parish Plan exercise. He expressed disappointment at the lack of response from younger people. The results will be use to prepare a village plan for review and presentation to CWAC.

The survey remained live and it was important to encourage younger people.

Councillor Cook was thanked for his work on the survey.

6) **Future events**

- Village walk from the Baptist Church- meet at the chapel 6.30pm on 13 June
- Cycle ride via lanes to Bluebell Lodge gardens-date to be confirmed

7) **Potholes drains and gullies survey**

Councillors Littler, McSweeney and Geary had been 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. Only defects matching the CWAC 4cm deep criteria would be reported with an expectation they would be remedied.

8) **Ward councillors report**

- Devolution consultation is underway
- CWAC Funding was available via the Spacehive process
- The Head of CWAC planning would attend a Parish Council meeting to speak about enforcement issues which had a large backlog due to problems recruiting and retaining staff.
- Volunteers can be trained to operate speed guns

- Police can be engaged at £200 per hour to enforce speeding issues
- Northwich market plans are out for public consultation

9) **Correspondence**

- The Clerk had circulated correspondence from CWAC, NALC, and ChALC,

10) **Finance**

- The annual return was with the auditor who was requiring evidence of the value of the piano which had been donated.
- The balance in the bank account on 6 May was £23454.37

11) **Planning**

- **Winnington solar park-** the village had been leafleted about the appeal against refusal of permission for the application which would result in heavy goods vehicle traffic trebling along Runcorn Road. The ward councillors and the Parish Council had objected to the appeal and had liaised with Barnton parish council and Cllr Gibbon. The planning inquiry would be held on 1 July.
- Ash House-pending with CWAC planning enforcement
- Chapel Farm -pending with CWAC enforcement

11) **Matters for next meeting**

- Potholes and gullies report
- Village walk
- Cycle ride

12) The meeting closed at 8.10pm. Date of next meeting 22 July 2025