

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2014

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs C Sutton (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J Tomblin (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mrs S Cameron, Cllr Mrs P Chester-Master, Cllr G Edwards and Cllr Mrs R Freyne.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Mrs J Layton (CDC), Mr C Huck and Mrs C Braidwood (Clerk)

1. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Cllr S Parsons (County)

2. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct

2.1 To Receive Member's Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

None

2.2 To Receive Updates to Members Register of Interests

None

2.3 To Consider Amendment of Item 3I of the Model Standing Orders

RESOLUTION 23/14

It was resolved to amend Standing Orders to comply with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 by removing Standing Order 3I.

3. Minutes

3.1 Acceptance and signing of Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 11 September 2014

RESOLUTION 24/14

The Minutes were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Change in Weight Restriction limit – Cllr S Parsons

Cllr Parsons was not available.

Solution to Damp at the Village Hall

The Chairman reported that the Village Hall Committee is looking into a solution.

Condition of Footpaths on Village Farm and Footpaths Notice

The Clerk confirmed that this matter has been passed on to PROW. Mr Huck requested clarification and advised that the footpaths on his land are cut back across a width of approx. 4ft twice each year but he does not cut into the hedge. He also advised that the footpath from Yard at top of Village to the A417 crosses land owned by Roger Gegg. The Clerk confirmed that the bridleway is the responsibility of Gloucestershire Highways.

Councillor Expenses

RESOLUTION 25/14

It was resolved to pay Councillors a mileage rate of 45p per mile when attending meetings on behalf of the Council outside the Village.

5. Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Mrs J Layton (CDC)

- Apologised for not sending apologies to the September meeting.
- Confirmed that the Lorry park is being monitored by CDC Enforcement on a 3 monthly basis and asked the Village to also monitor lorry movements.
- Preston Mill Barn planning application is now on CDC's website and response date has been extended to 28 January
- Local Plan is progressing
- CDC debated and passed a motion to seek ways to reduce the traffic speed limit on the ring road and this will include Preston Toll Bar.

6. Questions from the Public - None

7. Playing Field

Play Area Report – Cllr G Edwards

Cllr Edwards confirmed that he had replaced the safety surfaces highlighted by the safety report and would carry out repairs to the roof of the slide in the Spring.

Cllr Price noted that the Playing Field surface is approx. 90% weed and only 10% grass and suggested that it should be sprayed early next year. It was agreed to take this into consideration when finalising the budget at the January meeting.

Action:

Options and Funding for Refurbishment of Play Area

RESOLUTION 26/14

Cllr Edwards showed Members 3 options for new play equipment and drew attention to his preferred option provided by Playdale costing approximately £12,500.

The Clerk advised that some funding could be available from GCC and CDC. She further confirmed having received an email from Cllr Parsons stating that he will give his support to an application to GCC's Children's Activity Fund for a minimum of £4,000. Cllr Bennett and Cllr Mrs Layton confirmed that they would support an application to CDC's Community Projects Fund. If both applications are successful then it is possible that approx. £6,275 could be forthcoming.

In the circumstances, it was unanimously resolved to support the applications and to provide up to £5,000 from reserves and £1,000 from the Play Area Sinking Fund to cover the shortfall and to delegate responsibility to Cllr Edwards and the Clerk to progress the project as soon as possible.

Action:

Installation of Sign for the Playing Field (attached)

RESOLUTION 27/14

The draft notice was circulated and it was agreed to include the Grid Reference for the Emergencies Services. The Clerk advised that a quote has been received for £45 plus

Action:

VAT. It was resolved to proceed.

8. Village Hall - To Receive Report and Update from the Last Meeting

Cllr Mrs C Sutton reported:

- The Tommy Atkins theatre production was very good.
- The Committee is considering installation of smaller lights, blinds and coat hooks in the lobby area but these have been deferred to January. Consideration is also being given to installing a dishwasher.
- A builder is being contacted about the damp problem in the kitchen as everything is musty and needs to be washed before use. A builder is also being consulted about the guttering.
- There will be a Pub night with a Burns theme on 30 January.
- The AGM is on 4 February.
- Currently have approx. £3,000 in bank.

9. Village Affairs

Traffic Speed – Entrance Gates – To Receive Update

Members examined the samples for the proposed gates and the Clerk was requested to further agreement with Highways regarding installation together with new signs.

Action:

Community Noticeboard

Cllr Edwards advised that Gary Kendrick has agreed to construct a noticeboard at cost if given a plan and detailed description.

Proposal of Single traffic over Witpit Lane Bridge – Give way to 'traffic' on bridge

The Clerk advised that Gloucestershire Highways will not consider this proposal as road users cannot see on coming traffic on the opposite side of the bridge.

Hedge Opposite the Rectory

Cllr Mrs Tomblin noted that the hedge has only been cut on one side, not the top and Cllr Price agreed to check.

Action:

Newsletter

It was agreed that we thank Mrs Warren for all her work in creating the Newsletter at the AGM and the Clerk was requested to advise her of the new parish boundary that comes into effect on 1 April 2015.

Action:

Action: **Speed Watch** - It was agreed to carry out another check in the Spring.

Highways

It was noted that there is no sign at the Toll Bar coming from the Siddington side showing pedestrians where to cross and the Clerk was requested to take this up with

Action: Gloucestershire Highways.

10. Finance

10.1 Bank Reconciliation and Budget Status up to 31 October 2014 (Attached) - Noted

10.2 To Approve Bills for Payment :

RESOLUTION 28/14

• Bibury Landscape Contractors	£235.20
• Busy Fingers – Newsletter Printing	33.79
• Busy Fingers – Newsletter Printing	26.62
• GAPTC - Clerk’s Update Training	32.50
• Strutt & Parker – Fee for the Remainder of the Lease Period	12.00

10.3 To Consider Budget Planning for 2015 – 2016

The options were discussed and a draft budget proposed as attached. It was agreed to review and finalise this at the January meeting. The Clerk was requested to report in the Newsletter article that it is unlikely that there will be any increase in the Parish Council aspect of the Council tax in the coming year but this may change in subsequent years. It was further agreed to include all of the services currently provided by the Parish Council from the Precept.

Action:

10.4 Fees for Advertising in the Village Newsletter:

Single Advert and Different Rates for Commercial and Residents / Charitable

RESOLUTION 29/14

It was resolved to make the following charges for advertising:

	One Off	6 Months	Up to 1 Year
Residents	FREE	FREE	FREE
Charity (Resident)	FREE	FREE	FREE
Charity (Non-Resident)	£3	NA	NA
Commercial	£6	£35	£60

11. Planning

11.1 To Consider Carrying out a Village Design Statement and to Allocate Funding.

It was agreed to defer this decision until the January meeting in order to seek support from residents who will be crucial in furthering the project. It was agreed to hand deliver a letter to all properties in the Village immediately after New Year and prior to the next meeting.

11.2 New Planning Applications

14/04516/OUT Land At Preston Mill Barn, Swindon Road, Preston, CIRENCESTER, Gloucestershire, GL7 6ET

Erection of up to 6 dwellings together with associated ancillary development

As the deadline for response has been extended to 28 January it was agreed to defer this to next meeting.

Action:

11.3 Planning Applications Responded to Since Last Meeting -None

11.4 Decision Notices Received - None

11.5 Planning Correspondence - None

12. Website - To Receive Update - Nothing to report

13. Correspondence

List of Correspondence Received in September and October - Noted

Police Neighbourhood Meeting – 20 November at 7.30 in Kemble Village Hall

Members were advised that Bill Mortimer has taken over as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator from Cllr Mrs Freyne who was thanked for her work. It was noted that email alerts now go out to all residents who have provided an email address.

CDC – Town and Parish Meetings- 24 November 2014 at 6.45 pm – Council Chamber, Trinity Road - No one is available.

GCC Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Noted

CDC Boundary Changes – Final Recommendations

Noted

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm