

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2015

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:) PC Mark Weedon, Cllr S Parsons (GCC and CDC) from 7.20 pm, Mr C Huck, Ms M Longstaff and Mrs C Braidwood (Clerk)

Mark Weedon - Police Constable 2071

Cirencester Rural South Local Policing Team, Cotswold LPA, Gloucestershire Constabulary

The Chairman welcomed PC Weedon and he explained how the Police service has undergone another re-organisation. There has been some remodelling to the service but there is little change in Cirencester. Some teams have been renamed. The Neighbourhood Policing team covers many of the Villages surrounding Cirencester and Mark's hours have changed mainly to late shifts when the demand is greater. Patrols of Preston village have not changed.

In reply to a query he said that Neighbourhood Watch is a good scheme that circulates information to residents.

He stated that there had been 17 crimes in September and October compared to 12 in the same period in the previous year.

In 2015 to date there has been 65 crimes (37 in 2014).

Tesco and Kingshill Meadow are included within Preston for statistical purposes and it was pointed out that the boundary has now changed.

Targeting crime reduction is now a priority due to dark nights and householders are encouraged to leave lights on when away from their properties. A free crime reduction survey is available by contacting Mark or Cirencester Police Station. It was agreed to include this information in the Village Newsletter.

1. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Cllr N Price (Personal)

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

3. Minutes from Previous Meetings

3.1 Acceptance and signing of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 September 2015

RESOLUTION 30/15

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

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Maintenance of the Toll Bar Central Reservation – Cllr S Parsons

Cllr Parsons was unavailable to give an update and the Clerk was requested to contact him for an update. It was considered that trees might obstruct drivers' view of pedestrians and that a strip of wild flowers sown either side of the path may highlight the crossing. The Clerk was also requested to chase Highways and Cllr Parsons regarding the pedestrian sign. It was noted that overhanging trees obscure the Cycle path sign and that the VAS is still in position.

Action:

GCC – Armed Forces Covenant

RESOLUTION 31/15

It was noted that the Covenant is intended to promote a closer relationship with the Armed

Forces and in view of Preston's nearness to the South Cerney Camp, it was agreed to sign the covenant.

5. Village Design Statement – Update

Cllr Mrs Sutton reported that the Questionnaires have been sent out and that 42 of the 96 have been returned. Only 1 has been received from outside the Village and about half have used the stamped addressed envelope and half have been returned by hand. It is intended to give people a gentle reminder to return those not completed shortly.

6. To Receive Report from County and District Councillor – Cllr Shaun Parsons

Devolution is moving forward with Gloucestershire working on its own. This arrangement will ensure a closer working relationship with the NHS and some other powers will be devolved from other areas.

Flood meetings: Thames Water has become more active and is beginning a more detailed review in South Cerney to be followed by Cirencester. This is in preparation for a new funding window in 4 years time. It was noted that the sewerage system needs substantial improvement. Cllr Parsons advised that Caravan Park occupants are very nervous about the need to upgrade the sewage system as the costs will be passed on to them by the site owners.

7. Questions and Comments from the Public

None

8. Playing Field

Play Area Report

Nothing new to report.

Play Area Refurbishment Update

RESOLUTION 32/15

The Clerk reported that both grant applications have been approved in principle and that Cllr Parsons may be able to make an additional £2,000 available. It was resolved that if funding comes through before the next meeting that the chosen contractor be instructed to proceed and it was further agreed that if additional funding is forthcoming that this could be used to purchase additional equipment rather than reduce the Council's contribution.

The Clerk was requested to check with CDC regarding the position of the Community Fund grant.

Action:

Cllr Edwards agreed to investigate the provision of football goals and AstroTurf for the goal areas.

Action:

9. Village Hall

Cllr Mrs C Sutton reported that a Christmas drinks event will be held on 23 December and that Soup Saturdays are due to begin.

Everyone acknowledged that the new blinds are a great improvement.

10. Village Affairs

Highways Update – Village Signs, Cultivation Licence, Junction Markings

Village Signs

The Clerk confirmed that the new Village signs have been ordered by Gloucestershire Highways and that she had requested to be advised before they are installed.

Cultivation Licence at 3 Kingsway

The Clerk reported that Highways Officers would be inspecting the height of the hedge and taking appropriate action.

Road Markings at the Junction with Kingshill Lane

It was noted that the new road markings don't work well when turning right on to Kingshill Lane.

Village Maintenance

Cutting Ivy on Trees

The Clerk reported that Cllr Price has suggested that the Ivy on the trees near to Village Farm needs to be cut back and the Council requested that a quotation be obtained and the work to include tidying up the verge where the wall curves that was once the location

Action: of the old pump.

30 mph Signs

It was noted that most of the 30mph restriction signs are obscured by overgrown bushes and hedges in adjoining gardens and the Clerk was requested to ask residents, in the

Action: Council's Newsletter article, to ensure they are cut back.

Footpath Signs

It was noted that the sign maintenance agreed with Mike Barton, PROW Officer, has not been carried out. The Clerk was requested to chase this and to copy Cllr Parsons. At the

Action: same time, to request a supply of arrow signs that Councillors could use.

11. Finance

11.1 Bank Reconciliation and Budget Status up to 31 October 2015

Noted as attached.

11.2 Public Works Loan Payment Notice

Noted

11.3 Bills for Payment

RESOLUTION 33/15

It was resolved to pay the following bills:

Busy Fingers - Newsletter Printing September	£ 29.11
Glasdon - Litter Bin for Playing Field	£ 309.18
Clerk's Expenses - Telephone & Postage	£ 7.56
Bibury - Litter Bin Installation	£ 95.61
Bibury - Grasscutting	£ 480.00
Bibury - Installation of Litter bin	£ 94.20
Busy Fingers - Design Statement & Envelopes	£ 74.28
E R Hamey - Design Statement Photographs	£ 27.00

11.4 GRCC Membership Renewal

RESOLUTION 34/15

It was agreed that GRCC is a very useful source of information and it was resolved to renew membership costing £25 pa.

11.5 To Consider Budget Planning for 2016 - 2017

Members considered the proposals and agreed to finalise the budget at the next meeting. The Clerk was requested to review the grass cutting contract including all amendments made during the year and check the total cost of the contract with

Action: Bibury.

12. Planning

12.1 New Planning Applications

None

12.2 Planning Applications Responded to Since Last Meeting

None

12.3 Decision Notices Received

15/03018/FUL Land Parcel Off Witpit Lane Adjacent To The A417 404918 East 201036 West Preston Gloucestershire

Change of use to park two HGV's including trailers

Permitted 14 October 2015

Feedback relating to CDC's Planning Committee Decision.

It was noted that a condition has now been placed on the permission that the lorries could not use the road through the Village to access the parking site. It was further noted that the Council's request for the lorries to be parked away from the hedge was not allowed as the application was restricted to the area adjacent to the hedge and did not include the area between the barns.

15/01923/FUL Land Parcel East Of Witpit Lane Preston Gloucestershire

Proposed development of solar photovoltaic modules including access, temporary construction compound; single and double inverter platforms; transfer station; collecting station; security fencing; CCTV cameras and poles; landscaping; and associated works and infrastructure including underground cable along London Road verge and Witpit Lane verge and related equipment to allow connection to the electricity distribution network

Update relating to CDC's Planning Committee Decision and Negotiations of the Community Benefit Agreement.

Cllr Mrs Freyne reported that the Agreement between the Council and Belectric for Community Benefit is expected to be signed during the coming week. This would give the Village £82,062.50 once the site is operational and connected to the grid. A Trust fund would then be set up and administered by representatives of the Village and the Parish Council. It is intended that monies from the fund will be used to repay the Public Works Loan taken out by the Council for the refurbishment of the Village Hall. Work is expected to begin on the site in April. The Village contacts during the work will be Cllr Mrs Tomblin and Cllr Mrs Cameron.

12.4 Planning Correspondence and Issues

CDC Local Plan Consultation – 6 November to 21 December 2015

Noted.

13. Website

New Transparency Code

RESOLUTION 35/15

The Clerk explains that the new Code seeks to reduce the audit process for smaller Councils (with a turnover of less than £25,000) by removing the External Audit process. Councils will still be required to carry out an Internal Audit by employing their own auditor and required to publish more information on their website to achieve greater transparency. Grants are available to cover equipment, websites and internet connection and it was resolved to apply for the cost of an internet connection to the Village Hall to further the

Action: access to this information for residents.

14. Correspondence

Amey Customer Survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YDPSQ7Q>

Noted

Cirencester Town Council Consultation – Draft Planning Policy

Noted

Cotswold Tree Wardens Event – 10 November 2015

Noted

GCC Consultation – Fire & Rescue and Local Transport Plan

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/consultglosfire

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ltp3

Noted

GAPTC Training Schedule - Noted

Police & Crime Panel – Independent Member Vacancy - Noted

Gloucestershire Archives – Invitation to Magna Carta Events – 24 November 2015

Action: It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Freyne and Cllr Mrs Chester-Master would attend.

Invitation to CDC's Town and Parish Liaison Meeting – 9 November 2015

Action: Cllr Mrs Freyne agreed to attend

Secretary of State Appointments to AONB Conservation Boards - Noted

Invitation to Charities Meeting at Coleford Town Council – 18 November 2015

Noted

Invitation to Healthwatch Public Event – 11 November 2015 - Noted

GCC – Funded Transport Consultation [https://gloucestershire-](https://gloucestershire-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/trp/funded_public_transport_survey/funded_public_transport_survey_1)

[consult.objective.co.uk/portal/trp/funded_public_transport_survey/funded_public_transport_survey_1](https://gloucestershire-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/trp/funded_public_transport_survey/funded_public_transport_survey_1)

Noted

GRCC – Social and Rural Exclusion - Noted

15. Any Other Business

Cllr Mrs Freyne gave her apologies for the January meeting.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 7 January 2016 at 7 pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm