

# PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 11 MAY 2017

**PRESENT:** Cllr Mrs J Tomblin, (Chairman), Cllr Mrs S Cameron, Cllr Mrs P Chester-Master, Cllr Mrs R Freyne, Cllr N Price, Dot Warren, Tony Warren, Chris Sutton, Lizzie Hamey, Ken Tomblin, Ollie Tomblin, Joy Canton, Alexander Lindsay, Anne Rawlins, Rex Canton, Elisabeth Cooper, Sue Gulliford, Susan, Ioan Jones, Sue Spivey, Therese Munro-Warwick, Anne and Peter Mingins, John Beadle, Cllr Shaun Parsons (CDC & GCC) and Caroline Braidwood (Parish Clerk).

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Mrs A Smith, Mr A Stone, Mr B Mortimore, Cllr G Edwards

**2. Minutes of the last Parish Meeting held on 12 May 2016**

It was agreed that the Minutes were a true and accurate record of the previous meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising**

None

**3. Annual Report of Preston Parish Council - Attached**

Cllr Mrs Tomblin gave an overview of the work of the Council during the past year.

Cllr Mrs Chester Master gave a vote of thanks to the Chairman for her work on behalf of the Village and the Parish Council.

**4. Finance Report**

The report was given at attached.

**5. Annual Reports from County and District Councillors**

Cllr Parsons was congratulated on being re-elected and said:

- **Gloucestershire County Council** was previously hung but is now Conservative controlled. Needs to concentrate on roads which is a nation problem. Mending potholes doesn't work and many roads need to be re-surfaced.
- Largest element of the budget is older people. £137m equating to 1/3 of the budget. Gloucestershire has the largest growing population of older people in int country.
- Children's services amounts to £89m = 22%
- The remainder is spent on infrastructure.
- **Cotswold District Council** has a budget of £11m
- The current key issue is planning around Cirencester and the Chesterton development which will come before the full Council for decision. If it is refused then the application on Kingshill Lane is more likely to go forward.
- Increased traffic on Kingshill / Tesco roundabout is of concern.
- It is likely that the missing link on the A417 at Birdlip will be progressed in 2019/20.

**General**

- It is of great concern that Preston should not be consumed by Cirencester and a priority that it remains separate.
- CDC's Local Plan will go to the Inspector in July.

**6. Neighbourhood Development Plan**

**Dr Andrea Pellegram gave an overview of her background as Head of Planning at CDC and Planning Consultant working for Cirencester Town Council.**

She explained that the Village Design Statement is not highly material in planning decisions but does bear some weight and developers will be expected to take it into consideration. Whereas a NDP is part of the adopted Local Development Plan and, like the Local Plan, bears material weight in planning decisions. It is a planning document written by the

community with policies as strong as a Local Plan; it adds depth to LP policies, provides clarity and allows people to protect what is important to them. Consequently, it must be written correctly. There is a considerable amount of advice on-line specifically from Locality which has been set up by national government to support local communities through the process.

Dr Pellegram detailed the process of a NDP and suggested that the Village could concentrate on maybe 4 – 5 policies covering such things as design, character, housing, transport and infrastructure.

#### **RESOLUTION**

***It was unanimously resolved to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Preston, including the whole area within the Parish boundary.***

***Volunteers came forward to form a Steering Group: Tony Warren, Cllr Regine Freyne, Alan Stone, Cllr Sue Cameron, Cllr Julie Tomblin, Anne Mingins and John Beadle.***

***It was further resolved that the Parish Clerk working with Dr Pellegram would apply to Cotswold District Council to carry out the Neighbourhood Plan and designate the whole area within the Parish boundary.***

#### **7. Comments from the Public**

- There is an increasing amount of litter from MacDonald's outlet.
- The verges have not been reinstated following the work carried out by Gigaclear.
- Footpath Signs at the Toll Bar are not adequate.

#### **8. Any Other Business**

None

**The Meeting Closed at 8.20 pm**