

## PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Dated: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 Time: 7:30pm

Venue: Preston Candover Village Hall, Preston Candover

Present: Luke Sherbrooke  
Rebecca Kennelly  
Tara Paul  
Emma Dare Bryan  
Wendy Simson Clerk  
Three members of the public

Apologise: Robin Human Chairman  
Andrew Frome Vice Chair  
Cllr Juliet Henderson County Councillor  
Paul Gaskell Borough Councillor

The Chairman and Vice Chairman both sent apologies so the Clerk as Cllr Kennelly to Chair the meeting, she welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 1523 Public Forum

##### Update on Recreation Ground

Two members of the Berg Youth Football Club, who now have the lease on the Recreation Ground, attended the meeting.

The Electricity Sub Station is having work and have leased an area along the fence line of the Recreation Ground to allow access to the site. Temporary hard standing has been installed, and the area has been herris-fenced off to provide a secure area. CCTV has also been installed at the site. The pavilion is within this fenced area which means no work can be done on the building for the 8 months while the work is being carried out. The owner of the Recreation Ground has been consulted about the project and has confirmed that any payment from the Electricity Company can be paid to the Football Club.

Significant damage has been done to the pavilion including graffiti on the external and internal walls. The door has been broken along with the windows. The football club plan to get new doors and windows installed quickly to make the building secure and have been granted access into the fenced area.

A planning application is to be made to allow the football club to retain the temporary hard standing to be used for parking behind the pavilion once the work on the substation is completed. This Parish Council will have access to comment on this application when made.

The football club have applied for grants from the Football Association for goals and storage for the mowers, line markers, etc. A builder, who is part of the Football Club, has been engaged to carry out the work on the pavilion. The Club are looking to extend the pavilion to allow more facilities for the teams playing at the Recreation Ground but are looking for funding opportunities to raise the required funds.

**Action:** Clerk to forward the link to the monthly Rural Funding Bulletin.

The football club currently have a 1 year rolling lease on the Recreation Ground but would need a 5-year lease for some of the larger grants.

The club current rent a municipal pitch in Basingstoke for their games at a cost of £70 per game so are keen to get the Recreation Ground ready for the 2025/26 winter season. There are currently 240 children enrolled at the club, and they field teams at all age groups. It is planned that the local children will be offered the opportunity to join the club, the club also plan to meet with the school to speak to them about ensuring that they understand the opportunities. The two members of the football club then left the meeting.

### **Speeding**

The resident asked about how often the smile face speed indication device is rotated between Candovers Parish Council and Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council. The Clerk explained that it was moved about every 3 months. It was suggested that it be moved more often as the signs are known to be more effective if the location is regularly changed.

**Action:** Clerk to speak to Candover Parish Council to suggest the device is moved every 6 weeks.

There are four approved locations for the devices in Preston Candover, outside Preston Farm, on the Wield Road, outside Old Timbers and at the layby. The new device has been located at the layby which is opposite the school and close to the shop so it is agreed that this device will not be moved. The smile face device will therefore be rotated through the other three locations for the 6 weeks it is allocated to the Parish Council. The resident offered to change the batteries while in one of the three locations close to their home.

Cllr Dare Bryan asked if the hedges had been cut on the Dummer Road which would allow for the SID allocated to Axford to be moved to the position along this hedge line.

**Action:** Cllr Dare Bryan to confirm if the Clerk needs to chase the hedge cutting work.

The Clerk explained that as requested a new bracket for the Speed Indicator has been purchased at a cost of £52.51 plus VAT, however the solar panel bracket was a further £211.80 plus VAT. It was agreed that once the hedge was cut that the Parish Council would look at making this purchase.

The two old Westcotec devices are both faulty at this time and have been assessed to require £520 and £1,072.50 plus VAT of work. The Councillors made the decision not to repair these units as they are more than 10 years old and were considered at the end of their life. Councillors confirmed that that units were stored in the Parish and this decision could be reconsidered.

### **1524 District Councillor Update**

The Clerk circulated Cllr Henderson's monthly report to the Parish Councillors.

### **1525 Apologies for absence and welcome**

Clerk had received apologies from the Chairman and Vice Chairman along with Cllr Gaskell and Cllr Henderson.

### **1526 Minutes of the last meeting**

The Councillors confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the last meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024. The Clerk to provide a copy of the minutes for Cllr Kennelly to sign at the meeting.

## **1527 Matters arising**

**Planning template for website** – Cllr Dare Bryan confirmed that this has been posted on the website and is used to ensure consistency and clear governance to the Parish Council when assessing planning applications.

**S106 funding for Play Area and Allotments** – Funding has been allocated from a project in Brown Candover, however as Candovers Parish Council do not have either of these facilities the funding can be used in Preston Candover but needs to be spent by March 2025.

The Clerk has spoken to families who use the play area, and a seesaw has been requested. Quotes have been obtained, and a suitable model has been sourced from Vita play. The cost is £1,650 plus VAT. The S107 funds are £327.72, and a grant has been secured from Cllr Gaskell for £1,000, the remaining cost has been applied for from the Community Store.

The Allotment Charity plan to purchase some weed proof membrane with the £125 allocated to allotments.

## **1528 Financial Statement**

The Clerk circulated the financial report prior to the meeting.

The payments due for approval are:

- New defibrillator pads - £76.74
- Hall hire for 2025 - £240.00
- Website - £187.06
- New bracket for SID - £63.01
- Additional sandbags and filling tool - £119.97
- PAYE (Oct to Dec) - £197.73
- Clerk's salary (Oct to Dec) - £790.92
- Insurance - £839.55 (this was circulated prior to the meeting and sent to Zurich on 11<sup>th</sup> January)

All payments were approved.

The Clerk informed the Council that the VAT claim for the financial year was currently £1,057.71 and this would be made in February to ensure the funds were received within the financial year.

## **1529 Budget**

The Clerk circulated a report showing the amended figures as discussed at the last meeting. It was agreed that the precept be increased by 5%, from £11,025 to £11,576. This would give a predicted income of £12,435 against an expected expenditure of £13,875. Councillors agreed this budgeted expenditure including £4,000 to be allocated for flooding as a maximum spend but it was agreed that the Lengthsman hours could be utilised to support this work and reduced the cost. The Councillors agreed to look to ensure costs were monitored closely.

**Action:** Clerk to prepare precept request and get signed.

## **1530 Flooding**

The Clerk informed the Council that additional empty sandbags have been purchased, and the farm have confirmed that they are happy to provide sand whenever needed. The Clerk explained that the family who own the dairy farm are selling and moving away so an alternative supply of sand will need to be identified. It is suggested that the farm will no longer

be a dairy farm so sand to bed the cows on will no longer be purchased. The timeframes are likely to be 18 months.

The graph showing ground water levels was circulated and will be put on the noticeboard. Levels are in line with 2013/14 when a number of properties were flooded. Significant rainfall occurred in 2013/14 in January and February which caused a spike in water levels and currently this is not predicted for this year. Some properties in Preston Candover including the Purefoy have got water in their cellars.

Cllr Dare Bryan explained that the flooding issue in Axford was very different to Preston Candover with flash flooding causing the water to collect on the road from Ellisfield and cause a torrent of water to arrive at the crossroad in Axford. The flood protection work carried out has looked to remove as much of this water as possible before it gets to Axford by digging out all the grips and to move it onto the fields as quickly as possible. However there have been two instances this winter when this junction has been impassable.

Cllr Dare Bryan suggested that the Council meet with the Councillors at Ellisfield Parish Council to discuss maintenance of the skep (flood pits).

**Action:** Cllr Dare Bryan to draft a letter to Ellisfield Parish Council to outline the issues and ask for a meeting.

Cllr Dare Bryan also suggested that the route for the water into the fields at Axford might be increased to allow a larger capacity of water to escape quicker.

**Action:** Clerk and Cllr Dare Bryan to speak to Highways and landowner about the drain under the curb.

Work to collect information about those who may need support in the event of flooding is being collated for the Emergency Plan. The plan is maintained by Hampshire County Council, but key information is required at a local level to ensure support if supplied when needed.

### **1531 Speeding**

Cllr Sherbrooke informed the Council that 105 responses had been received about the 20mph limit in Preston Candover with 103 agreeing that it is required and 2 not in favour. The 2 not supportive were due to vehicles not adhering to the current 30mph limit and suggesting that a 20mph limit would also be ignored. The number of properties in each of the villages are:

- Preston Candover 148
- Axford – 38
- Nutley – 12

**Action:** Cllr Sherbrooke to look at the percentage of households who have responded.

Cllr Paul has spoken to Martin Wiltshire about the next steps and data on the number of vehicles that use the road and average speeds is required. The Clerk agreed to download the data after the smiley face speed indicator has been in each of the three locations and circulate for the next meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to circulate data

Cllr Dare Bryan suggested that when properties start to pump water onto the road that this will also cause an issue which the reduced speed limit would help with.

Cllr Sherbrooke suggested that a further push on getting responses on the website be actioned and that a QR code be created which can be circulated in the school newsletter, the Oxdrove and Community Shop.

**Action:** Cllr Sherbrooke to create QR code

### **1532 Lengthsman visits**

The Clerk confirmed that dates for the final Lengthsman visit for 2024/25 was booked for Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Any work required to support flood protection to be a priority.

### 1533 Rights of Way

Cllr Kennelly has reported the signs which have been knocked or damaged. Cllr Sherbrooke reported that there were no issues in Nutley.

### 1534 Parish Council website

The Clerk reported that the website was up to date and had received 180 visits in the past 30 days, it was suggested that this was likely due to the 20mph survey.

**Action:** Clerk to check the link to the QR code for the Freddie Osgood walks.

### 1535 Planning

The Parish Council have had five applications since the last meeting, they are:

- Land north-east of North Hall and Purefoy Arms (24/02616/FUL) – Installation of a solar panel array and associated works including cable trenching and soft landscaping. No objections
- North Hall (24/02865/FUL) – addition of new post box. No objections
- Malmsmead (24/02866/LDEU) – Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of land as residential garden. For information only.
- Always (24/02828/ROC) – Variation of condition 1 (plans) of 20/03415/HSE (erection of rear ground floor extension to replace 2 no. existing lean-to extensions) to change the approved design, including the existing and proposed roofline and replace clay tiles with slate tiles. No objections.
- Broadacre (25/00075/HSE) – First floor side extension with replacement roof over. Comments by 7<sup>th</sup> February.

### 1536 Children's Play Area

The inspection results are as follows:

Asset Name	Finding Title	Risk Level
agility multi-linked items	Item - Loose in Ground	Low
Site - Preston Candover Parish Council	Surface - Holes	Medium
bin	Item - Not Secure	Low
picnic table	Item - Loose in Ground	Medium
fence wooden	Item - Broken	Low
frame & net	Timber - Decay	Low
frame & net	Item - Cap missing	Very Low
slide	Item - Timber rotting	Low

The Clerk asked the Inspection Manager about the securing of the table and the bin and received the following response:

*"All items in a playground do need to be secured to the ground.*

*I appreciate what you are saying about the bench and the sun etc.*

*The problems come when the items are moved close to the play equipment, and you do not have the required safe space.*

*Also being in the play area so within play if a child climbs on a bin and it falls over you would be to blame.*

*Our inspector would not be able to remove from the system unless the items are secured. Should you decide to not act on this fault as you decide it's a very low risk that would be down to yourselves."*

The Councillors agreed to ask Paul Daubrey, who cuts the grass in the play area, to look at securing the table and bin along with the other low risk items.

**Action:** Clerk to contact Paul.

**1537 Highways**

The Councillors asked that residents are reminded of the link to Hampshire Highways to report any potholes, it is:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/potholes>

**1538 General Correspondence**

The Clerk confirmed that all relevant correspondence had been covered.

**1539 Dates of next meeting**

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (7:30pm)

The meeting closed at 9:40pm.