

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 15th September 2024 **Time:** 7:30pm

Venue: Preston Candover Village Hall, Preston Candover

Present: Rebecca Kennelly
Emma Dare Bryan
Tara Paul
Luke Sherbrooke
Alex Rowley
Wendy Simson Clerk

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

1592 Public Forum

There were no members of the public at the meeting. Alex Rowley confirmed that there was no specific topic he wished to discuss.

1593 Apologies for absence and welcome

Clerk had received apologies from The Chairman and Vice Chairman along with Cllr Henderson and PC Andy Jones. Cllr Kennelly agreed to Chair the meeting.

1594 Minutes of the last meeting

The Councillors confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the last meeting held on Monday 21st July. The Clerk to provide a copy of the minutes for Cllr Kennelly to sign at the meeting.

1595 Matters arising

Additional bracket for new SID – The Clerk informed Councillors that this has now been received. The Clerk asked for help with installing the new bracket and moving the device from it's current position. Cllr Sherbrooke agreed to help and Cllr Kennelly volunteered her husband. Cllr Dare Bryan offered a long ladder for the move.

Action: Clerk to send out possible dates to completed the move.

Street Light in Axford – Cllr Dare Bryan informed Councillors that she had spoken to the residents in the homes local to the street light who confirmed that they were happy with the level of brightness and did not want it to be turned down.

1596 Financial Statement

The Clerk circulated the financial report prior to the meeting.

- Payment to make at meeting:

- Grass cutting in July - £105.00.
- Grass cutting in August - £210.00.
- Tree work - £1,296.00
- Data Protection - £52.00
- Clerk's salary (July to September) - £790.92
- PAYE (July to September) - £197.73

The Clerk informed the Councillors that the a pay increase for Local Authority staff had been agreed at 3.2%. The Clerk is paid at scale point 18 but that the increase for 2024 was not brought to the Council by the Clerk so the current pay rate is £15.21 per hour from 2023. In 2024 the rate increased to £15.84 and it has increased to £16.35 in 2025. The Clerk requested that this increase be backdated to 1st April 2025 (£148.20), this was approved by the Council.

1597 Solar Farm Feedback

The Clerk received the following update on 20th August:

"Thanks for the email and apologies for the delay, I wanted to give you the most up to date information I can following some meetings this week.

The main works on the solar site, including our connection route to the substation are complete so we are just awaiting SSE to connect us so we can energise the site. This is currently expected to be the 24th October. Hopefully the finish line is in sight for this project!"

1598 Flooding

The Clerk spoke to the new Clerk at Ellisfield Parish Council and explained the issues with flash flooding and the impact on Axford. The Clerk also informed the Ellisfield Clerk about the Lengthsman Fund and that Ellisfield are part of the Candover Cluster and so are entitled to use the Lengthsman to clear the grips. The Ellisfield Clerk agreed to speak to the Councillors at the next meeting.

The Clerk instructed the Lengthsman to clear the grips along Dummer Road and the Ellisfield Road on the last visits on 4th September. Cllr Dare Bryan agreed to check they were all clear. The dates for the other Lengthsman visits in 2025/26 have been confirmed as:

- Monday 8th December
- Thursday 5th March

1599 Rights of Way

Cllr Kennelly informed the Council that all the broken signs have been reported but that any which are dirty or slightly damaged haven't been reported to save the County Council funds. Cllr Sherbrooke agreed to check the signs in Nutley.

1600 Parish Council website

The Clerk reported that the website had been tidied up and that all the information was current.

Cllr Sherbrooke agreed to check the numbers of responses to the questionnaire about speeding. Cllr Paul agreed to look at this as a percentage of the number of homes in the Parish and agree if another push is required to get more homes to complete.

Cllr Paul explained that the speed data was important, the Clerk agreed to send Cllr Sherbrooke the data files so graphs can be created for the speeds collected at three locations earlier in the year.

Action: Clerk to send data file to Cllr Sherbrooke.

1601 Planning

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

- **Tree work on junction of B3046 and Red Lane (T/00369/25/TCA)** – remove semi mature beech tree as hazardous – this application was received on 23rd July and Councillor agreed that the tree needed to be removed.
- **Fawkners (25/01861/FUL)** – demolition of exiting dwelling and associated buildings, erection of a replacement dwelling, detached garage, landscaping and associated works. – Comments due by 16th September. The Councillors discussed this application and agreed comments. The Councillors also asked that the residents of the homes very local to the property should be asked if they wanted the Parish Council to make any comments on their behalf.

It was agreed that an extension on the date for responses should be requested for Friday 26th September.

Action: Clerk to report back on comments form other households and circulate comments once agreed.

- **North Hall (25/02031/HSE)** – Extension of two dormers and replacement of modern windows and rooflights in the Main House – comments by 19th September. The Councillors agreed that there was no comments on this application.

The land identified by Basingstoke & Deane as part of SHELAA is due to be circulated for comment later in the year. The Parish Council is to draft comments on the two new plots at Paul's Field/Stenbury Drive in Preston Candover and Berrydown Lane, Axford.

The Licencing Team have approved the opening hours for the Candover (previously the Purefoy).

1602 Children's Play Area

The Clerk circulated the inspection report for the play area with the meeting papers. The Clerk is to follow up the contractor about filling the uneven areas and grass seeding. The Contractor has been keeping the brambles cut back when they have visited to cut the grass.

Action: Clerk to speak to the contractor about grass seeding where required.

1603 Highways

Hampshire Highways have filled some of the pot holes in the area but the hunches of the road are collapsing in areas causing issues. The Clerk agreed to include the link to report potholes in the minutes, which is:

[Report a pothole | Transport and roads | Hampshire County Council](#)

1604 General Correspondence

The Clerk had an email from The Watercress & Winterbournes team at The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust who are developing a series of interactive walking trails focused on chalk stream wildlife. They ask:

"Our aim is to engage local people and visitors, in particular young people, with the chalk streams in an active way. An interpretation panel will introduce the trail. Plaques at intervals along the route will direct users to our website via a QR code, which will show an educational animation video about a specific chalk stream animal."

The Councillors agreed that there are few areas along the river which are not on private land but that Church Lane would be the best option.

Action: Clerk to report back to the Wildlife Trust.

The updates on J9 of the M3 and the roadworks taking place are circulated to the Councillors, the most recent is:

Since July we've been widening the M3 northbound verge. This work sets the stage for our next phase, switching traffic into a contraflow system on the M3 southbound so we can begin construction of the new A34 underpass.

We'll install temporary safety barriers, signage and speed limits overnight when traffic levels are at their lowest.

From 1 September through to the end of October 2025, we'll also be removing vegetation from various locations.

Before any clearance begins, we carry out thorough ecological checks to identify wildlife and nesting birds.

Once work is complete, we'll replant and deliver several environmental enhancements — including restoring chalk grassland habitats. Find out more about our Chalk Grassland restoration: [Chalk Grassland factsheet](#).

Closures and diversions

To carry out these works safely, we'll need to close sections of the network overnight between 9pm and 6am. Please plan ahead and follow signed diversion routes — satnavs may not reflect closures and could direct you onto unsuitable roads.

To keep up to date with the project please visit the Hampshire County Council website: [M3 junction 9 improvements - National Highways](#)

To subscribe to National Highways updates please use this [link](#) and select the M3 junction 9 project.

Local Government restructure for Hampshire – the models for the Unitary Authorities from the County Council and District and Borough Councils have been out for public consultation and will now be agreed and sent to Central Government by the end of September for decision. The election of the new Mayor for Hampshire will take place in May 2026 along with the creation of shadow councils which will work side by side with the current councils to provide a handover.

1605 Dates of next meeting

- Monday 17th November 2025 (7:30pm)

The meeting closed at 8:40pm.