

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date:	Monday 3 rd October 2022	Time: 7:30pm
Venue:	Preston Candover Village Hall, Preston Candover	
Present:	Paul Sadler Daphne Prosser Tish Owencroft Rebecca Kennelly Paul Gaskell PCSO Andy Jones PCSO Stephanie Neal A member of the public Wendy Simson	Chairman Borough Councillor Clerk
Apologise:	Cllr Juliet Henderson Robin Human	County Councillor

1292 Apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including a resident from Nutley who has expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council.

Clerk had received apologies from Councillor Henderson who sent her month report through in advance of the meeting.

This meeting has been postponed from 19th September due to the sad passing of Her Majesty the Queen and the period of National Mourning.

1293 Minutes of the last meeting

The Councillors confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the last meeting held on Monday 18th July 2022. The Clerk to provide a copy of the minutes for the Chairman to sign.

1294 Matters arising

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting to discuss the development on Wield Road – The Clerk confirmed that the minutes of this meeting have been put onto the Parish Council website.

Solar Farm proposed community Funding – Katie Whitty has taken the lead role with negotiating the funding for the Parish and has approved a one-off payment of £40,000 which has been increased from £28,000. The Parish Councillors agreed at the last meeting that taking a single payment was safer than an annual sum as often the solar farms are sold, and the agreement is not passed forward.

Cllr Kennelly asked that the Clerk confirm that this is the most that is on offer and if so, the Parish Council agreed to accept the one-off payment.

Action: Clerk to contact Katie to discuss.

Comments on Solar Farm application – the application is now being reviewed by the Planning Team, there are a number of areas of clarification.

1295 Police update

PCSO Andy Jones was joined with a new officer Stephanie Neal.

There have very few reported issues in the Parish since the last report but in the local area there have been the following reports:

- A fire at Hill House, Dummer on 29th September
- In Upton Grey area there had been several thefts earlier in the year, security had been employed at the site and this had stopped the issue but recently 360m of cabling was taken.
- A vacant property in Chilton Candover was recently burgled with damaged caused.
- 500 florist buckets were stolen from Upton Grey.

The Councillors thanked both officers for attending and for all the work they do to keep the Parish safe.

1296 Financial Statement

The Clerk informed Councillors that the remaining 50% of the precept has been received.

The following payments were due to be approved:

- Grass cutting (July) - £190
- Grass cutting (August) - £95
- Data Protection - £40
- Hall hire for October meeting - £37.50
- PAYE (July to Sept) - £165.49
- Clerk's salary (July to Sept) - £661.96

The Clerk also informed Councillors that the cheque for grass cutting/leaf clearing in November 21 had not been cashed and so needed to reissue at £130.

Councillors approved all payments.

Cllr Prosser asked if Joe Noades could be asked to cut round the bottom of the trees at the War Memorial as these are blocking the line of sight.

Action: Clerk to speak to Joe.

The hedge at one of the properties at the War Memorial has also been allowed to spread across the verge. Cllr Kennelly explained that she knew the family and would go and ask for it to be cut.

Action: Cllr Kennelly to speak to resident about hedges.

1297 Rights of Way

Cllr Kennelly informed the Council that a new finger post had been installed at the entrance to Moundsmere. The finger post about the vineyard on the Preston Estates has been knocked over, this has been reported.

1298 Parish Council website

The Clerk reported that a piece had been added to the website during the period of National Mourning expressing the Councillors sadness of the passing of Her Majesty, this has now been removed. All other parts of the website are up to date.

1299 Planning

The Clerk had circulated an application to fell 3 conifer trees and replant on the land adjacent to Appletree Cottage. The Councillor had no comments about the application.

The Chairmen has spoken to the owners of North Hall and work on their application is being started.

1300 Lengthsman

The dates for the Lengthsman visits in 2023 are:

- 17th January 2023
- 1st March 2023

Cllr Human was not at the meeting, but it was agreed that grips were the most important to be kept cleared.

1301 Children's Play Area

Cllr Owencroft has been in touch with Lapsett about the replacing the spring toy which is broken. The company are now called Urban Recreation. A replacement is £515 plus £285 to fit, Cllr Gaskell offered his Grant as an option to cover this cost.

Action: Clerk to apply for Cllr Grant

There is a list of issues which need attention, they are:

Asset Name	Finding Title	Risk Level
agility multi-linked items	Item - Bolt(s) loose	Very Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Loose in Ground	Medium
agility multi-linked items	Item - Loose in Ground	Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Cap missing	Low
bin	Item - Not Secure	Low
springy rabbit	Item - Cap missing	Very Low
springy rabbit	Falling Space - Obstacles	Low
springy rabbit	Hand Supports - Rotate	Low
frame & net	Fixtures - Loose or Missing	Low
frame & net	Item - Cap missing	Very Low
frame & net	Item - Requires cleaning	Very Low
grass surface	Surface - Uneven	Low
gate	Gate - Violent Action	Low
slide	Fixtures - Loose or Missing	Medium
slide	Other / Miscellaneous	Medium
slide	Entrapment - Finger	Low

Cllr Owencroft suggested that if the Representative, Jerry, of Urban Recreation could visit the play area and look at fixing these issues with the equipment along with adding in some additional items.

Action: Cllr Owencroft to identify dates that that Jerry can visit and circulate to Cllr Kennelly and the Chairman along with any other parents of children aged appropriate for the facility.

1302 Highways

Cllr Prosser asked if the two large potholes in the Bradley Road junction had been fixed while the road was closed. The Chairman informed Councillors that some tarmac had been put in the holes but had quickly been removed.

Action: Cllr Process to report the potholes again and speak to Hampshire Highways.

1303 Flooding

Jantiene has provided the following update:

Updated the flood graphs are attached.

- *The graphs show daily water levels over a 9-year period (1 August 2013-29 September 2022), and the 10th year (2022/23) which has only just started.*

- For each year a 12-month period is shown (01 August - 31 July the following year) to capture the full groundwater cycle.
- Groundwater levels tend to be at their lowest towards the end of September, and generally peak between March and April.
- Trigger level for flood (read: pump)-readiness in Preston Candover is 96.5m aOD. The Environment Agency have adjusted the levels at which they will issue warnings to align with our local observations.
- Flooding occurred in 2013/14 - and in the more recent winters of 2019/20 and 2020/21 although in those two years limited to cellar flooding.

After two successive years of high water tables (2019/20 and 2020/21) during which some properties needed to pump water, the start of the annual cycle in the autumn of last year (2021) saw very high levels -nearly 2.5m above levels recorded for the same date in 2020, and also well above the record cycle of 2013/14 when several properties and much of the valley flooded and the B3046 was closed for many weeks.

Although the winter of 2021/22 saw three distinct surges in water levels in response to weather events, the intervening periods were relatively dry, so water levels remained much lower than expected. This combined with the very dry 2022 Summer that followed resulted in a water level on August 1 that was nearly 2m below where it was in the previous year on the same date, thereby returning to more or less "normal" levels.

Having said that this cannot be taken as a sign of comfort. Levels in 2019/20 were lower still and despite this, pumping was required in that same winter.

Therefore, riparian work to mitigate risk of flooding will be required as usual. This especially as extreme rainfall events tend to occur more frequently than they used to.

Insofar other more structural work is concerned - not much to update - Covid resulted in yet more delays and re-prioritisation of allocation of available funds, so all I can do is to make sure we remain on the various agenda's (albeit very low down on some).

The Councillors agreed that the maintenance work would be completed every other year based on the feedback from residents. The owners of Axford House have done some work on the area around the Axford crossroads to move water off the road when there is any flash flooding. The grips to move water into the fields on the Dummer Road will be completed by Preston Farms.

1304 General correspondence

Wield Road Development – Cllr Process asked if there had been any further communication about the Wield Road development, the Clerk informed Councillors that there hadn't. It was agreed that when any information was made available that another extraordinary meeting would be called to gauge the community feedback.

1305 Dates of next meeting

- Monday 21st November 2022 (7:30pm)

The meeting closed at 8:50pm.