

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 17th December 2012. **Time:** 7:30pm
Venue: Preston Candover Village Hall

Present: Keith Irons Chairman
Charles Bradshaw Vice-Chairman
Rob Marks
Alan Owencroft
Alison Davidson
Marion Philips
David Wilson
Wendy Simson Clerk
PC Andy Reid

Apologise: Daphne Prosser

30 Apologise

The Clerk explained that Councillor Prosser would not be able to attend the meeting.

31 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting, and were signed by the Chairman.

32 Matters Arising

Questionnaire template – Councillor Wilson has uploaded the questionnaire into Survey Monkey and reported back that it looks quite short. Councillor Wilson is to forward the web-link to the Councillors so they can see it and suggest any additional questions which may be applicable by 7th January. Councillor Davidson is to write a piece for the February Oxdrove, which needs to be with Jean Frost by 14th January, to remind people to return the survey. At the January meeting the Councillors will decide who will deliver to which homes to ensure they are out in the community by end of January. Returns are being requested by 15th February and can either be completed on line or via a box in the village store.

Action: Councillor Wilson to send web-link to all Councillors.

Action: All Councillors to return additional questions to Councillor Wilson by 7th January

Action: Councillor Davidson to write piece for Oxdrove reminding people to return the survey.

Highways list of issues – The Chairman had asked for a list of all highways issues to be forwarded to him by 10th December but had not received any to date. The Chairman gave a number of examples of the types of issues he was looking for, including missing signage, and asked again for any additional items to be sent by 7th January.

Action: All Councillors to send any highway issues to the Chairman by 7th January

As part of the discussion about highways Councillor Marks reported on progress with the idea of a purchasing speed indication device (SID) for the village. He explained that they

could be attached to fixed posts already in position throughout the village and so could be regularly moved. They analysed the speed of each vehicle, collated and displayed it. The devices were about £3,000 each and it was suggested that one could be purchased, possibly in conjunction with other Parish Councils such as Candovers or Bradley Parish Councils.

Action: Councillor Marks to send through details to the Chairman to discuss with the Chairman of Candovers Parish Council

Seat near village Hall – The Chairman reported that he was in contact with the solicitors for Mr Paravacini and they were currently looking for documentation to confirm the ownership of this land. If no evidence can be located then a conditional licence would be drawn up to allow this seat to be positioned in this area.

Playground equipment literature – The Clerk had looked through the information passed on by the last Clerk and there were no marketing brochures for play equipment. Councillor Davidson agreed to look up this data for the next meeting.

Action: Councillor Davidson to bring play area equipment information.

War Memorial – Councillor Davidson to follow up on the quote which was discussed at the November meeting.

Action: Councillor Davidson to confirm what the quote from Blackwell & Moody included.

Use of the room at the Village Hall – The Chairman explained that he intended to follow up on this at the New Year's drinks party, hosted by the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council.

Action: Chairman to report back at next meeting

Nutley Water Tower planning application – Councillor Davidson had drafted an objection letter on behalf of the Parish Council which had been submitted on line to Basingstoke and Deane BC and the Chairman confirmed he had been notified this had been received. The Vice-Chairman spoke in support of the development.

33 Police Update

There have been just two incidents in the area:-

- A suspicious van seen on farmland on 23rd November
- A horse loose in Preston Candover on 30th November

PC Reid gave a brief update on the possibility of redundancies in the rural police numbers and confirmed that it had been taken to the Chief Constable.

34 Financial statement

Payments to be made – The Clerk explained that there were 5 cheques to be signed, they are for the following payments:-

- Mr Brian Hill – last tidy up of the Village Green - £120
- Contribution to New Year's drinks at Village Hall - £100
- Clerk's salary for October and November - £314.40
- Tax paid on Clerk's salary for October and November - £78.60
- Hall rental for Parish Council meetings in September, October, November and December - £108

The Councillors agreed and the cheques were signed.

Precept for 2012/13 – The Clerk explained that under the new Localisation Rules all Councillors were required to sign a letter, which she had prepared, to give them a special

dispensation and allow councillors to vote on fixing the level of the precept in which they all had a vested interest. The letters were signed. The Chairman then asked for agreement to keep the precept at £7,000 for the year 2013-14, the same level as the previous year, and this was agreed and the request to BDBC was signed.

Action: Clerk to forward request to Basingstoke & Deane.

Budget for 2012/13 – The Chairman had amended the format of the budget to include a separate item for S016 in both receipts and payments, to separate these special funds from the usual receipts and payments. He had also added columns to show the variance between actual and budgeted expenditure as a percentage as well as in monetary terms.

The Chairman explained that he had a meeting with Lord Sainsbury about the area of land next to the Village Hall. There was concern about the damage caused by cars parking on this field while delivering children to, and collecting them from the school. It had been suggested that the fence could be moved back so it was in line with the other fence in front of the Village Hall if the County Council were prepared to pay for the provision of a hard surface in the new area in front of the fence. Councillor Wilson explained that there may be an additional classroom added to the school in 2013, which would generate further parking issues. Councillor Marks pointed out that the Tennis Club car park was empty most days and would hold approximately 20-25 cars and suggested that instead of providing additional car parking, that the existing car parks should be better utilised.

The Councillors agreed that the County Council should take responsibility for providing the necessary parking areas, and it was proposed that a representative from the school be invited to the next meeting to discuss the issue. In the meantime, the Chairman suggested that an additional £500 be added to the Green Maintenance line in the budget to cover any additional costs which may be required for this area.

A question was raised about the money allocated for the skate park maintenance, which was a Council owned asset that must be maintained correctly. However, it appeared to be little used currently and it was agreed that a question about its continuing use should be put in the survey asking if the community wished to keep it. Concern was expressed about the need for regular inspection and maintenance, and the level of the Council's liability if users suffered injury. It was agreed to investigate the question of the Council's insurance cover.

Action: Chairman to invite a representative from the school to the next meeting

Action: Clerk to increase Green Maintenance line to £1,300

Action: Councillor Wilson to add in question about Skate Park to survey.

Action: Clerk to check insurance cover in respect of the skate park.

35 Planning Applications

A planning application has been received for the erection of a single storey pool house at Preston Grange. Following a review of the plans and discussion of the application it was decided that there was no objection to the work proposed.

An application to fell a laburnum tree and crown lift a sycamore tree at Thorps was also discussed and again no objections were raised.

36 Council Property

The Chairman explained that there had been no further progress with the work on the bus shelter as it appeared that the work required was beyond the capacity of the current contractor. The Chairman explained that the timbers holding up the overhang of the roof at each needed replacing as they were rotten and that a more suitable contractor would be found. The Chairman asked the Councillors if they had any objection to approaching Graham Prosser, given his connection to Councillor Prosser, and the Council confirmed that they did not have an issue with this.

[Action: Chairman to speak to current contractors and take them off the job.](#)

[Action: Chairman to speak to alternative contractors including Graham Prosser.](#)

37 Section 106 funds

Various proposals were being considered for the use of the Transport element of these funds and an enquiry should be made to ascertain if the speed indication devices, discussed earlier in the meeting, may be purchased from this funding.

38 Flooding

The Vice-Chairman explained that he received information through from the Environment Agency including contacts for reporting issues. He suggested that the culverts under the road by the village green may need to be rodded to prevent any blockages.

The Clerk explained that Candovers Parish Council had put a piece in the Oxdrove about advising those who have the riparian rights alongside the Candover stream to ensure that their part of the stream is cleared regularly.

[Action: Vice-Chairman to contact the Environment Agency about when the culverts under the road were last cleared.](#)

39 Valley & Council Website

Councillor Wilson explained that it had been much slower than he had expected to get the site transferred over from Basingstoke & Deane. The next step would be to get content ready and a meeting of all key stakeholders including the vicar and PC Reid was to be arranged for early January. The site would have two editors, one for each of the Parish Councils, to monitor content. Councillor Marks asked if a blog was to be included and it was agreed that this would be a good way to collect feedback.

[Action: Councillor Wilson to give the Clerk possible dates for the planning meeting](#)

40 Play area inspections

Councillor Owencroft explained that he had looked to source a new latch for the play area gate but was having difficulty buying just the piece required and not the whole kit. Councillor Davidson agreed that she may have a contact that could make something appropriate.

[Action: Councillor Owencroft to provider Councillor Davidson with a drawing of the piece required.](#)

41 Highways/ Rights of Way

Councillor Philips reported that she had walked another two of the footpaths and found that they were in poor condition and there were a number of missing markers. Councillor Philips

suggested that, perhaps, a sum could be put in the budget for replacing and repairing these signs. The Chairman pointed out that footpaths were the responsibility of Hampshire County Council. Councillor Philips said she was having considerable difficulty in contacting anyone at HCC to discuss these issues. Councillor Davidson explained she may have a contact that could help.

[Action: Councillor Davidson to speak to her contact and report back at the next meeting](#)

42 General Correspondence

The Clerk explained that Councillor Prosser had spoken to South East Lighting Services about replacing the bulbs in the street lamps. They had explained that they were no longer prepared to replace individual bulbs and wanted the Council to set up a maintenance contract. The Clerk presented copies of a proposed agreement to the Council who, after discussion, agreed that this would be the best way to make progress but to put a cap on costs to ensure they did not spiral. It was agreed that a suitable limit would be £80 per lamp for a maximum of 3 lamps. The Chairman took the contract and agreed to read it through and report back.

[Action: Chairman to bring his recommendations to the next meeting](#)

43 Any other business

The Chairman asked Councillor Marks to give a short update on the position with the Village Store. Councillor Marks explained that they had been promoting a “Club” scheme to allow local people to pay a fixed amount monthly upfront against which they would charge their purchases. This will help to provide a regular and sustained income for the store and ensure that it would continue. They had also applied for a grant for new freezers, and were still awaiting the outcome, and were planning to re-fit the shop to give it a more “farm shop” feel.

There was no other business from the other Councillors.

44 Date of next meeting

Monday 21st January 2013 at 7:30pm at the Preston Candover Village Hall