

## PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY

### MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Date:** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**Time:** 7:45pm

**Venue:** Preston Candover Village Hall

<b>Present:</b>	Paul Sadler	Chairman of Parish Council
	Ruth Chattell	Vice Chair of Parish Council
	Daphne Prosser	Councillor
	PC Andy Reid	Police
	Gillian Bradley	Age Concern
	Stevan Hoyle	Chairman of the Tennis Club
	Catherine Perkins	Member of Tennis Club
	Rosemary Bligh	Member of Gardening Club
	Lisa Collinson	Candover Valley pre School
	Donna ??	Candover Valley pre School
	Paul Graham	Preston Candover School Governors
	Sofia Hill	PCSA
	Lucy Muncey	Candover Valley Community Store
	Jane Laws	Candover Valley Community Store
	Richard Walker	Candover Valley Community Store
	Carolyn Dawnay	Preston Candover Allotment Charity
	David Chattell	Vicar at St Mary's Church
	Anne Luneberg	PCC at St Mary's Church
	Carole Johnson	Preston Candover Village Hall
	Wendy Simson	Clerk for Parish Council
<b>Apologies:</b>	Rob Marks	Councillor
	Tish Owencroft	Councillor

#### 1001 Welcome

The Chairman of Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 1002 Update on Parish Council activities

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council receive a precept from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council with which they look after various areas, planning and if funds allow to support local groups.

In the past year this has included

- A new fence at the Children's Play Are where the old wooden one had rotted away a new metal fence has now been installed. The steps on the slide have also become an issue and these are also in the process of being replaced.
- The street lights have also been replaced as the old lamps were now obsolete, the new versions are much for energy efficient.

- A Lengthsman has been employed as part of a scheme run by Hampshire County Council which allots £1,000 to each participating Parish Council for work that would traditionally been carried out by a Lengthsman. These would include clearing grips by the side of the road to help with drainage and prevent flooding, cleaning street furniture and keeping verges cut and tidy.
- The defibrillator, which is installed on the front of the Village Hall, is also maintained by the Parish Council.
- Grass cutting at public areas including by the War Memorial.

The Parish Council's expenditure in 2018/19 was higher than usual due to the mentioned items, and so the precept for 2019/20 has been increased slightly to help maintain funds for extraordinary expenditure such as flooding.

The Parish Council meet every other month and discuss planning applications, rights of ways, and other items which crop up. We are also responsible for the two Speed Indication Devices which are located in 6 different locations throughout Preston Candover and Axford.

The Chairman thanked his fellow Councillors for all their hard work and the Clerk, Wendy, for her support. There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council and if anyone would like to see how very local Government works please come along.

### **1003 Policing update**

### **1004 Preston Candover Tennis Club**

The Tennis Club has three courts and is a friendly and social group which has gathered a number of new members in the last couple of years. There are 50 family memberships and 30 singles, and this has meant that 4 Doubles Teams can be regularly playing, 2 men's, 1 woman and a mixed team.

There is a great committee including Catherine our coach who works with everyone from small children though to our oldest members.

Parking can be an issue in the village and the Tennis Club is keen to help with a solution. There is usually lots of space in the Tennis Club car park during the day including when the school children are being dropped off and collected so it may be an option for parents to park there.

### **1005 Candover Valley Gardening Club**

The Candover Valley Gardening Club supports members from Dummer through to Alresford and currently has 39 members. They meet on the third Thursday in the month at Preston Candover Village Hall and visit local gardens during the summer months and have speakers during the winter. Membership is £12 per person and includes all afternoon and evening visit. Last year the visits included Houghton Lodge in Stockbridge, Hartley Park Lavender Fields, Hill House in Alresford and Bramdean House. There is also an Annual BBQ in a local garden which attracts many members and guests.

Last year there were 7 speakers including talks on rockeries and alpine gardens, pelargoniums, heritage apple varieties, natural Christmas decorations and flowers for cutting and soft fruit growing. These speakers are paid for with money raised selling teas and cakes at Lake House in Northington, this year it will be Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June.

An Annual plant sale is held in May, the members donate plants and there is usually a good selection including flowers, veg, herbs and shrubs. We encourage children to grow things too and we give each child a cucumber plant which they can then bring to the Annual show for judging, this will take place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August. The Show is an open show which means anyone can bring along their produce including veg and flowers. There are variety of classes including crafts, baking, jams, chutneys, photography and a special section for the children's Great Cucumber Challenge!

All the information about the activities can be found on [www.cvgc.btck.co.uk](http://www.cvgc.btck.co.uk) or on the notice board in the Village Hall.

#### **1006 Preston Candover Pre-School**

CVP has been really busy this year – which is great news. All our little 2-year olds have been turning 3 and with another 4 new starters the numbers are looking really good for September 2019 with 29 children on role. 13 children are going to school in September from pre-school 11 to Preston Candover and 2 elsewhere.

We have one member of staff completing her apprenticeship with us, one has started Forest school leader training this year and another will soon attend her SENCo/inclusion training.

Financially it has been a difficult year due to the impact of the 30 hours funding, pensions, increasing costs and a Gov funding rate more than £2 below our hourly cost per session. We are currently putting in some strategies in place and are applying for grants as well as our annual fundraising events.

Forestry and allotment sessions will start to be implemented over the summer term. We are just waiting to move resources to the site. A parent has sourced us some wooden seats and some slabs which will require etching or blackboard painting. We have a new bug house upcycled from some old palettes along with some bug hunting equipment. Hopefully in the future when we are established, the woodland and allotment sites can be used by other groups in the community.

We are also looking forward to growing fruit and veg on the allotment, donating it to the village shop for sale and visiting the shop on a regular basis with the children to buy ingredients for cooking. This will broaden the children's understanding of their local world and incorporate some maths opportunities.

We are looking forward to the next exciting year.

#### **1007 Preston Candover School Governors**

There are currently 140 children in the school spread over 7-year groups. It is important for the school finances that we maintain these numbers as funds are allocated per head.

Last Summer Term the school had a SIAMS Inspection (School Inspection Anglican, Methodist Schools) where we were graded as Outstanding which is a credit to all the staff and pupils. This good reputation helps with attracting high quality staff especially NQT, which is important where there are national shortages in teachers.

The PCSA are very active and supportive. It is an important part of being a village school and part of the community. The School is very grateful for all the funds raised.

Marina Avis got an award in the Autumn for 40 years of service to the school from Hampshire County Council which we are all very proud of.

The School has also recent invested in new gates as part of the security measures.

**1008 First Candover Valley Scouts**

There were 3 new committee members since the AGM, to take on some of the admin, to allow the leaders to focus on running the evenings/activities. We have been actively recruiting members and had increased numbers by approx. 25% since December - we now have a waiting list for Beavers and are nearly full for Cubs and Scouts, so all in all the Scout Group is in very good shape and very popular. There is a Scout camp at the coming weekend and a Cub/Scout camp planned for June.

**1009 PCSA**

I am the new Chair of the PCSA (Preston Candover School Association), which presently consists of 12 committee members who are parents of the pupils. We are currently fundraising for more iPad for the children to use. We organise a number of after school activities, including school discos and films, a Mother's Day sale, a Father's Day sale and social events for the parents. Last year the Christmas Fair was very profitable - we had more than 600 people attend, excluding those helping at the event. We sold Christmas Trees, buying them at wholesale prices, with pre-paid orders being taken. We are already planning this year's Christmas Fair and would like to increase the Christmas Tree sales this year. If anyone would like to have a stall at the Fair, please do contact us.

**1010 Candover Valley Community Store**

Jane introduced herself as the relatively new Chair of the CVCS Committee, she took over from Richard Walker in March. It has been a very busy few months with CPM Construction due to hand over the building to the Committee next week. He is currently finishing off the ramp and handrails outside the building along with other details in the building. The telephone and internet connections have been completed and in May the decking is due to be installed and the area landscaped. The Car Park is due to be marked up in association with the Village Hall Chairman, Alex Taylor, this was one of the stipulations of the planning approval. We plan to ensure that the school are advised about the new layout and hope this can be communicated to the parents.

While building work has been progressing the committee have worked hard with the Post Office contract and recruitment of staff and volunteers. The new store manager has been appointed along with a part time assistant manager who are both already working with us. Emma Simpson, the Assistant Manager has been working in the Canterton Store and the committee are very grateful to Jane and Rob for allowing this to happen. Garry Green brings a wealth of retail experience having worked for Budgens, the Co-Op and most recently Moto Hospitality.

We are now working toward an opening date, with the new managers, committee and a host of volunteers working throughout May to get the store ready. We are currently waiting on an installation date for the Post Office equipment and once this is in place the opening date can be agreed.

It has been a very long journey and the committee would all like to give their thanks to Jane and Rob for their patience and keeping the Canterton Store open much longer than planned. We look forward to welcoming you all to the new store and please remember this is a Community Store for everyone, we want you to use it and enjoy it.

**1011 Preston Candover Allotment Charity**

The Preston Candover Allotment was originally called The Allotments for the Labouring Poor when it was set up at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Its objective has remained the same which is to help local people in need.

The main asset is Dicker Field which is approx. 2 acres. In 2009 about half the area was leased to a local company providing affordable housing and 10 properties were created at Moundsmere Close. The capital sum raised by this lease has been invested and the interest provides support through charitable donations to individuals and local groups. The remaining land at Dicker Field is used for allotments and a recreation and is maintained by Allotment Charity.

There are 16 allotments and all but 1 are rented and being used to grow a vast array of produce. There is an active community with some experienced allotment holders supporting new members of the group with what grows well and what they might struggle with.

There have been some children playing on the allotments which we are looking to deter, there are often tools and chemicals in the area, and we would hate for any child to be injured.

**1012 St Mary's Church**

St Mary's is one of 9 churches in the benefice and looked after by David and Stephen who tends to attend to the Ellisfield end. Christmas, Easter and remembrance Sunday were all very well attended in the last year and there are 22 wedding booked in 2019.

Preston Candover, Bradley and Brown Candover are now grouped into a single Parish and St Mary's is now the Parish Church. St Peter's and St Thomas' are both still open, but St Mary's will be the main venue.

A recent donation has meant an upgrade on the heating, lights and sound system at St Mary's will mean it has much improved facilities. The Parish are also exploring the opportunity to put in a disabled access.

I am always available for a chat and a prayer.

**1013 Preston Candover Village Hall**

The Village Hall is a growing number of events and regular bookings which have helped to boost the bank balance and the facility is now running at a £2,000 profit for the last year. There have been a number of events which have helped raise funds including the fete, fireworks and Christmas Tree burning which have all been great fun.

The over 60's lunches are very well attended and provide a huge source of enjoyment and support for this group.

The new committee have worked hard to streamline processes including the booking system which has been very difficult in the past.

The Village Hall are looking to create a website and invited all other groups to get involved with either adding content or providing links to their site.

**1014 Close**

The Chairman of the Parish Council thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for all the contributions made.