

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 15th October 2012. **Time:** 7:00pm

Venue: Preston Candover Village Hall

Present: Keith Irons Chairman
Charles Bradshaw Vice-Chairman
Daphne Prosser
Alan Owencroft (arrived at 8pm)
Alison Davidson
Marion Philips
David Wilson
Wendy Simson Clerk
PC Andy Reid

Apologise: Rob Marks

1 **Vote of thanks for Ron Darley**

The Parish Council thanked Mr Ron Darley for his work as Parish Clerk and the handover to the new Clerk.

2 **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were signed as an accurate record of the meeting, except for the omission of the discussion at the previous meeting about compiling a questionnaire for the community to ascertain residents' views on services and facilities in the parish.

Action: Councillor Davidson to construct an outline version to be discussed at the next meeting

3 **Police Update**

There have been just two incidents in the Parish since the last meeting. A false alarm with a burglar alarm system and the theft of paving slabs at Preston Grange.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council planned to move the start time for the meetings back to 7:30pm and PC Reid agreed that he would be able to attend.

PC Reid explained that there was a meeting scheduled for Wednesday 17th October to discuss the redundancies within the Basingstoke Police Force. PC Reid agreed to ensure he made the Parish Council aware of the outcome of the meeting.

The Election for the Head of Policing was taking place and details of who is standing and for what are available on the Police website at <http://www.policeelections.com/>.

4 **Matters Arising**

- **Responsibilities for new Councillors** – it was agreed that Councillor Wilson would take on responsibility for the website. Councillor Philips would take on Rights of Way

and footpaths, the Chairman explained that on the Hampshire County Council website there were maps of all these. The Chairman explained that the Neighbourhood watch tasks, he believed, were still being covered by the ex-Councillor, Sabrina Gurling. Councillor Phillips agreed to ask her if she wished to continue. Councillor Davidson would take on reporting pot holes in addition to planning and flooding which currently fall under her remit.

Action: Chairman to confirm Neighbourhood watch responsibilities

Action: Clerk to update contact information list

- **Contract of employment for new Clerk** – Clerk to sign new contract
Action: Clerk to liaise with last Clerk to ensure a new contract is drawn up and signed for next meeting
- **Highways issues** – Councillor Prosser explained that stones were still being thrown into the road from her garden due to drivers passing too close to the edge of the highway. The Chairman explained that Mr Keith Holdsworth was due to attend the last meeting to discuss a number of highways issues but had to cancel.
Action: Chairman to invite Mr Holdsworth to attend the next meeting.
- **Renovation of bus shelter** – there has been no further work done on the bus shelter in Preston Candover.
Action: Chairman to follow up with contractors to ensure work is completed.
- **Seat for bus user at Preston Candover Village Hall** – there has been no progress with obtaining use of the piece of land by the village hall to place a bench for bus users. The Chairman explained that the area of land by the telephone box was owned by Mr J Paravacini and he had discussed the question of the Council securing a licence to use it. He was now awaiting further contact from Mr Paravacini's solicitor.

Action: Chairman to follow up

The Vice Chairman asked about the possibility of using 1 of the benches from the bus shelter for the old churchyard. The Chairman explained that this was for the PCC to provide.

- **Moving power cables to underground** – Councillor Davidson explained that she had spoken to Scottish and Southern Electric who serviced the village and has been informed that it was only done in the past in areas of "outstanding natural beauty" and even in these areas it was no longer free of charge. It would therefore have to be paid for privately and it was agreed by the Council that it would be price prohibitive.
- **Additional equipment for play area** – Councillor Prosser explained that she felt that replacing the spring toy was not the correct course of action as it was too young for most of the children who used the play area. When Councillor Owencroft arrived this was put to him and he agreed to look at all options and report to next meeting. The Chairman also suggested that a new play area had recently been established at Herriard and that it may be worth looking at this for ideas.

Action: Councillor Owencroft to report to next meeting about costs of play equipment options

- **Section 106 funds** – the Chairman thought that there needed to be further discussion about these funds to inform the new councillors and to consider suitable projects, as there was the possibility of their be reclaimed if not spent in 5 years.
Action: Clerk to get detailed breakdown of what the funds can be spent on for next meeting.
- **Insurance for allotments for the labouring poor** – the Vice Chairman updated the Council that the charity had taken on independent insurance.
- **War Memorial** – Councillor Davidson updated the Council that she had a representative from Blackwell and Moody coming to assess what would be required and would bring this quote to the next meeting. If required a further quote could be sort from Vokes and Beck.
Action: Councillor Davidson to bring quote to next meeting for discussion

5 **Financial statement**

The Council discussed the financial statement.

There was further discussion on the question of a village survey and it was agreed that the questionnaire was vital to ensure funds were being spent as the Parish would like.

The 4 cheques required were discussed and signed off by the Council, however there were not sufficient cheques in the book to complete this task.

Action: Clerk to contact ex-Clerk for new chequebook.

6 **Planning Applications**

There have been no new planning applications.

Shepherds Cottage (BDB/76677) – refused by Basingstoke and Deane on the grounds that the proposed high retaining wall was inappropriate in a rural setting. The Parish Council had raised no comments on the application at the time it was submitted .

7 **General Correspondence**

The Council discussed a survey sent by Harah about the affordable homes at Moundsmere. It was generally agreed that the homes had been a positive addition to the village, allowing local people to live in the village and providing the allotments. It was agreed that the architecture of the properties wasn't ideal but the community were given access to plans and the requirement to keep costs down had driven the design.

Action: The Vice Chairman agreed to complete the survey and return it.

8 **Council Property**

Nothing to report

9 **Highways/Rights of Way**

There are three street lights out in Preston Candover.

Action: Clerk to contact ex-Clerk about map showing lamps and their numbers, along with the process of getting them fixed.

10 Valley & Council Website

The Chairman explained that Basingstoke and Deane had hosted the Parish Council website but due to budget cuts that they would no longer be fulfilling this service. The Chairman explained that he had discussed that matter with the Chairman for Candovers Parish Council and it was agreed to look at the option of creating a community portal on which both Councils could display their minutes etc.

Councillor Wilson then talked through a proposal produced by Joy & Revolution, which the Chairman declared an interest in as his son is part of the team. The bespoke design suggested would allow for pages to be allocated for local groups such as scouts, tennis club and the school, along with information on events such as the village fetes. Additional pages could be added as required and it was suggested that local business that provided a service to the community may wish to pay to have space on the site. The site would be maintained by a small number of key people within the community who would form an editorial team to ensure the material included was suitable. The initial cost would be £1,000 which would be met from the £375 from Basingstoke and Deane for each Parish Council and an additional £125 from each Parish Council's funds. The ongoing costs would be approximately £120 per year which would initially be divided between the two Parish Councils but may be met through selling advertising space in the future. Councillor Philips asked about how flexible it could be and also if there were any issues with hosting the site. Councillor Wilson explained that it would be as flexible as required and explained that this cost for hosting the site was low as there were issues with ensuring the data was secure.

The Chairman then left the meeting and a vote was carried unanimously in favour of going ahead with this project.

Action: the Chairman and Councillor Wilson to talk to the Chairman at Candovers Parish Council about the project.

11 Any Other Business

Two of the flats at Moundsmere had become available but the Vice Chairman explained that he believed both had new tenants in waiting. However, the number of people on the District Council's waiting list was low, and it was agreed that an article should be prepared for the Oxdrove which explained the criteria for being eligible for one of the properties and the current rental costs. He explained that it may be too late for this to appear in the November issue and so a small flyer may need to be produced and circulated with the copies for Preston Candover only for November. A more general one could be written for the December addition giving details to all Parishes.

Action: Vice Chairman to write flyer for November addition and article for December issue.

12 Date of next meeting

Monday 19th November 2012 at 7:30pm at the Preston Candover Village Hall