

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 16th November 2020 **Time:** 7:30pm

Venue: Via skype

Present: Paul Sadler Chairman
Ruth Chattell Vice Chair
Rebecca Kennelly
Robin Human
Wendy Simson Clerk

Apologise: Daphne Prosser
Tish Owencroft

1125 Public forum

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

1126 Apologies for absence

The Clerk had received apologies from Councillors Prosser and Owencroft.

1127 Minutes of the last meeting

The Councillors confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the last meeting held on Tuesday 29th September 2020. The Clerk had provided a copy of the minutes for the Chairman to sign.

1128 Police Update

PC Reid was not able to attend the meeting but sent the following report:

No reports of anything major in the area of the Parish Council.

- 22.10.20 Garage broken into at a house on Alresford Road at the Chilton Candover end of the village with tools stolen and fired projectile at staff smashing a window and bashing the door. A motorcycle was also stolen from a neighbouring property during the same time heading up Wield Road.
- 27.10.20 a report was received of a breach of COVID restrictions at a lawful event in the Parish.

No reports or crimes reported in Nutley or Axford

Not a lot really, which is good seems more going on elsewhere around us, Ellisfield, Herriard and Upton Grey having poaching and criminal damage issues which are related.

1129 Matters arising

Covid19 update – The threat of Covid19 seems to be getting closer to the valley and some residents are now in isolation due to being in contact with people who have tested positive. The Shop has been an asset and most residents are using it, with some groups of residents picking up newspapers for one another which means those living alone are seeing others. The layby seems to be busy, often with walkers from outside of the community visiting.

Upper Swallick – A letter was sent by the Parish Council objecting to the plans.

Database of local residents contact details – it was agreed that a list of all the current residents with email addresses against all those that are known to the Parish Council be created. A postcard can then be sent to those homes not on the database to ask for contact details. Councillor Kennelly suggested that a useful piece of information for example the flood update be used to get buy-in with an option for residents to opt out.

Action: Clerk to create list of homes and residents and map current emails.

Salt bins – Clerk to pick up with Hampshire Highways

New Notice Boards – Councillor Owencroft reported that the two new noticeboards have been delivered and she will stain ready for erection.

Action: Volunteers needed to replace posts and install the new boards

1130 Financial Statement

There were three payments to be made at the meeting these were:

- Grass cutting (Sept & Oct) - £95.00 each
- New noticeboards - £500.00

These were all approved by the Councillors.

1131 Budgets for 2021/22

The Clerk had provided the Councillors with the following information prior to the meeting:

Current account balance for 10/11/20 £14,204.38

Payments to clear

- Grass cutting (Sept) £95.00
- Grass cutting (Oct) £95.00

Possible payment to make before 31/3/21

- Clerk's salary (Oct-Dec) £471.84
- PAYE (Oct-Dec) £117.96
- Clerk's salary (Jan-Mar) £471.84
- PAYE (Jan-Mar) £117.96
- Repair of climbing net at play area - estimate £1,000.00
- Two new notice boards £500.00
- Replacement posts at War Memorial- estimate £1,500.00
- Flood prevention work - estimate £1,000.00
- **Total** **£5,274.60**

Possible income to be received before 31/3/21

- Interest (Dec-Mar) £0.50
- **Total** **£0.50**

Predicted closing balance **£8,835.28**

Estimated Income for 2021/22

- Precept (5% increase on £9,782) £10,271.00
- Basingstoke & Deane Grants £251.00
- Bank Interest (estimate) £2.00
- VAT Refund (estimate) £250.00
- **Total** **£10,774.**

Estimated basic expenditure for 2020/21

• Meeting room hire	£200.00
• Electricity for Street Lamps	£500.00
• Internal Audit	£150.00
• Insurance	£675.00
• PAYE	£471.84
• Clerk's salary	£1,887.36
• Grass cutting	£2,000.00
• Flooding	£2,000.00
• HALC subscription	£300.00
• Data Protection	£40.00
• Defib pads	£50.00
• Total	£8,274.20
Predicted closing balance for 31/3/2022	£11,335.08

The Chairman suggested that the bus shelter by the Purefoy Arms is no longer used as the bus does not stop there but that cyclist do use it. A repair station and cycle racks could be installed which would encourage the cyclists to stop and use the pub.

Action: Clerk to circulate design of cycle repair station purchased by Alton Town Council.

The Councillors also agreed to look at Grants and it was agreed that application forms be sent to the Church and Scouts.

Action: Clerk to send out applications for Grants

1132 Flooding

Jantiene sent out the following update early today:

This is the second flood update for the Winter 20/21 season - a season which, unchanged from the first update issued on October 5, may see significant challenges insofar flood risk is concerned.

- As of yesterday afternoon, 02:00PM groundwater in the Preston Candover monitoring borehole reached a level of **95.681m AOD**.
- This represents a rise of **1.6 meters in just over 6 weeks** (47 days since October 1, when the recorded level was 94.079 AOD)
- This is **2.3 meters above** the level recorded on the same date last year (93.303m AOD).
- The level at which cellar flooding commences in Preston Candover is **96.6m AOD; we are therefore less than a meter away from possible cellar flooding.**

WEATHER

- Three named storms dominated October, accompanied by frequent bands of frontal rainfall from large Atlantic low-pressure systems brought to the UK on a strong Jet Stream.
- October 3 saw Storm Alex (we issued the first flood update for this year on October 5)
- October 18, Storm Barbara
- October 29, Storm Aiden

RAINFALL

- On October 3, a UK-wide average record rainfall total of 32mm was recorded, making it the wettest day on record for the UK since 1891.
- October was the fifth wettest October for the UK in a timeseries from 1862.
- Total October rainfall in Wessex (including Hampshire) was significantly above the 1981-2010 average (163%)

RIVERFLOW

- River flows responded accordingly. River flow of the Itchen was notably high at 151% of the normal range and remains high.
- As measured by the Borough Bridge gauging station (yesterday afternoon 15 November), just under 100,000m³ is leaving our valley through the Candover Brook each day. To be precise: **97,977,600 litres** of water in a single day.

OUTLOOK

- On October 29, the WMO (World Meteorological Organization) issued a global declaration of a La Niña event, likely to be moderate to strong, with a 90% probability of the event continuing until January 2021. The November 9 advisory states a likely continuation into February- April 2021 of 60%. According to the head of long-range prediction at the UK Met Office: “La Niña has a profound effect on weather across the globe with impacts that extend across the UK. In late winter, La Niña can drive a shift of the jet stream towards the Poles increasing storminess and **heavy rainfall**.”

PREPAREDNESS FOR FLOODING

What does this mean

- Communities/PC’s should begin to prepare for a flood event which is likely to have a greater impact than just cellar flooding, and given where we are in the season, may well occur towards the end of this year, which is unusually early.
- Please note: ‘past forecasts are no guarantee for an equally accurate forecast this year :) BUT, we now know that the Preston Candover borehole water levels have been a reliable indicator of the trigger point for flood events in the Candover Valley.

What has happened so far

- Our Far-End-of-the-Valley correspondent Adam Willmott reported:
 - an unusually early and fast rise in water levels causing the water meadows in Brown Candover become submerged already in early October, never seen like this so early in the year.
 - The Environment Agency thoroughly cleared the Candover Brook between the B3046/Bryces Lane junction and Totford Pumping Station - from which the entire valley will benefit as the conveyance capacity is greatly increased.
 - A lot of work has already been carried out under riparian ownership responsibility, for which thank you. Any outstanding matters will be communicated/coordinated by Parish.
 - Early liaison has taken place with Highways to keep the Area Team up to date with the local situation. Highways advised:
 - Please do let us know if the riparian ditch clearance programme exposes any issues with highway drainage assets that need our attention. The Area office would certainly investigate any reports of blocked drains, be it gullies or culverts underneath our roads, and arrange for any interim/one-off cleanses, as necessary. **(Note: Highways assets are those that run under the road surface and not those next to it - see explanation in the first flood update).**
 - Flood related incidents involving blocked highways assets (drains, gullies, culverts) can be reported by
 - using the online reporting system at www.hants.gov.uk/roads
 - by sending in issues with clear locations to roads@hants.gov.uk.
 - It is essential to ensure that each issue is logged individually to prevent issues being missed.
 - A unique reference number is raised for each enquiry which can be used when asking for updates.

The Chairman had been approached by a resident from Axford about the flooding in the area. The Clerk had also been approached by another resident from Dummer Road in Axford about the large puddles and excessive speed along this stretch of road.

The Councillors agreed that Highways would be alerted to both issues as the Parish Council have no authority for working on the road.

Action: Clerk to report both issues on the Highways website

Action: Clerk to speak to PC Reid about speed checks on Dummer Road

The Councillors discussed how to prioritise the allocated budget for flooding was spent. It was agreed that the Flood Action Group had the best understanding of the full situation and suggested that a member of the Parish Council sit on this group as a sub committee of the Parish Council. Term of reference would need to agree about the authorisation given to sign off expenditure. Councillor Human agreed to take on the role of Parish Council representative on the Group.

Action: Clerk to speak to Jantiene about making Flood Action Group a sub committee of the Parish Council

Action: Councillors to agree terms of reference

1133 Planning

There has been one application since the last meeting it was:

- Extension to garage at Wisteria Cottage (20/02569/HSE)

An update on the pipeline plans by Southern Water from Lisa Kirby-Hawkes, Development Planning Manager – Strategic Planning, Hampshire County Council was:

The application was submitted to us back in March. The County Council, alongside the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) jointly issued a Regulation 25 request for further information back at the end of July. Regulation 25 of the EIA Regulations allows us to request further information as part of the EIA process. At the same time, we also requested further areas of clarification. In this letter, we also recommended that that applicant withdraw the application with a view to resubmit due to the level of additional information required.

Following discussions within Southern Water and between all parties in recent months about the application, Southern Water are continuing to considering the most appropriate course of action to take with regard to the two applications, including responding to our advice in the Regulation 25. They have made it clear that the need for the Candover Drought Scheme to be available in any drought has not changed, and the Scheme is a critical element of Southern Water's ability to maintain secure supplies to its customers in a drought. As a result, Southern Water need to carefully review the available options for the progression of the Candover Drought Scheme in consultation and engagement with the Environment Agency and Natural England. A request has been made to us to extend the time on the application and both planning authorities have agreed to this until the end of 2020 to enable the consideration of the options, and discussions with the Environment Agency and Natural England to take place. This is subject to a review meeting taking place in early December on progress.

So essentially, we should know a little more on the progression of the application by the end of the year.

1134 Children's Play Area

The Chairman reported that the cross bar for the climbing frame would be less than £500 and so 3 quotes would not need to be gained.

Action: Chairman to inform Councillor Owencroft which post needs attention at the play area.

1135 Lengthsman

Councillor Human informed the Councillors that the Lengthsman had concentrated on digging out the grips at the last visit on 11th November.

The Parish Council agreed to get a quote from the Lengthsman for how many days work would be required to replace the posts at the War Memorial. The Chairman had priced up materials at £230 for the posts plus £100 to have the tops chamfered. 60 bags of Post Crete were best priced at £200.

Action: Councillor Human to speak to Lengthsman about costs of replacing 30 posts

1136 Highways

The potholes seem to be OK at the moment with the very large ones reported earlier in the year filled and no new ones opening up at this time. The potential flooding will cause issues with the road surface.

1137 Rights of Way

Nothing to report

1138 General correspondence

A new development with 3 large distribution depots is planned for junction 7 of the M3, plans can be viewed at:

<https://democracy.basingstoke.gov.uk/documents/s22864/Draft%20Vision%20Appendix.pdf>

The Councillors had all viewed the plans and felt that whilst the opportunity of employment that the development would bring to the area would be an advantage that the traffic management of the site would need to be high priority. The new hospital and possibly a park and ride carpark were all due to be on this junction of the M3 and the Vice Chair was aware of other locations where distribution depots caused significant traffic issues particularly when shifts changed.

It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a letter to B&D to ask that sufficient resource and time given to planning the traffic management of the project.

Action: Clerk to circulate draft letter for comment.

1139 Dates of next meeting

- Monday 18th January 2021 (7:30pm)
- Monday 15th March 2021 (7:30pm)

It was agreed that the Council would follow Government guidance about the safest format for the next meeting.