

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 18th November 2019 **Time:** 7:30pm

Venue: Village Hall, Preston Candover

Present: Paul Sadler Chairman
Tish Owencroft
Daphne Prosser
PC Andy Reid
6 members of the public
Wendy Simson Clerk

Apologise: Maria Jones
Ruth Chattell Vice Chair

1044 Public Forum

Children's safety at School Crossing

A group of parents of children from Preston Candover primary School joined the meeting to talk about the concerns about children getting to school safely and the increasing volume of traffic at certain times of the day in Preston Candover.

Just last month a child was very nearly knocked down by a reversing car right outside this Hall, at 8:35am as they were crossing the congested road to get to school. This event – along with another witnessed two weeks prior to that, when a speeding car collided with an opened car door – have prompted many parents to take some action and protect the children from what is the inevitable. The traffic congestion outside school has long been an issue and it has of course increased recently with the very popular shop opening.

Hampshire County Council (HCC) have not filled the position of School Crossing Patrol Officer (Lollypop Person) which has been advertised for a year now on the HCC website and recruiting this individual is key. Advertising collateral from HCC has been requested and it is planned to have a stall at the School Fair on 30th November to raise awareness.

History has proven it is not easy to recruit into this role and in the meantime the issue continues. In addition, the school is trialling a new drop off system which means parents are not allowed to walk their children in and stand in the playground until the bell goes at 8:40. It suits the school better if children are dropped off on the pavement outside school between 8:30 and 8:40 and this is creating greater traffic congestion and extending the period during which vehicles come and go through the very narrow channel outside school. It is unclear how long the trial will continue for.

This traffic problem extends to the outskirts of the village and affects parents who are walking their children to school, especially where there is no pavement and it affects other members of the community.

A traffic survey has been requested from HCC, However the following disappointing news on this today from the Principal Road Safety Officer at HCC:

I have the following response below from our traffic management team, a survey is not planned for Preston Candover.

With regards to your concerns about traffic through the village, keeping Hampshire's roads safe and well maintained is a priority for the County Council and we do this by directing our resources toward those locations where there is evidence that accidents are occurring and where the introduction of traffic and safety measures are most likely to reduce these. Specialist staff regularly analyse injury accident data to identify collision hotspots where safety measures may need to be considered.

The injury accident record for Preston Candover has been examined and this study of the personal injury accident records did not identify a common cause or treatable pattern and therefore it would be very difficult to target effective remedial measures that will reduce casualties and make a significant difference to road safety in the village. The accident record can be checked via the Hampshire Police website:

<https://www.tvphampshiretraffweb.co.uk/>

In the absence of a pattern or grouping of accidents, the County Council does have a mechanism whereby Parish and Town Councils and other local community groups can fund minor highway and transport improvements themselves, and particularly those that are considered to be of a high value to the community but are not necessarily led by a road casualty reduction need. The installation of speed limit roundels painted on the road surface, creating village gateways and the deployment of temporary speed limit reminder signs are the types of measures that can be considered and developed through this initiative. I have attached a link to our webpage which contains information which may be of interest to you.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadsafety/makingroadssafer>

If you have any questions you may wish to contact the traffic management team via email at traffic.management@hants.gov.uk

The initial view when HCC were contacted was that a crossing wouldn't be well-received by the residents and nor would it address this intermittent problem which occurs twice daily when parents drop off and pick up their children. The representatives asked for any support the Parish Council can give at this time and it was agreed that the recruitment of the Lollipop person was key to protecting the children.

Action: Councillors to support the recruitment of a Crossing Patrol person

Action: PC Reid to promote the role in local Parish Council meetings

Flooding in the Candover Valley

A resident attended the meeting to talk about the flooding which occurring in the villages in 2001 and 2014 and to look to move this back onto the agenda with both the Environment Agency (EA) and Hampshire County Council. After the floods in 2001 an action plan was drawn up and parts of this implemented, however the floods in 2014 were caused by the areas not implemented from this plan and these are still outstanding. In addition, the water companies who have pumped water from the valley have reduced this volume, meaning that the ground water table is higher.

The resident is asking that a Flood Action Group be created, based on those involved with the plans in 2014 including Jonathan Moseley, Charles Bradshaw and Robert Marks, with a view to completing the following initial actions:

- Review the status of the HCC and EA plans drawn up in 2014
- Create a diary of Annual actions to clear ditches and grips
- Ensure the Flood Action Plan is accessible and up to date

It was agreed that the Parish Council would support this group and a report would be brought to the next meeting on 20th January 2020.

Speeding on the Dummer Road

A new resident who moved into one of the properties on the Dummer Road in Axford contacted the Clerk about the speed of traffic along this carriageway. The Parish Council discussed this issue and agreed to take the following actions:

- Chairman to speak to landowner about getting the hedges cut back to allow clear line of sight and speed signs
- Ensure the speed indication device (SID) was regularly used on this road
- PC Reid to look at speed checks in this area
- Ensure this is on the agenda at the next meeting for feedback from the resident

Light Guard for Street Lamp no. 6

The Clerk has been asked by the residents of a property local to streetlamp no. 6 if a light guard can be attached to the light to reduce the light into their home. The Clerk investigated and there is guard for these streetlamps, but it sits behind the lamp and so would not have the desired effect. For record the light guard was from SSE and cost £85.62 plus labour at £74.45 per hour (minimum of 2 hours).

Action: Clerk to inform resident that the guard is not an option.

1044 Apologies for absence

The Clerk had received apologies from the Vice Chair and Councillors Jones.

1045 Minutes of the last meeting

The Councillors confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the last meeting held on Monday 9th September 2019. The Chairman signed the minutes.

1046 Police Update

PC Reid updated the Parish Councillors on the activity in the area since the last meeting, this was:

- 11/11 - HGV came off the bridge into South Hall causing a road closure.

The other issues have all been regarding the parking at the school after the new system of allowing children to go into the school has been brought into operation.

To date in 2019 there have been 38 crimes in Preston Candover up substantially on 2018 when there were 13. The crimes in 2019 are:

- 8 non-dwelling burglary (3 in village)
- Thefts – 5 of scrap, a bicycle, wood and a garden seat
- 16 criminal damage to crops (12 Moundsmere and 4 Preston farms)
- 2 assaults
- 2 thefts of farm vehicles
- 2 thefts from vehicles

In Axford there have been 2 non dwelling burglaries and an account of criminal damage in 2019 and Nutley has had no crime.

PC Reid informed the Councillors that the fireworks display which was postponed from Saturday 1st November to 16th November, went off with no problems.

The Chairman thanked PC Reid for attending the meeting and supporting with all the topics discussed in the public forum, along with his continued excellent work in the community.

1047 Matters arising

New Councillors – The Chairman has created new signs to promote the role and these have been displayed in all the noticeboards along with Village Hall and Community Store.

Action: Any interested parties to be invited to the next meeting

New website – Rob Marks and the Clerk have worked on setting up the new website which can be found at:

www.prestoncandoverandnutley.pc.co.uk

The Clerk has requested photographs for the site along with for each Councillor to write a short piece for their profile.

Action: Councillors to send in piece for website

Memorial Bench – Councillors Owencroft and Prosser have discussed the position of the memorial bench at the recreation ground with the families and it has been agreed that it will remain in situ. Councillors Owencroft and Prosser have decided to clean up the bench, but this is being done outside of the jurisdiction of the Parish Council.

Plaque for Oak Tree – It has been agreed that a 5" x 3" black plaque be purchased for the Oak Tree to replace the broken one. The wording is to be taken from the original sign. Councillor Jones is to take the photographs of the Cherry Trees in the spring when the trees are in leaf.

Action: Chairman to produce plaque

Action: Councillor Jones to take photographs and Clerk to have framed

1048 Financial Statement

The Clerk talked the Councillor through the finance statement. The line showing the funds for the youth project have been added and the is currently £2,375.97

The following payments were agreed and signed off at the meeting

- Grass cutting (August) - £114.00
- Grass cutting (September) - £228.00
- Replacement of streetlamp no. 6 - £583.86
- Website domain and protection - £38.38
- Grippy tape for steps of children's slide - £27.03

The Councillors agreed that a sub-committee should be set up to look at a project for the youth funds.

Action: Councillors to talk to parents of tis age group to identify suitable candidates

The budgets were briefly reviewed and will be agreed and signed off at the next meeting.

The new financial policy was circulated and signed off by the Councillors along with the other existing policies which have all been added to the new website.

1049 Planning

The planning applications made since the last meeting are:

- Sheerings House
- Meadow House
- Manor Farm

Councillor Owencroft had visited all the properties where applications have been made and reported that all were in keeping with the Council's guidelines and so no objections were made.

1050 Children's Play Area

The Clerk has reviewed the list of outstanding items on the inspection reports from Basingstoke & Deane, they are:

Asset Name	Finding Title	Risk Level
frame & net	Item - Requires cleaning	Low
frame & net	Item - Cap missing	Low
bench	Bird droppings	Low
Site - Preston Candover Parish Council	National Foreword - Annual Inspection	Very Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Bolt(s) loose	Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Loose in Ground	Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Cap(s) missing	Very Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Loose in Ground	High
agility multi-linked items	Item - Cap missing	Medium
agility multi-linked items	Fixtures - Loose or Missing	Very Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Loose in Ground	High
swings Surface	Surface - Uneven	Low
bin	Item - Rusting in places	Low
fence wooden	Other / Miscellaneous	Low
picnic table	Item - Loose in Ground	Very Low
slide	Item - Cap(s) missing	Very Low
gate	Gate - Violent Action	Low
gate Surface	Surface - Uneven	Low
springy rabbit	Item - Handrail damaged/loose/missing	Medium
springy rabbit	Fixtures - Loose or Missing	Low
springy rabbit	Item - Bolt(s) loose	Low
grass surface	Surface - Uneven	Low

The Fence and Gate have been replaced and the Clerk has requested the covers/caps for the bolts. A new bin has also been requested. This will rectify most of the issues reported. Councillor Owencroft has cleaned all the play equipment except the ropes which will be done in the spring. The loose post has also been secured.

1051 Recreation Ground

The recreation ground is in good order and is being well used.

1052 Highways

Councillor Prosser reported that some of the potholes had been repaired. The Chairman had reported the damaged railings outside the school and the worst of the two has been replaced.

Action: Clerk to chase up the other railing repair.

1053 General correspondence

The Clerk had a poster about school admission for new children in September 2020 to go on the noticeboard.

1054 Any other business

Notice Board at Nutley Church – Councillor Owencroft has discovered that the noticeboard at the old churchyard in Nutley needs replacing.

Action: To be discussed as part of budgeting for 2020/21 along with new notice board for Axford.

1055 Dates of next meeting

- Monday 20th January 2020 (7:30pm)

- Monday 16th March 2020 (7:30pm)
- Thursday 30th April 2020 – Annual Parish Meeting (TBC)
- Monday 18th May 2020 (7:30pm) AGM
- Monday 20th July 2020 (7:30pm)
- Monday 21st September 2020 (7:30pm)
- Monday 16th November 2020 (7:30pm)