

## PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

**Date:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015. **Time:** 7:30pm

**Venue:** Preston Candover Village Hall

**Present:** Alex Taylor Chairman  
Charles Bradshaw Vice-Chairman  
Daphne Prosser  
Marion Philips  
Tish Owencroft  
Arnout Van Der Veer  
Wendy Simson Clerk  
PC Andy Reid  
Holly Marks

**Apologies:** David Wilson  
Rob Marks

#### **408 Apologies**

The Clerk had received apologies from Councillor Marks and Wilson that they would not be able to attend the meeting.

#### **409 Minutes of the last meeting**

The Council agreed the minutes as a true record of the last meeting and approved the Chairman to sign them off.

#### **410 Election of new Councillor**

The Chairman introduced Tish Owencroft and Arnout Van Der Veer who had both expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council. Tish Owencroft will be able to represent Nutley and Axford on the Parish Council. Arnout Van Der Veer is interested in the flooding within the valley and ensuring the Parish is best prepared for future wet winters.

The Chairman asked for one of the Councillor to propose the two new members which the Vice Chairman did and Councillor Prosser seconded their co-option to the Council.

#### **411 Matter arising from the previous meeting**

**Update on change of Councillors** – The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had made Basingstoke and Deane aware of the resignation of the previous Chairman and who had taken on the role, along with new Councillors details. The Clerk explained that she would need the two new Councillors to complete a register of member's interests which she would bring to the next meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to bring register of members interest form to next meeting.

**War Memorial repairs** – The Vice Chairman explained that he had not been able to get the stone masons out to assess the work required and costs but would do so in the next couple of months. Councillor Owencroft asked if the memorial was safe and the Vice Chairman

assured her that it was. It was agreed that as part of the repair work that a 12" gap be cleared round the edge of the bottom step to stop the mowers bumping into the stonework.

**Skate Park repairs** – The Chairman has asked for a quote for the two replacement boards required at the skate ramp and hopes to have this information for the February meeting.

**CHEF Grant update** – The Vice Chairman gave a short summary of the plans made for the field next to the village hall and the lay-by for which the CHEF Grant had been raised. The original fund was £3,500 but as only part of the work was now being carried out that all this money would not be spent. The fencing work at the front of the field next to village hall and the clearing work done at the lay-by had cost £1,606.80 and the CHEF Grant had paid £1,373 which was the full amount minus the VAT which the Parish Council can claim back. Receipts for the bench and tables, stain for fencing and tree grinding work were also to be forwarded and it was believed that this would amount to another £666.57 of which £623 should be paid from the grant.

**Action:** Vice Chairman to submit receipts

The path which is planned for along the back of the lay-by is to be paid for from the Section 106 funds held by Basingstoke & Deane for Highways along with the additional street light for this area. The Councillors asked when the installation work for the street lamp was due to take place as it was important that a representative was there to ensure it was put in the correct location.

**Action:** Clerk to confirm when street lamp work was to be carried out.

It was agreed that the sign for the tennis courts would not need to be moved and it was suggested that The Chairman and Vice Chairman meet at the site to mark up locations for the street lamp and bench.

The stile behind the village hall which had been reported to have been broken has been fixed.

**Action:** Clerk to thank resident for information and explain that there was no cost for the work.

**Speed Indication Device** – The Clerk had emailed round to the Councillors about the information she had received from Adrian Morgan at Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council who had set up the pilot for the device. The rental costs are £160 for a 4 week period and the Parish Council could decide where they wanted the device to be placed. It was agreed that speeding was an important issue in the Parish and that funds should be allocated to renting the device in 2015/16.

## 412 Police Update

PC Reid reported the following update:-

- The theft of two six-berth caravans from the Old Diary, Wield Road, Preston Candover on 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> January.
- One False burglar alarm activation

In 2014 there had been 9 crimes in Preston Candover which was down from 13 in 2013, they were:-

- 3 assaults (1 was detected)
- 3 incidents of criminal damage in crop fields
- 1 public order offence (detected)
- 2 non dwelling burglaries

There were 2 crimes in Axford up from 1 in 2013, both were assaults and were detected. There was 1 crime in Nutley which was the same number as 2013 which was a non dwelling burglary.

The Chairman asked about progress on the proposed changes to rural policing in the area. PC Reid explained that a meeting had taken place between Jonathan Moseley, Chairman of Candovers Parish Council, and the Police Finance Office and Assistant Chief Constable, the outcome of this meeting should be circulated to all the Chairmen of the Parish Council in the next week.

The Chairman thanks PC Reid for his continued hard work in protecting the community.

#### **413 Rights of Way**

Holly Marks, Councillor Marks' daughter, joined the meeting to show the Councillors the work done to date on the layout of the map board. Councillor Philips explained to the new members of the Parish Council that Freddie Osgood, who was the Parish Clerk for some years, had written a guide for 7 local walks which all started and finished in the centre of Preston Candover. A grant had been recurred for £412 towards the cost of this board and the Parish Council was required to pay £312 and put up £100 worth of time towards the project.

The title given for the board was "Explore the Candover Valley and Local Countryside"; the Council felt that it would be more appropriate to read "Explore Preston Candover and the surrounding Countryside" as the walks were all centred around Preston Candover. Councillor Philips had written a short piece about Freddie Osgood and the distance of each of the walks. The Councillors asked that the approximate time required for each walk should also be included.

It was agreed that the photos which Holly had taken were excellent and the 6 chosen for the board did represent the area and show some of the local landmarks. It was agreed to use the photos chosen and text be added to inform what they were of and if possible a marker on the map to show where they were taken.

**Action:** Councillors Philips Marks and Holly to meet to make small changes and get the design submitted so the project could be progressed.

The Chairman thanked Holly for her work on the project to date.

#### **414 Financial statement**

The Clerk circulated a summary document of the spending in 2014/15 as a basis for the budgets in 2015/16.

The Chairman explained that a flowering Cherry Tree which had been planted by the family of Doctor Skeggs on the corner of the Village Hall had been cut down. In the original plans for the work in this area the tree was to be removed to allow access via the back of the village hall, however this plan had been abandoned some time ago, however the contractor was not informed and the tree was cut down in November 2014. The Chairman suggested that as it was the Parish Council had contracted for this work that a replacement should be purchased and a cost of £39.99 had been identified.

In addition to this tree, it was also agreed that a second flowering Cherry be planted in memory of Councillor Alan Owencroft, who served on the Parish Council for more than 20 years and Charlie East, Secretary of Village Committee. Again the Parish Council agreed.

The Councillor discussed the Oak Tree which was due to be purchased from the remaining money from the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. There were two options either bare root or container grown both would be 10' – 13' tall but it was agreed that the container grown would establish itself quicker. The cost of the tree is £300 but also required was fertilizers (£30), delivery (£40), planting (£60) and stakes. This meant that the total cost would be a little higher than the £446.04 left in the Jubilee funds but the Parish Council agreed this additional spend.

The Clerk talked through the income which the Parish Council was to expect in 2015/16 but that a value for the precept needed to be agreed, the initial income was £2,480.27 without the precept. The fixed costs required from the Parish Council amounted to £5,604.60 but this did not include grass maintenance, a budget for the war memorial repairs, the speed indication device rental and any grant allocations.

The Clerk had collected three quotes for the grass cutting and having discussed all three options awarded the contract to Jim Kimber for all the areas in the Parish. The area at the back of the lay-by would need to be added to the schedule once work there had been completed. The cost of each cut was £135 (£30 for war memorial, £30 children's play area and £75 for field next to village hall) and as all the areas required two cuts during the spring and summer months a total cost of £2,700 was calculated. With the addition of the lay-by and hedge work a total budget of £3,600 was agreed.

For the war memorial an allocation of £3,000 was made as it was believed that a grant would be sort on a match funding basis.

It was agreed to put three rentals of the speed indication device into the budget at £160 each. The Parish Council agreed to have the device in June by the Old Vicarage in Preston Candover, October in Axford and January as you enter Preston Candover from Axford.

The Parish Council had received four grant applications, which are for:-

- Preston Candover Village Hall (£1,000) – for replacing the heating system and a roof over the decking area.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Preston Candover Scout Group (£300) – for camping equipment
- Preston Candover Recreation Committee (£1,000) – repairs to the pavilion
- Preston Candover Tennis Club (£1,000) – for new nets and ball baskets

The Parish Council agreed that there was a sufficient fund to support all these local communities groups and so signed off all the applications. The Council did ask that the Clerk request feedback on the projects as part of the sign off process.

**Action:** Clerk to include this request in covering letter with cheques in April

It was agreed that the precept should remain the same as 2014/15 of £7,000. Councillor Prosser suggested that a small increase each year should be applied for to keep in line with rising costs. The Council agreed that in future years this would be the case but as the Parish Council had funds to spend and because of the limited amount of work carried out by the Council in the last 12 months that it was important that an increase was not sort for this financial year.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillor Prosser then signed off the grant application and precept requests.

**Action:** Clerk to send documents to Basingstoke & Deane

**Action:** Clerk to update budgeting form and circulate with minutes

The Clerk explained that she had visited the bank to get a mandate to change the signatories on the account and had been informed that it was now required to be done by telephone. Keith Irons needed to be removed from the account and Tish Owencroft and Arnout Van Der Veer needed to be added.

**Action:** Clerk to pass on contact information to Vice Chairman so he can amend

The following payments have been made since the last meeting:-

- £1,402.80 – work at lay-by to date
- £204.00 – Keith Irons for fence posts
- £405.00 – Pullen benches

The following payments were agreed at the meeting and the cheques signed:-

- £175.00 – Tree stump grinding work
- £86.57 – stain for new fencing
- £84.00 – meeting room hire
- £72.00 – tidy in children's play area

#### **415 Planning**

The planning application for Church Cottage, Preston Candover to demolish the existing side lean to and replace with ground floor extension and create a log store was discussed and no objections raised.

#### **416 Council Property**

Nothing further to add

#### **417 Section 106 funds**

Nothing further to add

#### **418 Flooding**

The Chairman asked Councillor Van Der Veer to be the Parish Council representative for flooding, which was agreed. The Vice Chairman arranged to meet Councillor Van Der Veer to hand over the information. Councillor Van Der Veer suggested that the Parish Council have a list of those at risk to be able to warn them as water levels rise.

#### **419 Valley & Council Website**

Councillor Philips has updated some of the items on the website but suggested that the Parish Council need to look at options for moving the website forward at the next meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to put website higher on the agenda at the next meeting.

#### **420 Play areas**

The Chairman reported that there is a mole problem at the children's play area which needs attention. He has got a quote for £60 to get the mole trapped as they can't be poisoned because of the risk to the children. The Parish Council agreed this cost.

**Action:** Chairman to organise mole extermination.

#### **421 Recreation Ground**

It was agreed that the recreation committee would remain on the agenda for the Parish Council meetings while additional committee members were found. A meeting, chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council was to be planned for week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> January to get all interested parties together.

**Action:** Chairman to report at February meeting

**422 Highways**

The road has been patched by the war memorial but the work hasn't been done very well so Councillor Prosser is to ask for the work to be repeated. The road sign repairs, replacements, and cleaning had been asked for, pinch points in village to be attended too and footpaths to be repaired.

**423 Shop Update**

The Vice Chairman gave an update on the Community Store. The group met with Michael Maxwell and Lord Sainsbury to discuss the plans and full support has been given to progress. The next stage will be to produce plans and drawings so that the community can be consulted.

The Parish Council agreed that their role would be to ensure that whatever the community's view is that this is acted upon.

**424 General Correspondence**

None

**425 Any other business**

The wording for the plaques for the Silver and Diamond Jubilee Celebrations are to be agreed.

**Action:** Clerk to construct some words and circulate to the Councillors for sign off.

**426 Date of next meeting**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015, at Preston Candover Village Hall at 7:30pm.