

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 20th January 2020 **Time:** 7:00pm

Venue: 3 Farriers Close, Preston Candover

Present: Paul Sadler Chairman
Ruth Chattell Vice Chair
Tish Owencroft
Daphne Prosser
PC Andy Reid
1 member of the public
Wendy Simson Clerk

Apologise: Maria Jones

1056 Apologies for absence

The Clerk had received apologies from Councillors Jones.

1057 Minutes of the last meeting

The Councillors confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the last meeting held on Monday 18th November 2019. The Chairman signed the minutes.

1058 Police Update

PC Reid updated the Parish Councillors on the activity in the area since the last meeting and for 2019.

There has been just 1 crime since the last meeting which was a head on road traffic accident where a car swerved in order to miss a fallen tree and pothole. This took place on 15th January. The area has seen a huge increase in crime for 2019 with 48 reported in Preston Candover up 35 from 2018. Axford had 3 crimes, up 2 from 2018 and Nutley didn't have any crime against 2 in 2018.

The crimes in Preston Candover were:

- 2 dwelling burglary (Manor House and an OAP bungalow)
- 9 non dwelling burglary (items stolen included mowers, bicycle and tools valued at £6,500)
- 5 thefts (including garden furniture, bicycles, scrape wood – valued at £2,420)
- 25 acts of criminal damage (23 crop damage valued at £44,200 and two gates at £500)
- 2 theft from vehicles
- 2 theft of vehicles (these included 2 cars and a mini digger valued at £13,500)
- 1 assault injury (dog bite)
- 1 assault with no injury
- 1 other crime

In excess of £67,000 of loss and damage caused.

The Chairman asked what was being done to improve these figures, PC Reid explained that he was being asked to spend more time out of the area which allowed the groups taking part in these activities to visit more often.

It was agreed that the Parish Councils needed to act as a group to speak to the MP along with Mark Ruffell and Paul Gaskell to ensure policing in the area becomes a higher priority.

Action: Clerk to invite Paul Gaskell to the next meeting

1059 Matters arising

New Councillors – There has been little progress with recruiting new Councillors to the Parish Council. It was agreed that specific people should be selected to join where they would bring skills to the Parish Council.

Timers for streetlamps – The Chairman reported that having spoken to SSE, timers for all the 11 streetlamps could be purchased at £163 each plus fitting. The Chairman has asked how many could be fitted in 1 day as it is believed labour costs are £75 per hour. The total costs are:

- 11 timers - £1,793.00
- 1 day's labour - £600 (based on an 8-hour day)
- Total £2,393.00

It was suggested that at least 50% of the timers could be fitted in 1 day and so a budget of £2,000 be put in for 2020/21. The remaining cost would be budgeted for in 2021/22.

Action: Clerk to add to budgets

Youth Project – It was agreed that a sub-committee be formed with a Councillor who had teenage children to manage this project.

1060 Financial Statement

The Clerk explained the three payments to be made, they were:

- Website domain - £71.86
- Clerk's salary - £590.00
- Website build hours - £208.00

These payments were signed off, all were due to the Clerk as the domain payment had been secured via personal credit card.

The Councillors discussed other costs to be incurred in the current year. The Clerk explained that the Lengthsman was renting a digger and could clear the ditches between the church and where the river goes under the B3046 and down Church Lane. Jantiene suggested that this would not be necessary and that it was only the area just upstream from the culverts which needed to be cleared.

Action: Clerk to talk to the Lengthsman about clearing these areas.

The Councillors also discussed replacing the posts at the war memorial in the 2020/21 financial year. There are currently 30 posts but if larger ones were used this could be reduced to 25. It was agreed that a budget of £2,500 be put into the 2020/21 financial year for this line.

The regular costs are as follows:

• Meeting room hire	£200.00
• Electricity for Street Lamps	£500.00
• Internal Audit	£150.00
• Insurance	£650.00
• PAYE	£471.84
• Clerk's salary	£1,887.36
• Grass cutting	£2,000.00
• HALC subscription	£270.00
• Data Protection	£40.00

- Defib pads £47.00
- **Total** **£6,216.20**

In addition to the £2,000 for the streetlamp timers and £2,500 for the posts at the war memorial this totals £10,716.

The income predicted for 2020/21 was:

- Precept £8893.00
- Basingstoke & Deane Grants £251.00
- Bank Interest (estimate) £5.00
- VAT Refund (estimate) £250.00
- **Total** **£9,399.00**

It was agreed to increase the precept by the full 10% to £9,782.00 (£889 increase or an additional £3.70 per year per D rated home). The Councillors signed off the precept request.

1061 Planning

The planning applications made since the last meeting are:

- The Old Post Office – replacement garden room
- Half acre – widening access and reinstating the gate

Councillor Owencroft had visited both properties and recommended that no objections be made to either.

Action: Clerk to respond to B&D about planning comments

1062 Flooding

Jantiene updated the Councillors on progress since the last meeting with ensuring all possible precautions were in place to reduce the risk of flooding in the valley. In the run up to Christmas, the water levels were very high, and flooding was likely, however there has been some drier weather which has meant this has dropped a little. The bore holes are monitored to ensure a good reading of water levels is reported to all and in particular those who have a riparian responsibility for the ditches and water ways which run alongside their homes.

Jantiene and Jonathan Moseley are meeting with the Environment Agency and Hampshire County Council to look at the actions required and in particular the culverts which need to be removed.

There is also a meeting with the water company about pumping water out of the valley during the summer months which will reduce the water table. This meeting is taking place in Itchen Abbas on Tuesday 21st January.

Action: Clerk to invite Jantiene to the next meeting

1063 Children's Play Area

Councillor Owencroft has secured the wobbly post in the agility equipment and this is no longer an issue.

The bin has not been replaced.

Action: Clerk to chase up on new bin.

1064 Recreation Ground

The memorial bench has been cleaned and covered. The plaques have been removed to be clean and will be replaced in the spring.

1065 Highways

The Vice Chair has reported the potholes along the B3046 between Preston Candover and Axford, these have been marked up for some time but are now about 15cm deep and an ambulance had damaged a wheel over the weekend and had to be recovered.

1066 General correspondence

None

1067 Any other business

The Clerk asked if one of the SIDs could be lent to the Candovers Parish Council in February, which was agreed. The Vice Chair asked that the data be removed before it was sent away to keep the information clean.

The Chairman mentioned that the bin at the village hall had not been emptied. The bin had been moved onto the field for the fireworks party and needed to be moved back to the car park to allow for emptying.

1068 Dates of next meeting

- 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)