

## PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF PARISH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

**Date:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019. **Time:** 7:30pm

**Venue:** The Village Hall, Preston Candover

**Present:** Paul Sadler Chairman  
Ruth Chattell Vice Chair  
Daphne Prosser  
PC Andy Reid  
Wendy Simson Clerk

**Apologies:** Rob Marks  
Tish Owencroft  
Maria Jones

#### 972 Apologies

Councillors Marks, Jones and Owencroft were not able to attend the meeting and sent apologies.

#### 973 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> November were then approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

#### 974 Police Update

PC Reid explained that there had been six incidents/events since his last report in November, they were:

- 11/11 – A car drove through the fence on B3046 at Nutley
- 14/11 – A Crime Prevention Meeting was held at the Village Hall in Preston Candover, PC Reid thanked the Parish Council for their support at the meeting including tea and biscuits
- 23/11 – An injury road traffic accident on B3046 in Nutley
- 27/11 – A dwelling burglary in Axford where a car was stolen
- 30/12 – A false alarm activation at a house in the Parish
- 16/1 – Two damage road traffic accident on B3046 in Preston Candover

There have been twelve crimes in Preston Candover in 2018, 4 non-dwelling burglary's, 3 assaults, 2 damage to vehicle, 2 criminal damage incident and a public order issue. There has been just 1 incident in Axford, which was the burglary on 27<sup>th</sup> November. Nutley had just 2 crimes, a non-dwelling burglary and the criminal damage incident with a padlock. In 2017 there were 21 crimes in Preston Candover, 1 in Nutley and 2 in Axford.

The Chairman thanked PC Reid for his support in keeping the village safe.

## 975 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

**Posts at War Memorial** – It was agreed by the Councillors that a line be put into the 2019/20 budget for this item but a value of TBC due to the unknown costs of the street light repairs. Once this cost has been fully understood then a decision can be made about budgeting for this work. Councillor Prosser asked that the post on the drive to the Tennis Court be added to this budget line as one of these has fallen over.

**Action:** Councillor Prosser to confirm that these posts are owned by the Parish Council and not by the owners of the properties on this drive.

**New Councillors** – The Chairman again asked for any possible residents to be identified to join the Parish Council as the meeting was only just quorate this evening with three Councillors not attending.

**Action:** All Councillors to look to speak to local residents about joining the Parish Council

**Recreation Ground** – The Chairman has sent through the agreed letter to the owner of the Recreation Ground about getting an agreement in place to ensure that the area continues to be maintained for the public to use. The owner also needs to decide what is to happen to the changing room facilities which are in a very poor state of repair. Councillor Prosser informed the Council that the water and electricity supplies have now been turned off to the building. The Chairman suggested that until a response is received from the Owner that no further action can be taken as the community have no right to maintain the land. It was agreed that it would be put on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting in April.

**Action:** Clerk to ensure this is listed as an agenda item at APM

## 976 Financial Update

The Clerk presented the finance report.

A payment for a new battery and pads for the defib was signed off since the last meeting, it was found that the defib had not been tested and the battery had gone flat. When the new battery and pads were installed it was discovered that the power supply to the box was not working which meant that the light and small heater were not functioning. An electrician has visited, and it appears that the box was wired into the heating system circuit which means that it comes on when the timer works. It has been agreed that this will be rectified by the electrician and the Parish Council will cover these costs. Councillor Chattel has agreed to press the test button on the system every month and report any further issues.

There were two payments to be signed off at the meeting they were:

- PAYE for Oct – Dec - £78.90
- Clerk's salary for Oct to dev - £510.90

The reason that these were different to the usual amounts is that HMRC have written to the Parish Council to say that the account has been overpaid and so the two payment have been adjusted to correct this.

## 977 Budgets

The Clerk sent out the current financial report for the year to all Councillors prior to the meeting which shows a current balance on the accounts of £10,135.79.

There is an issue with the Street Lights which was discussed after the last meeting, 9 of the 11 street lights owned by Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council have old fittings which SEE are no longer able to service as the bulbs are now obsolete. Of the 9 old lamps 7 are currently not working and the only option to get them working again is to have the fittings replaced at a cost of £337.65 per street light plus £404.25 for fitting, this will only be for 9 of the lights so £3,443.10 plus VAT. The Clerk has contacted Hampshire County Council (HCC) about support for these costs and is waiting to hear if they can be changed to meet HCC specification and therefore fall within the maintenance contract HCC has within SEE. The Parish Council would need cover these maintenance costs going forward but it was predicted that these would be about £400 a year as opposed to the current contract of £1,000 per year.

If the cost of replacing the street lamps is added to the remaining expenditure for 2018/19 along with the VAT to the claim for the rest of the year, then it is predicted that the closing balance will be £6,161.00.

The Councillors discussed the income for 2019/20 which is:

• Precept	£8085.00
• Basingstoke & Deane Grants	£248.00
• Bank Interest (estimate)	£5.00
• VAT Refund (estimate)	£250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,588.00</b>

The predicted expenditure for 2019/20 which is:

• Meeting room hire	£150.00
• Street Lamp Maintenance contract	£400.00
• Electricity for Street Lamps	£350.00
• Internal Audit	£150.00
• Insurance	£1,000.00
• PAYE	£942.40
• Clerk's salary	£1,417.20
• Grass cutting	£2,000.00
• HALC subscription	£250.00
• Data Protection	£40.00
• Defib pads	£47.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,746.60</b>

This would give a predicted balance on the account on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 of £8,002.40.

However, the Parish Council need to look at the cost of replacing the steps on the slide at the Children's Play Area, the posts at the War Memorial (mentioned under Matters Arising), and any Grants.

It was agreed that a cost for the street lights needed to be confirmed but that the children's slide also needed to be fixed as quickly as possible ready for spring.

The Parish Council agreed to increase the precept to £8,893 (10%) increase in order to cover these costs in 2019/20.

**Action:** Clerk to scan precept form to Basingstoke and Deane before 31<sup>st</sup> January cut off date.

Following the meeting, the Clerk received an email from HCC to inform the Parish Council that the cost of bring the street light up to the required standard would be £10,000, this would then allow the Parish Council to benefit from a discount on the maintenance contract of about £600 per year. The Clerk has forwarded this email to all Councillors for comment so this can be progressed and the streetlight back in working order as quickly as possible.

**978 Rights of Way**

Councillor Jones has met with Ian Simpson to hand over the information about the rights of way and Councillor Jones is looking to start to walk the paths in the next few months to understand any issues.

**979 Website**

The Chairman has spoken to Candovers Parish Council about the prospect of changing the website over to two sites, one for each of the Parish Councils, which would be simpler to operate and therefore allow for minutes and accounts to be published quickly as required. Candovers are keen to make this change and the Clerk is to follow up with their progress at the Candovers Parish Council Meeting planned for Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**Action:** Clerk to report back to all Councillors after Candovers Parish Council Meeting

The Chairman asked about setting up a Facebook page which he would manage and would not allow for followers to make comments but would allow for information to be circulated. The Vice Chair raised concerns about using a social media site for Parish Council communication but agreed that as long as it was secure and that comments could not be posted that they were happy for this to be set up. It was agreed that if it was not a success that it would be closed down and the information not to be allowed to remain in the public domain.

**Action:** Chairman to set up Facebook page

**980 Planning**

There had been four planning applications since the last meeting they were:

- Old Timbers – remove a sycamore tree (no objections)
- New property on Stenbury Drive (no objections)
- Half Acre – internal and external alteration (no objection)
- 1 The Terrace – retrospective to divide into two dwellings (no objections)

Councillor Owencroft has visited all sites and reported back to the Councillors her comments on each application.

**981 Children’s play areas**

The steps on the slide at the Children’s Play Area have been taped off and a quote has been received from Lapsett to replace the steps of approximately £2,500. The Chairman has spoken to Bernard Crisp, whose team inspect all Play Areas on behalf of Basingstoke & Deane, and they are happy for the Parish Council to get a quote for a like for like replacement from more local carpenters. The Councillors agreed that quotes should be gathered.

**Action:** Chairman to pass on quotes as received

**982 Skate Ramp**

The Skate Ramp has been taped off and the Chairman is looking to get it removed from the Recreation Ground before 31<sup>st</sup> March to ensure the Parish Council do not need to continue to insure it. This will reduce the cost of the insurance policy for 2019/20.

**Action:** Chairman to look at getting skate ramp removed and stored ready for sale

**983 Highways**

Councillor Prosser informed that Councillors that the Highways Team had been out to mark the potholes but to date no work has been carried out to fill them.

**984 General Correspondence**

None

**985 Any other business**

The Chairman asked about the dates for the Lengths man next visits, following the meeting the Clerk confirmed that they are:

- 10<sup>th</sup> February
- 20<sup>th</sup> May
- 16<sup>th</sup> July
- 9<sup>th</sup> September
- 12<sup>th</sup> November

**986 Date of next meeting**

Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019