

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date:	Monday 20 th July 2026	Time: 7:30pm
Venue:	Preston Candover Village Hall, Preston Candover	
Present:	Andrew Frome Rebecca Kennelly Tara Paul Luke Sherbrooke Cllr Juliet Henderson Cllr Alex Rowley Cllr Marc Connor 5 members of the public Wendy Simson	Vice Chair County Councillor Borough Councillor Borough Councillor Clerk
Apologises	Robin Human Emma Dare Bryan	Chairman

1671 Public Forum

The Parish Council received an email from a resident about the speeding in Preston Candover and the increase in incidents since the opening of the pub. The Clerk invited the resident to join the meeting to talk about the issues and the options for encouraging drivers to keep to the 30mph limit.

The five members of the public are all residents of Preston Candover and reported excessive speed late in the evening with driver travelling towards Alresford and Basingstoke. It was suggested that the Parish Council use the speed guns to record the numbers of cars and their speeds in the village. Cllr Sherbrooke explained that the speed watch is manned by volunteers and at least three people are required to sit by the road, one to operate the gun, one to record the speed and one to record the number plate. It is therefore not a quick process to set up a team as the volunteers would require training.

Cllr Sherbrooke explained that the smiley face speed indicator does collect data including the number of vehicles each hour and the speeds. It does not collect number plates so no action can be taken from the data.

Cllr Henderson informed the Parish Council that 70-80% of deaths resulting from speed occur on rural roads while only 5-6% are on motorways. Cllr Henderson suggested that Sam Whitfield from the Hampshire Highways Team be invited to the Parish to look at options to reduce speed but agreed that robust data showing speeds in Preston Candover would be important.

Action: Cllr Henderson to invite Sam Whitfield to visit the parish to assess what speed reduction options are available and costs.

Action: Clerk to collect the Speed Indicator from Brown Candover and install outside Old Timbers and Preston Farm to collect current data to add to the data collected earlier in the year.

Cllr Kennelly informed the residents that speeding has been a concern for some years. Cllr Henderson arranged a visit with Cllr Bowerman, Executive Member for Highways and Waste at HCC to look at speeding in Preston Candover. The Parish Council are looking for a reduction in the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph, Overton have got this change implemented recently. Cllr Kennelly also informed the residents that the Parish Council is due to receive £40,000 as a Community Fund following the installation of the solar farm at Preston Farms. The Councillors are aware that speeding will be one of the projects that the community would like to see the funds spent on.

Cllr Connor explained that the changes in Local Government will mean that when North Hampshire Unitary Authority is in place that they will take responsibility for speed limits and there is a push to make all rural village 20mph.

The Vice Chairman confirmed that any updates would be communicated to residents and that when the Community Fund has been received along with details of options that a community event will be planned to allow residents to see what could be done and make comments.

1672 Borough Councillor updates

Cllr Connor informed the Council that the planning application for 2,500 new homes at Upper Swallick is in question due to the lack of water in the aquifer. The new Prime Minister may also change the housing allocations.

Plans for two large warehouses at Popham have been approved and there is the possibility of additional units at the site. Residents in Dummer are concerned that traffic will not follow the designated route onto the M3 particularly if there is congestion and will instead drive through the village.

1673 County Councillor update

Cllr Henderson explained that she is the Executive Member For Education at HCC but also is involved with care including Adult Social Care and Children in Care. HCC currently have 45 adults in care facilities at a cost of £1,000 per month, this along with the costs of children in care means 80% of Hampshire County Council's budget is spent on care.

The recent reforms to support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) means that more funding has been given to HCC from Central Government. This additional funding has meant that pupils can be supported to remain in mainstream schools. Cllr Henderson explained that the concerns of rural residents is of particular interest including increased light pollution which affects wildlife. Development like the warehouses at Popham will increase the artificial light and negatively impact the rural infrastructure in the area.

An option has been taken on the site for the new hospital at junction 6 of the M3, this new hospital will serve Basingstoke, Winchester and Andover.

Hampshire Highways received an additional £15million for resurfacing across the county, it is estimated that the total cost is £60million. Residents are encouraged to report any issues with the roads or road signs through the Hampshire website or app. A reference number is generated and Cllr Henderson offered to chase up any which are not mended in a timely way.

1674 Apologies for absence and welcome

Clerk had received apologies from the Chairman and Cllr Dare Bryan. The Vice Chairman chaired the meeting in the Chairman's absence.

1675 Minutes of the last meeting

The Councillors confirmed that the minutes were a true record of the last meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026. The Clerk to provide a copy of the minutes for the Vice Chairman to sign at the meeting.

1676 Matters arising

Update on the Community Fund from the Solar Farm at Preston Farms – Katie Williams, Senior Project Manager at British Solar Renewables (BSR) emailed the Clerk on 9th July that:
This is with our Asset Management Team now who will be able to advise when payment will be made.

1677 Financial Statement

The Clerk circulated the financial report prior to the meeting.

The Clerk applied for a grant from the Candover Valley Community Store towards the new defibrillator as agreed at the last meeting, the Community Store agreed to fund 50% of the unit and so transferred £550 to the Parish Council.

- Payment to make at meeting:
 - Grass cutting in May - £210.00.
 - Grass cutting in June - £210.00.
 - Play Area Inspections (2026/27) - £337.00
 - Clerk's salary (April to June) - £850.20
 - Payroll Service (2026/27) - £130.50

The Councillors approved all payments.

At the Annual Meeting in May, the Clerk informed the Council that the Internal Auditor recommended that a Payroll specialist be engaged to look after the Clerk's salary and PAYE. DM Payroll Services were recommended by a local parish and the Clerk has engaged their services. In addition a direct debit was recommended to pay HMRC each quarter the PAYE due. Councillors approved this and the direct debit mandate was signed.

Action: Clerk to forward mandate.

HMRC have written to the Parish Council that the account is in credit by £1,061.06, this is due to employers being able to claim the first £5,000 of salaries as except from PAYE. It was agreed that no payment would be made to HMRC for this quarter.

1678 Flooding

The Councillors agreed to review the maintenance work to the grips and ditches for November 2026 at the next meeting. The work was not carried out in 2025 and it was agreed that it should be done very other year.

Action: Clerk to add to the next agenda.

1679 Rights of Way

Cllr Kennelly reported that there were two issues with signage which have been sent through to Hampshire. The Clerk asked that if the public identified any rights of way which are overgrown to report them and the Lengthsman can clear them as part of their visit.

1680 Parish Council website

The Clerk informed Councillors that the website is up to date.

1681 Planning

The Parish Council have had two applications since the last meeting, they are:

- **The Rectory (T/00244/26/TCA)** – tree works
- **Land at East of Wield Road (26/01072/FUL)** – Construction of 8 dwellings, garages, and associated works with access onto Wield Road from existing entrance.

The tree work at the Rectory has been approved and work has started on the trees listed.

The Parish Council submitted comments on the application for the land on Wield Road along with traffic data.

The Councillors asked that their thanks be recorded to Cllr Dare Bryan for all the work on the response.

1682 Children's Play Area

The Inspection Report is as follows:

Asset Name	Finding Title	Risk Level
slide	Item - Damaged	Low
slide	Other / Miscellaneous	Low
agility multi-linked items Surface	Item - Not Secure	Low
agility multi-linked items	Item - Broken	Very Low
Twin seat springy	Surface - Holes	Medium
Site - Preston Candover Parish Council	Surface - Holes	Medium
frame & net	Timber - Decay	Low
frame & net	Item - Cap missing	Very Low

The Clerk explained to residents that the surface holes are the areas where children run around the play equipment and the contract who cuts the grass regularly fills these in.

1683 Highways

Cllr Sherbrooke suggested that the work the Parish Council does on ensuring standing water does not pool on the roads, will help keep the road surface in better condition. The area in Axford on the crossroads where the drain blocks needs to be maintained by Hampshire Highways as the Parish Council can't work on the road or road drains.

1684 General Correspondence

The Clerk had been made aware that one of the comments on the Wield Road application had the following comment:

"Finally with the parish council having allocated the use of the recreation field to a Basingstoke football club the congestion on a match day with +30 cars for players plus 20 cars for supporters on a field that had no planning permission for such volumes of traffic will again cause chaos."

The Parish Council do not own or manage the Recreation Ground, it is owned by a family who have granted a lease to the Football Club, who maintain it.

1685 Dates of next meeting

- Monday 21st September 2026 (7:30pm).

The meeting closed at 9:00pm.