

Prestbury Parish Council

Clerk: Simon Dove
Telephone: 01242 575129
E-Mail: parishclerk@prestbury-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Office
The Pavilion
New Barn Close
Prestbury
Cheltenham GL52 3LP

MINUTES OF FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th July 2019 IN THE LIBRARY

Present: Cllrs J Payne (Chair) **JP**, R Stark **RS**, K Bishop **KB**, C Hunt **CH**, I Bassett-Smith **IB-S**, L Langrish **LL**, P Kennard **PK**, C Simpson **CS**, J Slater **JS**, I McAllister **IM**.

MINUTES

ITEM No	ITEM	ACTION
19/41	Welcome	
19/42	To Receive and Accept Apologies Clerk and BJ. Resignation of MO announced	
19/43	To Note Declaration of Interest Nil	
19/44	Questions from the Public, welcomed	
19/45	To Confirm Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 th June 2019 and to receive the Minutes of the Planning Meetings for June 2019. Minutes confirmed and signed by Chairman	
19/46	Matters Arising 19/31 Completed 19/33 Hedge growth reported, but no action yet taken 19/34 Defibrillator task completed 19/34 Developer damage at Robson Field – Ongoing 19/37 Promotion of new website - Ongoing 19/37 New Office PC – Completed, but problems with BT broadband	
19/47	Reports from Borough and County Councillors GCC: JP provided an overview of recent business at GCC. Highlights were concerns with school standards, protection for terminally ill employees, reduction in funding support for pupils going to secondary schools, cross party support agreement to establish a 2021 youth council CBC: JP advised that no CBC meeting had taken place since June Parish Council meeting. The overview and Scrutiny Committee had reviewed the proposals for changes to recycling at the Swindon Lane depot and	

	<p>further consultation is to take place.</p> <p>Starvehall Farm Developments: Bloor will be leaving the site in Nov 19 and at present the issue of the “Bus Gate” on Barley Road (Planning Condition No 30) remains unresolved. Installation of the Bus Gate requires a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). No bus company at present wishes to use Barley Road and GCC has no intention of installing the control system. It seems likely that the solution will be that Bloor/Bovis will leave a deposit of £95K to meet a future need and that the interim solution to prevent through traffic on Barley Road will be to leave movable “planters” across the road.</p>	
19/48	<p>Reports from Councillors.</p> <p>HB and CH Suggested an end of year local business showcase event to promote Prestbury High Street businesses.</p> <p>RS provided an update report on the Furlong Rise development and the proposals for the development of the Pittville school upper sports field. Bovis have advised that it is likely that they will complete the Furlong Rise properties in the Autumn and are looking to leave the site in Nov 19. Little has changed in respect of the Pittville School development with MP Alex Chalk’s office confirming that he has intervened with the Dept of Edn to try and reverse their decision (and that of Sports England) not to build on the playing fields.</p> <p>JB welcomed JS back onto the Parish Council advising that he has asked her to review the PPC structure, responsibilities and size and look at risks potentially facing the Council.</p>	
19/49	<p>Reports from Committee Chairman</p> <p>1.Allotments committee</p> <p>With the resignation of MO due to personal reasons, JP is temporarily taking over this sub-committee. There was little to report with all rents for plots now paid and a waiting list of 10. A decision on whether to hold the Annual Produce Show is yet to be made.</p> <p>2.Planning and Development</p> <p>IB-S summarised the June planning applications in Prestbury and noted that no objections had been made to any of them. There was discussion on the development at 8 Bouncer’s Lane and on protecting heritage adornments on the outside of the Kings Arms during refurbishment.</p> <p>3.Playing Fields and Recreation</p> <p>CS advised members of meetings held with clubs and discussions with the Explorers Play Group regarding new flooring for the main room in the Parish Pavilion and its cost (estimate £2K). Concerns were raised in respect of the need for competitive quotes and contractual issues on the Parish Council’s responsibility to meet such costs and H&S liability arising.</p> <p>Parish Clerk to review the contract with the Play Group and provide Members with a better understanding of the Parish Council’s contractual responsibility to meet this request.</p>	Clerk
19/50	Update on defibrillator training.	

	CS advised that the training had taken place with a good turnout. This prompted a discussion on the location of other defibrillators and the need for regular serviceability checks every 2 weeks. HB offered to carry out such checks and this offer was accepted.	HB
19/51	Update on Barley Road Bus Gate Barley Road Bus Gate: Covered above under item 19/47	
19/52	Barley Road Public Open Space Development – Update LL advised that the transfer of the open space donated by Bloor to the Parish Council would be signed late this week or early next week. The steel fencing to prevent illegal vehicle access onto the site has been ordered. There is concern that the recent lack of rain is posing a serious risk to the young trees donated to the site and that some already look distressed. It was noted that a bowser had been donated, but was not at present being used. It was suggested that a white board be purchased on which the Parish Groundsman could review his regular tasks. Action (1) Parish Clerk to request the Parish Groundsman to urgently water the new trees on the Barley Road open space. Action (2) Parish Clerk to purchase and install a white board for tasking the Parish Groundsman.	Clerk Clerk
19/53	Prestbury Road Playing Fields Development – LL advised on the progress being made with identifying equipment suppliers and costs, planning applications and project timescales. Searches had been made for site utilities that could be disturbed and the needs for closure of some public access points onto the playing fields from Prestbury Road identified. LL suggested that it was now time to place on Parish Notice Boards and on the Parish website information to residents on what was planned, but the Chairman reminded the meeting that since the Parish Council had not yet formally given approval for the project to go to CBC planning officers the full Parish Council had to have sight of the total package proposed. The Chairman advised that this would involve formal presentation of the information from contractors, the financial breakdown, the proposed planning application and the need for an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council to endorse the way forward. This was agreed by Councillors. After this special meeting it would then be appropriate to place such information in the public domain through Parish notice boards, website and a public meeting. It was confirmed that the proposal costs would be met by the currently available funding, allowing also for the installation of CCTV. Action (1) LL to bring the “total package” for the development and planning application forward to a future extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council. Action (2) LL and Parish Clerk to arrange a suitable date and venue for the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council. Action (3) HS to update the earlier presentation on the parish sports field project proposal for future consultation meetings and publication on the website - after agreement by the extraordinary meeting. Action (4) LL and Parish Clerk to publicise the date and venue of the	LL Clerk, LL HS LL, Clerk

	public meeting(s) to inform residents of the playing fields proposals.	
19/54	<p>Report on the Website launch, and future programme.</p> <p>HS and PK confirmed that the new Parish website was up and running although concerns were raised that Google searches were still directing users to the “old” site. The Chairman advised he would again contact the old website providers and Google.</p> <p>Action (1) The Chairman to seek deactivation and removal of the old website and better direction from Google.</p> <p>HS noted that some Parish Councillors were having difficulty in activating their new email addresses and requested that they contact him for technical assistance</p> <p>Action (2) Parish councillors requiring assistance to contact Cllr Singh</p>	JP
19/55	<p>Finance matters – including payments</p> <p>The Chairman presented cheques to be signed to the value of £1645.73 in respect of bills to be paid on behalf of the Parish Council.</p>	
19/56	<p>Any other business</p> <p>1. HB raised the issue of large unrepaired potholes on Prestbury Road adjacent to the Tatchley roundabouts. The Chairman advised that GCC agents were aware of the damaged road surface, but that repair action was unlikely until the end of 2019.</p> <p>2. The Chairman advised of a C5 meeting to be held on 10 July and sought support from another Councillor. JS agreed to accompany.</p>	
19/57	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>Monday 12th August 2019 7.00pm Prestbury Library</p>	

Appendix 1:
Report to Prestbury Parish Council from the Borough and County Councillor.

8th July 2019

Gloucestershire County Council Meeting – 26th June 2019.

The meeting on the 26th June was for once a relatively peaceful meeting, with no demonstrations and an alarming degree of cross-party co-operation.

Motion 839 – Every Child Matters.

The proposer Cllr. Lesley Williams expressed the view that whilst many schools in Gloucestershire do provide children with good education, there are some schools that fail to deliver the required standard. With the Government's intention that all schools should become academies or part of multi academy trusts it was proposed that the Council in preparation for these changes should undertake a thorough study which would provide an analysis, district by district, of the attainment and achievements of students.

Following a short debate, the motion was approved and will become an action for the Council.

Motion – 840 – Terminally ill employees.

The proposer Cllr. Kate Haigh highlighted the fact that Council employees who become terminally ill are not protected under national disability legislation and can therefore be dismissed if they are no longer able to conduct their role.

It was proposed that those receiving a terminal diagnosis are entitled to dignity at work.

Cllr.Haigh proposed a number of recommendations to improve the conditions of those diagnosed with a terminal illness.

There was unanimous agreement that the Council should develop policies that address this issue based a good practice from other authorities and organisations.

Motion 841 – Gloucestershire Youth Council

The motion proposed by Cllr. Paul Hodgkinson identified that in Gloucestershire there were 40,000 young people between the ages of 11 and 18. He argued that the creation of Youth Councils would give the participants a sense of control in the decision-making process.

There was cross-party agreement on the benefits of Youth Councils and their potential to stem the flow of young people out of the county.

The Council agree to work to establishing a Youth Council by 2021.

Motion 842 – SkillZone

Minutes - Monthly council meeting 8th July 2019

The proposer of the Motion Cllr. Colin Hay reminded members that children newly-going to secondary school are expected to travel with much more independence than they were at primary school. He suggested that these children were particularly vulnerable to pedestrian related road traffic accidents.

Cllr. Hay

Described the Gloucestershire SkillZone as an interactive learning environment which teaches amongst other things road safety. Up until 2016 the County Council funding the admission and transport costs for Key stage 2 and 3 pupils to learn road safety. Once funding was withdrawn the number of pupils attending the SkillZONE halved.

It was agreed that the Council would explore opportunities to reintroduce the scheme to cover admission and transport costs.

Cheltenham Borough Council.

There has been no meeting of the Cheltenham Borough Council since the last Parish Council meeting.

There has been a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. One of the functions of the Overview and Scrutiny committee is to hold councillor officers and members accountable for their actions.

Cllr.Coleman the Cabinet members for the council's green agenda published a report to be considered by the Cabinet to undertake changes to the so-called bring sites and facilities on a number of car parks.

The chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee called in this proposal in order to establish if due process had been followed. The main proposal included changes to the Swindon Road bring site, where changes in layout were proposed and the removal of the green waste facility (despite 68 % of residents questioned were in favour of it remaining) and the removal of the residual waste containers. The additional space created would allow for bulkier items to be re-cycled such as carpets and mattresses.

It was recommended to remove a number of skips from car parks because of their poor condition and the difficulties in servicing the sites. There was some criticism of Ubico for allowing the skips to get into a poor state of repair.

After a long debate the Overview and Scrutiny Committee came to the conclusion that the evidence in the report was sound and had been collected appropriately, and that further consultation could now take place.

Barley Road – Bus Gate.

At the last meeting of the Parish Council the status of the Bus Gate on Barley Road was raised.

Last Monday the 1st July I met with representatives of Bloor Homes on site to discuss the options.

Bloor Homes are planning to leave Furlong Rise by November this year, however under Condition 30 of the Planning Permission they are obliged to provide a bus gate. The condition specifies which vehicles can and cannot use the bus gate, the passage of vehicles being controlled by number plate recognition cameras.

Minutes - Monthly council meeting 8th July 2019

In order to prosecute motorists who use the bus gate illegally there has to be a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in place. TRO's are issued by Gloucestershire County Council and are an expensive and protracted in their creation, typically £15k and 12 to 18 months to allow for the appropriate consultation. At the present time GCC have no intention of consulting on a TRO because there is no bus company currently interested in providing a service to Furlong Rise.

This leaves Bloor with a dilemma as they are contractually obliged to provide a bus gate. To address this issue Bloor/Bovis are seeking to amend Condition 30 by removing the obligation to provide a bus gate. To support this request Bloor/Bovis will pay GCC £95k to cover the costs of the TRO if and when it is required, and to provide funds to install the necessary equipment.

As an interim measure, planters will be placed across the highways to prevent through traffic. These planters will be maintained by Meadfleet the facilities management company.

John Payne

8th July 2019