

## Prestbury Parish Council Minutes

**Held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7pm held at the Pavilion, New Barn Close**

Members Present: Cllrs: M Hansen (MH) Chair, Sandra Attwood (SA), K Bishop (KB), J Gardner (JG), S Hope (SH), P Kennard (PK) and C Taylor (CT),

In attendance: J Tetley Parish Clerk (JT), Ian Bassett Smith, Borough Councillor (IBS), Stan Smith, Borough Councillor (SS) and 7 members of the public.

The meeting was opened at 7pm.

Item no.	Item	Action
<b>23/099</b>	Welcome by Chairman. Apologies received and accepted from Nick Atty (NA) Vice Chairman, H Breach (HB), C Hunt (CH), P Whitton (PW) and Stephan Fifield, County Councillor (SF).	
<b>100</b>	No Declarations of Interest.	
<b>101</b>	The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 (previously circulated) were approved by the Council unanimously (JG proposed and CT seconded) and were signed by MH as an accurate record.	
<b>102</b>	No matters arising from the minutes.	
<b>103</b>	<p><b>Co-option - To consider 1 application for co-option from Vince Russell (VR).</b></p> <p>The candidate for co-option, Vince Russell, addressed the Council and answered questions from councillors.</p> <p><b>THE COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOUR</b> that Vince Russell should be co-opted with immediate effect as a Councillor to fill the casual vacancy on the Council. Cllr VR signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk and participated in the remainder of the meeting as a Councillor.</p>	
<b>104</b>	<p><b>Presentation by Neighbourhood Policing Team – Police Sergeant Meredith Gosden and Police Constable Simon Silsby</b></p> <p>The police answered questions from councillors and the public. The following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The police cannot pursue electric bikes but can try to identify people riding them if they have committed an offence.</li> <li>• The demand on police is incredibly high.</li> <li>• No AI system for minor crimes.</li> <li>• Local PCSO can pop into the office to discuss how best to provide CCTV images.</li> <li>• ASB is a lot less in Prestbury than in other areas of Cheltenham.</li> <li>• There must be evidence of the crime being committed to charge someone.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All crime needs to be reported to the police, everyone affected by the same crime needs to report it.</li> <li>All crimes are risk assessed and patrols are sent to higher risks.</li> <li>Local police constables cannot do nighttime patrols in Prestbury as they are part of a nighttime economy structure where they are called to higher risk areas, for example, Cheltenham town centre. This is determined by the Chief Constable.</li> <li>Local residents should not put themselves in danger if taking photos of offenders on their mobile phones.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that a police presence would be welcome. The local PCSO to liaise with PPC regarding having the community bus in the area at agreed times.</p> <p><b>MH thanked the police for coming to the meeting and it was noted that PPC appreciate all that they do.</b></p> <p>The police left the meeting at 7.38pm.</p>	
<b>105</b>	<p><b>Adjournment to Allow for Questions from the Public</b></p> <p>A member of the public stated that Barley Road Field and Robson Field are well looked after. It was noted that councillors and volunteers have been helping to maintain the sensory garden.</p>	
<b>106</b>	<p><b>Borough and County Councillor Reports</b></p> <p><b>SS and IBS – Borough Councillors</b></p> <p>Congratulations extended to Stan Smith on his recent election as Borough Councillor for Prestbury. No report received from SS or IBS.</p> <p><b>SF - County Councillor</b></p> <p>MH outlined SF's report circulated prior to the meeting to all councillors.</p>	
<b>107</b>	<p><b>Committee Reports – F&amp;GP (MH)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The accounts for the month of September 2023 (previously circulated) were <b>APPROVED</b> by the council. Proposed by CT &amp; seconded by PK. All voted in favour with no questions.</li> <li>Mini internal audit completed. Report to be circulated when received but no issues have been highlighted.</li> </ul>	
<b>108</b>	<p><b>Committee Reports – Allotments (PK)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current number of residents on the waiting list is 54 (25 are Prestbury residents).</li> <li>There are still several plots of concern and the tenants are being contacted.</li> <li>Bonfires are not allowed until 1 November this year and there have been no complaints received so far.</li> <li>CT has joined the allotments committee.</li> </ul>	
<b>109</b>	<p><b>Committee Reports - Facman (CH)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JG outlined the FacMan minutes.</li> <li>Tennis coach invited to next FacMan meeting to discuss his concerns.</li> <li>SA reported that the mirrors are to be replaced on the sensory garden.</li> <li>It was noted that the trees needing felling around the perimeter of Robson Field have been reported to GCC. However, a member of the public stated the trees belonged to CBC. JT to contact CBC via Fix My Street.</li> <li>PPC's car park has 3 potholes, these have been filled recently but are already showing signs of sinking again. A long-term solution is required. It was</li> </ul>	<b>JT</b>

	<p>suggested that the groundsman has a bag of gravel in the yard to fill the holes as a temporary solution. To be reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anonymous donor has kindly agreed to buy another Christmas tree this year whilst the living tree grows. HEB to order tree.</li> <li>A new microphone has been purchased for the sound system.</li> </ul>	<b>HEB</b>
<b>110</b>	<p><b>Committee Reports – Planning (HB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 applications – no objections.</li> </ul>	
<b>111</b>	<p><b>Pavilion Development Working Group (PDWG)</b></p> <p>A Prestbury Pavilion Development Report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached to the minutes. MH outlined the report. It was noted that an outside storage unit has been purchased for Little Explorers so that they store their equipment in it instead of the refurbished showers.</p> <p><b>Q)</b> Any update on exporting excess electricity from the solar panels?  <b>A)</b> The clerk has completed an application form with Octopus and the account has been assigned to an account manager. The clerk was informed that it would take up to 6 weeks. Clerk to chase.</p>	<b>JT</b>
<b>112</b>	<p><b>Councillor Training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PW has completed Being a Better Councillor Part One online.</li> <li>JG has signed up for the chairman’s course in November.</li> <li>JT to send course dates to VR.</li> </ul>	<b>JT</b>
<b>113</b>	<p><b>Councillor Vacancies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vince Russell co-opted.</li> <li>It was noted that a member of the public had joined the meeting tonight as an observer with a view to being co-opted onto the council in November.</li> <li>PPC continue to reach out to residents for further co-option.</li> </ul>	
<b>114</b>	<p><b>Remembrance Service 12th November</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road closure notice received.</li> <li>Volunteers required. If anyone would like to volunteer to be a marshal at the Remembrance Service, please contact Cllr Charles Taylor.</li> <li>Service starts at 10.40am.</li> </ul>	
<b>115</b>	<p><b>23/24 Budget</b></p> <p>MH, JG and JT to liaise regarding a budget. Any proposals for a wish list should be emailed to MH or the clerk by 25<sup>th</sup> October. It was noted that PK is waiting for the CPI for October before preparing a budget for allotments.</p>	<b>MH</b>
<b>116</b>	<p><b>Idsall Car Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MH and NA met with Cllr Peter Jeffries, Deputy Leader of Cheltenham Borough Council, Cabinet Member for Finance &amp; Assets on Monday 09.10.23 at the Municipal Offices to discuss Idsall Car Park. PPC are considering the information supplied at the meeting in conjunction with PPC’s other financial commitments.</li> <li>MH outlined SF’s view on Idsall Car Park from his report circulated prior to the meeting.</li> </ul> <p>A lively discussion took place regarding Idsall Car park.</p> <p>The following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PPC’s concerns, including the beech tree, subsidence, fly tipping, costs and resurfacing regarding the car park need further clarification. PPC are not presently in a position to make any decisions.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MH asked the People Against Bureaucracy (PAB) what could be done by them to save the car park. IBS stated he was in talks with CBC and a member of the public stated that a petition containing 750 signatories against the sale would mean CBC have to debate the sale. MH asked for volunteers to compile a petition. <b>No-one volunteered.</b></li> <li>Concern was expressed regarding installing EV charging points and associated costs.</li> <li>It was noted that the wishes of <b>all the residents</b> in Prestbury Parish needed to be considered as if the PPC purchase the car park the precept would need to be increased.</li> </ul> <p>MH summed up the discussion by stating that PPC would continue informal discussions with CBC, Borough and County Councillors and review the budget.</p>	
<b>117</b>	<p><b>Policies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new Safeguarding Policy and Changing Rooms Policy, circulated prior to the meeting, were approved by the Council.</li> <li>HEB and JT to circulate further policies upon completion.</li> </ul>	
<b>118</b>	<p><b>To Consider and Approve Purchase of Portable Power Supply</b></p> <p>A new portable power supply is being considered and would be useful for the Remembrance Service. Referred to F &amp; GP for consideration. Need quotes from NA before a purchase can be made.</p>	
<b>119</b>	<p><b>Parish Reports -only by exception and only if a critical issue needs to be raised</b></p> <p>A report received and circulated prior to the meeting on alterations to existing parking restrictions on the Burgage and other locations needs consideration. It was agreed that PPC support the restrictions and JT to respond to the survey before the deadline.</p>	
<b>120</b>	<p><b>Matters for Future Consideration (not for discussion)</b></p> <p>None</p>	
	<b>The meeting closed at 8.38pm</b>	
	<b>Date of next meeting: Full Council Meeting 7pm 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at the Pavilion</b>	