

PRESTBURY

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Prestbury Parish Council Minutes

Held on Monday 17th June 2024 at 7pm at the Pavilion, New Barn Close

Members Present: Cllrs: M Hansen (MH) Chairman, H Breach (HB), J Gardner (JG), S Hope (SH), C Hunt (CH), L Langrish (LL), P Kennard (PK), C Taylor (CT), and P Whitton (PW).

In attendance: J Tetley Parish Clerk (JT), Stan Smith (SS) Borough Councillor, Jan Foster (JF) Borough Councillor and 4 members of the public.

The meeting was opened at 7.02pm.

Item no.	Item	Action
24/020	Apologies received and accepted from Nick Atty (NA) Vice Chairman, Sandra Attwood (SA), K Bishop (KB) and V Russell (VR). Stephan Fifield, County Councillor (SF) was absent.	
021	Receive Declarations of Interest (Localism Act 2011) No declarations of interest were received in relation to items on the agenda.	
022	Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 20 th May 2024 (previously circulated) were approved by majority as a correct record and signed by the chairman, Cllr Hansen.	
023	Matters arising from the previous minutes not covered in the agenda: CH clarified that members were no longer signing the attendance book. It was noted that it was not a legal requirement as attendance was noted in the minutes. The clerk added that it was an opportunity to cut down on the use of paper.	
024	Adjournment to Allow for Questions from the Public None	
025	Receive Borough and County Councillor Reports County Councillor Fifield's report was formally noted. The report is attached as appendix A at the end of these minutes. SF was absent from the meeting. Borough Councillor Foster's report was formally noted. The report is attached as appendix B at the end of this minutes. A discussion took place regarding badgers at the cemetery although the cemetery is outside the parish. Cllr Foster and Cllr Smith are investigating responsibility for the clearing of the screen on the brook at the end of Finchcroft Lane. Borough Councillor Smith - no report. Idsall Car Park - A discussion took place regarding the felling of the tree in Idsall Car Park. It was noted that this tree has been subject to serious disease fungi for many years and has consequently been monitored and managed by CBC. The tree being felled for any other reason is factually incorrect. Glebe Road flooding – Cllr Smith has requested a drainage survey.	

	<p>Footpath Southam Road -it is on highways schedule for maintenance.</p> <p>Speeding Southam Road – Cllr Smith has requested a speed survey.</p>	
026	<p>Receive F&GP Committee Report (MH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council approved the accounts (previously circulated) for the month of April 2024 by majority. The internal audit report produced remotely in June 2024 was formally received by the Council. The report states that the financial internal control procedures are satisfactory to meet the needs of the AGAR Practitioner’s Guide 2024 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. There were no questions and THE COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOUR OF APPROVAL of the report. 	
	<p>To Approve the Governance Statement 2023/24 – page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24 circulated 11.06.24</p> <p>The Annual Governance Statement was APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY by the Council and was signed by Cllr Hansen in his role as Chair and the Clerk in her role as RFO.</p>	
	<p>To Approve the Accounting Statement 2023/24 – page 5 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24 circulated 11.06.24.</p> <p>The Accounting Statements 2023/24, which had previously been signed by the Clerk as RFO, were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY by the Council and then signed by Cllr Hansen in his role as Chair.</p>	
	<p>To Approve the Risk Assessment</p> <p>The Risk Assessments were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY by the Council.</p>	
	<p>To Approve the new Financial Regulations</p> <p>The Financial Regulations were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY by the Council.</p>	
	<p>The council noted the minutes of the F&GP meeting held on 7th June 2024 which are available on the website. Further to these minutes MH noted that the sign on Windyridge Road had been repaired. A discussion took place regarding the sign.</p>	
027	<p>Receive Allotments Committee Report (PK)</p> <p>The minutes of the last Allotment Committee meeting held on 23 May 2024 are on the PPC website, there is an Appendix which covers specific plots/tenants/issues which is confidential and therefore not published. Further to these minutes PK added:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 on the waiting list and 23 are Prestbury residents. One applicant has deferred their position at the top of the waiting list. The committee continues to monitor plots which are not cultivated to the required standard and several Plots of Concern notices have been issued. Following a complaint, tenants have been reminded that plots with a border adjoining the allotment site perimeter must maintain a 0.5m minimum access strip of clear ground for maintenance. 	
028	<p>Receive Facman Committee Report (JG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council noted the minutes of the Facman meeting held on 10th June 2024 which are available on the website. <p>JG outlined the considerations for the proposal (outlined below) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £36k in earmarked reserves for the resurface of the tennis courts A cheaper interim measure has been found which has the approval of the tennis committee 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPC to continue to put £2k in the budget each year for the tennis courts • The tennis committee are happy with the current fencing <p>LL proposed approval of expenditure of £5200 plus VAT to pressure wash the two tennis courts, apply bonding application and recolour and line them allowing another 3-5 years of play. To continue to allocate £2k for the tennis courts in the budget each year.</p> <p>JG seconded the proposal and all members voted in favour.</p> <p>The following was added further to the minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB expressed his thanks to the Parish Council for their commitment to supporting young people in their sporting endeavours. The football tournament scheduled for 29th/30th June has 40 teams attending and the teams will be able to use the changing room toilets. • A discussion took place regarding the now dead Christmas Tree – deferred to Facman. 	
029	<p>Receive Planning Committee Report (HB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 applications considered in June with no objections. • Of the 20 pine trees at the racecourse station, 7 of them have been found to be diseased and need to be felled. A local resident has expressed concern regarding the felling of the trees. 	
030	<p>Receive Pavilion Development and Car Park Working Group (PDWG) Update</p> <p>Phase 3 – completed. The groundsman has been relocated.</p> <p>Phase 4 – Builders have started on the Little Explorers new area. Scheduled to finish by 31st August. It was noted that the LE’s will have a separate fuse box so a separate meter could be installed in the future if required.</p> <p>Phase 5 – Work on a new Community Hall and café will start in September.</p> <p>Car Park – 3 quotes have been received for a refurbishment of the car park extending down to the hedge and a meeting will be arranged with one company who have quoted to clarify the specifications of the quote. A discussion took place regarding EV charging points.</p>	
031	<p>Consider a request for a review of committee responsibilities and terms of reference</p> <p>It was noted that the last review was in 2021 and that F & GP recommend any review is delayed until after the Pavilion Development is complete. MH proposed the recommendation of F&GP and all members voted in favour.</p>	
032	<p>Consider email space and the need to delete emails or purchase more space.</p> <p>PK outlined the current problems with councillors not deleting emails and encouraged everyone to go through their inbox and delete unrequired emails. A far cheaper option than purchasing more space. It was agreed that all councillors would action this proposal and PK offered to help any councillor who needed it.</p>	
033	<p>Receive report from CT on the Cycle Path on Evesham Road</p> <p>CT attended the Public Share Event of the Section 2 Phase 2 of the A435 Cheltenham to Bishop’s Cleeve Cycleway. CT outlined Phase 2 of the project and details can be found using the following link: https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/a435cycleway.</p> <p>At the meeting CT asked about litter picking on Evesham Road, which has been suspended by PPC on H&S grounds due to the speed of cars, he was informed that CBC can reduce the speed temporarily to 30mph during a planned litter pick. CT to investigate.</p>	CT

	CT requested a volunteer to coordinate black sacks being handed out for the litter pick on the 29 th of June. CH volunteered.	
034	Parish Reports -only by exception and only if a critical issue needs to be raised. None.	
035	Matters for Future Consideration (not for discussion) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PK requested consideration of racecourse events and the noise impact on local residents. Cllr Smith to email any information relevant to this issue to the clerk. 	
	The meeting closed at 20.20pm	
	Date of next meeting: Full Council Meeting 7pm 15th July 2024 at the Pavilion	

Appendix A - Report from Cllr Stephen Fifield Gloucestershire County Councillor

Prestbury Parish Council Report: June 2024

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Priors Road Resurfacing

A specific page has been set up with all the correct information for the Priors Road resurfacing. You can find all sorts of information about closures and timelines. You can also find contact information if you see any issues.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/.../b4075-priors-road.../>

Again, my thanks to Highways and Cllr Dom Morris (Cabinet member for Highways and Flooding) for pushing this forward. At the Full Council of the County Council on the 22nd of May, Cllr Morris thanked me for my efforts in getting this done, and I'm really proud that my local campaign has paid dividends.

Appendix B - Report from Cllr Jan Foster Cheltenham Borough Councillor

Since being elected I have spent many hours in training. I am on the Planning Committee and the Cabinet Housing Committee, so I will spend many more!

Mayor's Inauguration

I was unable to attend last month's Parish Council meeting as it clashed with the Mayor's Inauguration

Roads

Work is due to start on Priors Road to repair the surface, on 17th so the road will be closed in the daytime.

Trees

A TPO could not be put on the Beech in the former Idsall Drive Car Park boundary as the tree is diseased and not deemed to be viable for another ten years.

The Oak Tree at Morningside Close is to be removed because it 'represents a legally actionable nuisance to the public.' The applicant and the council have explored other solutions but concluded there is no other feasible option.

Planning

A retrospective planning application at Little Duncroft for change of use of garage in Evesham Road has been refused as the planning application does not match the conditions and what has been erected. I visited the site and attended the Planning Committee meeting as I am on the committee.

Badgers in the Cemetery

There is a nuisance with a badger sett in the cemetery, so the officer has taken advice about having them relocated. I've had meetings with both the site manager and the Badger Group. The local Badger Group are not happy with this decision.

Water courses

There was a problem with the screen on the brook at the end of Finchcroft Lane being blocked with branches. I had a look and asked advice from the Flood Risk and Drainage Engineer, who also went and had a look. He is trying to find out who is responsible for that screen, but doesn't think it's Cheltenham Borough Council, although CBC is responsible for the screen further down on Fawley Drive.

Traffic on Bouncers Lane

Residents have expressed concern about traffic congestion and resulting poor air quality on Bouncers Lane, and it being used as an alternative route to Priors Road, and asked if the speed limit could be reduced to 20mph. I contacted Stephan Fifield about it.

Effects of car park closure

A local business has told me their trade has fallen dramatically at weekends since the closure of the car park. I would like to find out if the Parish Council think it would be a good idea to propose the library car park as an alternative. Although the council have started to allocate sites for electric vehicle charging, none has yet been proposed for Prestbury.

Surgeries

I am starting monthly surgeries on Saturday mornings at the library.