

PRESTBURY

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Prestbury Parish Council Minutes

Held on Monday 16th September 2024 at 7pm at the Pavilion, The Royal Oak, The Burgage

Members Present: Cllrs: M Hansen (MH) Chair, S Attwood (SA), K Bishop (KB), H Breach (HB), J Gardner (JG), S Hope (SH), C Hunt (CH), P Kennard (PK), L Langrish (LL), V Russell (VR), Bob Stark (BS), C Taylor (CT)

In attendance: Borough Councillors Jan Foster (JF) and Stan Smith (SS), and 4 members of the public.

The meeting was opened at 7.00pm.

Item no.	Item	Action
24/068	Welcome by Chairman. Apologies received and accepted from Parish Councillors Nick Atty (NA), Peter Whitton (PW); Parish Clerk Jane Tetley (JT); and County Councillor Stephan Fifield.	
069	No Declarations of Interest.	
070	The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19 th August 2024 were approved unanimously. The minutes were signed by MH as an accurate record.	
071	There were no matters arising from the minutes not covered in the agenda.	
072	Adjournment to Allow for Questions from the Public: one member of the public asked for the GWR station to be covered under agenda item 081. Another member of the public gave his account of the anti-social behaviour on the playing field on the evening of 14 September; he and his wife were thanked for their clean-up efforts on the morning of 15 September. Another member of the public, a relatively recent arrival to Prestbury, commended the Parish Council on the diversity and quality of the playing field facilities and the extended and resurfaced car park.	
073	Borough and County Councillor Reports - appended to the meeting minutes. MH expressed congratulations on behalf of PPC on SF's appointment as Deputy Leader of GCC. Borough Councillor JF noted CBC plans to dispose of the municipal offices. Borough Councillor SS noted an email he had sent the Parish Clerk regarding a scam from parish dot uk purporting to be an official business listing.	
074	Receive F&GP Committee Report (MH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council approved the accounts for the month of August 2024 (previously circulated – MH to action CT's request for circulation of the fourth financial document). MH summarised CIL payments due to PPC: £4486.33 on 28 October 2024; £3108.35 on 28 April 2025; £4381.05 and £10507.08 on 28 April 2026. The 	MH

	status of work on other approved planning applications potentially liable for CIL will be monitored by PPC.	
075	Receive Allotments Committee Report (SH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 people on the waiting list (13 local, 24 non-local) • The allotments are looking splendid; nut trees are being attended to. • SH expressed gratitude to the allotment holder representatives for their support to her as new committee chairman and to allotmentees in general. • SA will meet the head of St Mary's Junior School later this term. 	SA
076	Receive FacMan Committee Report (LL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LL's proposal to seek compensation for the hedge damage caused by the installation of a telegraph pole was accepted by the meeting; to be raised at the site meeting on 18 September. • The refurbished tennis courts will be ready for play on 18 September. • A quote for decoration of the slide and swings has been requested. • MH summarised the PPC statement on the anti-social behaviour that took place on 14 September. Solar lights and CCTV are being considered for the car park. PPC will engage residents with a view to presenting a petition for action to the Police and Crime Commissioner. • LL noted JG's request for a progress report on the Robson Field "den" debris. 	LL LL LL
077	Receive Planning Committee Report (HB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal to amend the Planning Committee terms of reference to expand membership from 5 to 7 Parish Councillors was approved unanimously. • Since the August full council meeting, 8 applications had been considered, with one objection. • No objections were raised to the Idsall Drive application; a condition to require the planting of new trees for privacy reasons was requested. 	
078	Receive monthly pavilion development and car park report and approve final phase spend on Pavilion Development project (LL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on the car park has been completed. The path to the Parish Office will be completed on 18 September, with fencing removed to permit full access on 19 September. • The function room will be completed by 27 September for occupation on 1 October. The official opening ceremony will be held on 5 October. • The working group is considering requests for community facility time and is considering an application for a Thriving Communities grant. • CT is investigating the potential for provision of temporary, mobile banking facilities in the car park. 	
079	Approve proposal to request GCC to provide pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of Park Stores, New Barn Lane: BS summarised his background document circulated prior to the meeting as well as County Councillor SF's response. The meeting gave approval for BS and SF to agree an approach to GCC.	
080	Receive progress report on planning for the November Remembrance Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CH reported that the band and bugler had been booked; BS had agreed to read the names at the service. • The Parish Clerk was asked to order a wreath and add to it the PPC logo. • CH and CT had arranged to meet PCSO Yetton to discuss road closures. • Arrangements for the PA system and electricity supply would be discussed with NA and residents of The Bank. Orders of service to and recruitment of wardens to be arranged. 	JT CH/CT

081	Receive report on the impact of potential road closures as part of the A435 Cycleway Section 2 (Racecourse Roundabout to Bishop's Cleeve): CH had established with GCC that plans were far from finalised for a possible closure of one month following the racing season; diversions could be via Hyde Lane and/or Kayte Lane. BS and a member of the public commented on the need for GWR railway bridge reinforcement that would likely require 24hr road closures.	
082	Receive report on 5 October C5 joint event: MH reminded the meeting of the 2 October closing date for registration. Cllrs PK and CT noted the usefulness of the event for networking with CBC, C5 councillors and staff, and neighbouring Parish Councils.	
083	Parish Councillor reports by exception - none	
084	Matters for Future Consideration (not for discussion): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal for review of PPC committee structures and terms of reference • Proposal for Christmas decoration competition • Consideration of possible summer festival 	MH/CH/CT CH MH
	The meeting closed at 8.10pm	
	Date of next meeting: Full Council Meeting 7pm 21st October 2024 at the Pavilion, New Barn Close	

Cllr Stephan Fifield – September 2024 report

Road Calming on Barley Road / Starvehall Farm

I am very happy to meet with any councillors or residents who may be interested in introducing road calming measures around the Barley Road area. One of the complexities of course is that the estate is still currently not adopted, and it would not surprise me that Highways were to want to wait for the adoption process to finish before introducing measures so they can take a more holistic view of the highways requirements of the estate.

Roberts Road

I have had it confirmed once again that Roberts Road is scheduled for a resurfacing, the money is there and it will happen subsequently to the surfacing of Finchcroft Lane.

Deputy Leader of Gloucestershire County Council

It's an honour to have been appointed Deputy Leader of the Gloucestershire County Council under the leadership of Cllr Stephen Davies. I hope that in the remaining 9 months of the current term that I can use this influence to continue delivery for the people of Prestbury especially around roads and pavements.

Cllr Stan Smith – September 2024 report

An overgrown garden in Linden Close, with environmental and the Council looking to get it sorted out. I'm waiting for feedback.

Regarding speeding on Southam Road, the police, are now doing speed checks regularly. I am waiting for the reports, to come back to me with the results.

Overgrown footpath in Southam Road, from Shaw-cross Green Lane to Lexton Medow, have taken more photos of the footpath and sent them to contact at highways. A new reference number is 11452593. So once again waiting for updates.

Have been dealing with a resident with a planning problem and it is now been sorted out.

See also: <https://www.pab.org.uk/2024/08/22/stans-august-blog/>

Cllr Jan Foster – September 2024 report

Prestbury

Post office facilities

The Post Office have asked me to spread the word that on Mondays and Fridays, 9.30 – 17.00 and Saturdays 10.00 – 16.00 there will be 'light' Post Office facilities at Dearly Pre-Loved: parcel drop-off and collection, bill payment and mobile top-up. Sadly not banking! I'm sure Parish Councillors are already aware, but I am spreading the word as requested. Visit [Consultation Hub – Prestbury High St Drop & Collect GL52 3AR](#) for details.

Planning

24/01353/FUL application for the erection of 1 dwelling in what was Idsall Drive Car Park.
Various other applications for extensions, new windows and the like that are all anticipated to be delegated decisions.

Trees

24/01417/CACN Application for crown reduction on a maple and a pine in Morningside Courtyard.

The Council has adopted an updated **Tree Inspection Protocol** which includes an Ash Die-back Management Plan. Although this is an operational matter it has been made public because of "its borough wide coverage and the extent of tree stock in the council's ownership".

Parklands Community Centre – although this is in Oakley, it is used by some Prestbury residents. You may be aware of crowdfunding pages claiming that the council wants to close it. I have been informed by the council officers that the council does not at present have any such plans.

Rushy Mews – there has been disquiet at Rushy Mews for many months. I finally managed to contact the Area Manager for Anchor, who runs the site, and she assures me that the issues are being addressed by all parties concerned. While most of the complaints were beyond the scope of the Borough Council, there was a question that a boundary fence erected and left in situ by the developers of the adjacent land, which restricted access to Rushy Mews' boundary hedge, constituted non-compliance with their original planning obligations, but in the event it turned out not to be part of the original planning agreement and the Borough Council have no authority to have it removed.

Roads - I've had complaints about Roberts Road and about pavements at various locations which I've passed on to Highways and the County Councillor.

Cheltenham town

Graffiti - The council have accepted a grant from The Gloucestershire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, for £15,000, for a pilot scheme to remove graffiti.

Paint festival - I've asked Richard Gibson - Head of Communities, Wellbeing and Partnership - to consider that the council should take more accountability for the subjects of murals in the Paint Festival, as the Council are sponsors. Some murals have caused offence, so I've suggested the council could perhaps sponsor specific sites or artists and consult with the public about what they want before the next Paint Festival, rather than just giving blanket sponsorship. While I am generally against censorship, if you spend public money on art in public spaces, there is a strong argument that you need to be accountable to the public. Of course, not everyone agrees!

Chewing gum – the council have started to remove chewing gum from the town streets, having been awarded a grant of £26,500 for the purpose from The Chewing Gum Task Force.

Electric Vehicle Charging Hubs – these are planned to be rolled out in council car parks starting with St James Street, Bath Terrace and Church Piece, scheduled to be in place by the end of November, (subject to various technical conditions) with more to follow in other Cheltenham car parks through 2025. I suggested to Cllr Alisha Lewis, cabinet member for finance and assets, that it might be useful to consult with Prestbury Parish Council about a suitable site in Prestbury. However she explained that the Borough Council are leasing the space on council owned car parks for cost efficiency. She did hint that some funding might be available from the council for an EV point on non-Borough Council land through a community fund, but nothing definite and I don't know if the Parish Council have even thought about it.

The Electoral Register -The annual canvass to keep the electoral register up-to-date has started and texts and emails are being sent urging constituents to check their details are correct. Those for whom the council doesn't have e-contact details will receive notification by post.

Training and Meetings

The Borough Council provides ongoing training to councillors. Recently we've had training on Property Compliance and a very interesting presentation on The Cheltenham Trust and how it partners with the Borough Council. The most useful training for me personally this month will probably be 'Time Management for Councillors'.

August was quiet with some meetings cancelled. I attended Cheltenham Green Party AGM on 11th September. I shall be attending the Planning Committee meeting on 19th September and Appointments and Remuneration meeting on 26th.