

The Preston Trust Meeting Minutes

23rd November 2017

Apologies

Brian Waters

Elizabeth Hunter

John Robinson

Rae Reynolds

Review of recent events

All

CPRE talk

A good talk, if depressing due to the pressures on our rural areas.

Regarding the "Your Countryside Needs You!" campaign request for donations, the response to our question was that it is about raising funds to pay lawyers.

Getting an AONB designation is good for protecting areas from development.

Agreed – Not to fund YCNY, but to join CPRE for a year

Litter pick

Successful event - huge turnout. No issues or comments raised.

Noted that there is loads of litter again.

Raised that there is a lot of rubbish in the wooded area on Back Lane on the opposite side of the lane from the School Playing Ground and adjacent meadow. Also a similar issue in the small coppice that is part of the "Wastes of the Manor" at Sootfield Green.

Action - consider forming a working party to clear the rubbish from the wooded area in Back Lane as a proof of concept for targeting specific problem areas.

Newsletter and response incl. Village Day suggestions

No feedback received - defer making any decisions until the next meeting.

Finance and Membership update

RY

Healthy balance – two new members, nothing else to report.

Plans for Christmas Tree installation and lighting RC

Materials and People

RC - The Tree has been ordered, delivered and paid for. Pub, Choir and Music booked, hymn sheets done.

AC will get more ballast - estimate less than £20

The Preston Trust main objectives:

- To enhance and preserve Preston for the benefit of all the villagers and visitors.
- To secure the preservation and protection of features of historic or public interest, including the village's history.
- To promote high standards of planning and architecture.
- To support financially and promote any purpose for the benefit of villagers and in particular, its children and senior citizens.

Competition

Arranged with school for the competition.

RC Will contact Diane to arrange collection, AC to judge entries.

RC to get the prizes AC will drop them off

Putting up the Tree

Agreed 10 am on Saturday 2 Dec to start putting up the tree.

Will put a note out on PNS

Food and Drink -

Action - Ask Ray and Jo if they would buy and we pay, otherwise ask JR.

Update - Jo will get Mince Pies and JR will organise the other food and beverages.

Luton airport - technical matters from last meeting TJ

MK - Ladacan really only able to do noise limitation.

TJ - Started with Definitions. Changes to navigation procedure does not indicate that planes will be flying closer - however the new RNAV based navigation allows planes to "cut the corner". The new procedure should result in a much tighter flight corridor - but not over us.

TJ recommends we stay with LADACAN as our best option.

Possible Action - At some point TJ and WS may put a guide with links on the web site.

TJ - informed us that In terms of expansion the geography (built and natural) of Luton Airport Runways would make it uneconomical.

Your Country Needs You campaign RW

Agreed not to make a donation -

as we would get more a sympathetic reception at any inquiry if we do not go "all lawyered up". Refer bak to "Recent Events - CPRE" above.

History plaque RC

Deferred

Website TJ/WS

WS and TJ demonstrated aspects of the new site which is under development.

It is likely that the site will be ready for go-live by the end of the year.

Permissions can be granted for users to update their parts of the website, so will contact Lisa Lathane (PC) and Richard Gill (St Martin's)

PNS and other publicity to be decided shortly.

Village Hall accessibility RC

There is a small ramp suitable for the back door and between the hall and kitchen - although this has to be moved between the two doorways as needed. There is a longer ramp which provides access from the rear corridor up to

the rear door of the hall, however this leaves any wheelchair or scooter a problem of a drop from the door threshold to the floor level of the hall.

Action RC will contact appropriate person on Village Hall committee about ramp etc to handle threshold down in to hall from rear corridor. RY will supply details and number of person to contact.

Impact of PT not having a Secretary

RR

Deferred

Action RR - if asking Charity Commission for advice please also ask about changing to other type of charity as committee are currently personally liable.

PT Insurance event coverage

RY/RW

RY has clarified with the insurer

- We are OK to erect the tree providing we follow HSE guidelines for Steps etc.
- Other events are good if not extreme activities or more than 500 people.
- The Xmas lights need to be PAT tested every 2 years.
- We have to be particularly mindful of electrical and trip/entanglement risk of any wiring at events.

Involvement in Christmas Children In Need ramble

AC

Reply from Children in Need regarding insurance was simply ask your local council.

Given that it is not a Preston Trust managed event we can't extend our insurance.

Discussion over BBQ suggestion, but decided weather might not be favourable, so not to offer this.

Agreed trust will support via PNS but not otherwise get involved.

We may look at organising other rambling event s and possibly providing refreshments if the Christmas Ramble shows an appetite for this type of events. In this case we would talk to the Monday Walking group for advice, routes and to avoid any clashes of interest.

Update on Neighbourhood Plan

RR/WS

WS reported that the Steering Group have a draft plan that is being reviewed by an independent consultant. The current aim is to be able to start the Regulation 14 consultation (sharing it with the community and interested parties) sometime in January.

PNS

AC

170 people on database - about 70% of village represented

Some e-mail addresses are returning delivery failure reports.

Action - AC will contact PNS subscribers returning failure messages to resolve.

Action - AC, RC consider new campaign targeting non-subscribers to join.

Welwyn Services gravel pit

BW (ref email)

Vicars Grove is the correct name. Not sure who owns - was Bill Taylor. Richard Taylor may be the owner. Planning applications rest with owner. The obligation is that it is restored to original state CC are not good at enforcement.

The Preston Trust Agenda

MK advised that it is in St. Ippolytes Parish but borders us and the Parish Council(PC) has legitimate concerns regarding traffic movements. Planning consent has expired. PC target getting operations stopped, about 6 months ago CC advised they would enforce and it has stopped. At the moment key objective achieved, however what next?

MK - advises "We should support the Councils".

Action RC to contact and ask how we can help ensure it is restored or the future use.

Next meetings

All

Thursday 1st February 2018 - venue TBA

AOB

None