

21.78) To consider matters arising not already on the agenda

21.78.1 PHC: The Chairman informed the meeting that PHC is now on the market, with offers to be made by the 19th November 2021.

21.78.2 Oak Tree: A village resident has offered to prune back the Oak Tree in Church Meadow; the offer has been accepted with thanks.

21.79) Finance

21.79.1) To authorise non-contractual payments and note payments to date

Preston Parish Council - Summary Financial Report as at 18th October 2021

Community Account

		£	£
Balance as at:	9th September 2021		<u>£ 514.13</u>
Payments authorised at meeting:			
Date	Recipient		
20th September 2021	NHDC - Rent for Church Meadow	£	100.00
27th September 2021	E.on	£	32.09
27th September 2021	Clerk Wages	£	324.87
18th October 2021	NHDC - Refuse Collection	£	221.04
			<u>£ 678.00</u>
Monies received:			
Date	From		
10th September 2021	NHDC - Precept	£	4,150.00
14th September 2021	Locality Budget Grant	£	150.00
			<u>£ 4,300.00</u>
Balance as at:	18th October 2021		<u>£ 4,136.13</u>

Business Premium Account 1

Balance as at:	9th September 2021	<u>£ 32,430.42</u>
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Payments authorised at meeting:		
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Date	Recipient	
18th October 2021	Money moved to Business Premium Account 2	£22,430.42
		<u>£22,430.42</u>

Monies Received		<u>£ -</u>
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Balance as at:	18th October 2021	<u>£ 10,000.00</u>
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Business Premium Account 2

Balance as at:	9th September 2021	<u>£ -</u>
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Payments authorised at meeting:		
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Date	Recipient	
		<u>£0.00</u>

Monies Received		<u>£22,430.42</u>
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18th October 2021	Money received from Business Premium Account 1	£22,430.42
		<u>£ 22,430.42</u>

Balance as at:	18th October 2021	<u>£ 22,430.42</u>
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Total bank balances	£ 36,566.55
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The clerk explained that she has moved the money received from the recent sale of land into Business Premium Account 2. This money needs to be separate from the other accounts and has to be spent on specific items. The criteria and possible options for this money will be considered at the next meeting.

The Locality Budget Grant has been received. The clerk will email Richard Blockley regarding making a donation to the Church for grass cutting. Councillor Stark and Malcolm Lowle will be copied in.

Members agreed that the donation would be for £120 to take into consideration the £30 that the Church will need to pay the Parish Council for printing costs of the village newsletter.

21.79.2) Budget

The members noted the current budget.

Action: The clerk to contact Richard Blockley regarding the grass cutting donation.

21.80) Planning

21.80.1: To consider any new planning applications

- **Reference 21/02632/FP - Land Adjacent To Dungarvan, Back Lane, Preston, Hertfordshire, SG4 7UJ**

The members agreed the Parish Council's response to the planning application.

The developer and the Planning Officer have confirmed that there will be Section 106 payments available for this development. Councillors will consider ideas before the next meeting.

- **Reference 21/02812/FPH - 11 Chequers Lane, Preston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7TX.**

It was agreed to support this application.

- **Reference 21/02888/FPH - Reference 21/02888/FPH 5 Dower House Hitchin Road Preston Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7TZ. Erection of triple car port and front porch.**

It was agreed to support this application.

- **Reference 21/02878/FPH 5 Dower House Hitchin Road Preston Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 7TZ. Erection of two detached timber outbuildings.**

It was agreed to support this application.

21.80.2: To note decisions and appeals

- **Reference 21/02253/FPH – Westleigh, Church Lane.** This application has received Conditional Permission.
- **Reference 21/02569/FPH – 15 Chequers Lane:** This application has received Conditional Permission.
- **Reference 21/02149/FPH - Orchard House:** Following a meeting with the Chairman and Vice Chairman and the property owner, the Parish Council

supported this application and requested that a condition be put on consent that a dropped kerb is not included as it is not appropriate in this rural setting and that the surface of the drive should be gravel or shingle but not tarmac.

21.80.3: To consider any other planning matters pertinent to the Parish Council

None

Action: The clerk will submit the Parish Council's responses to the applications above.

21.81) Request to buy a small piece of Wastes of the Manor Land

The resident of Hartings would like to buy a small portion of Wastes of the Manor Land to tidy up her boundary. The Chairman has explained the process and that if the resident decides to pursue this, she will have to pay all the Parish Council expenses. The process will be as before, the Parish Council will have to apply for the piece of land to be deregistered.

Members agreed to sell this piece of land and the Chairman will speak to the resident about having the land valued before the process to de-register it is started.

Action: The Chairman to liaise with the resident of Hartings and organise the valuation of the land.

21.82) NHDC Survey on District Councillor Elections

NHDC are consulting on whether District Councillors should continue to be elected by thirds, one third every year, or whether all councillors should be elected for a 4-year period at the same time. Members agreed that Councillors should continue to be elected by thirds to ensure some continuity remains. The clerk will respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

Action: The clerk to respond to the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

21.83) Clerk's Report

Salt for gritting has been ordered and will be delivered to Councillor Clark.

21.84) Playground Report

NHDC are booked to carry out the Playground Inspections.

21.85) Hertfordshire Highways Report

21.85.1: Road closure: A permit has been issued effective 1 November 2021 valid for 18 months to close Hitchwood Lane between Whitwell Road and School Lane (except for access) to allow Highways to carry out drainage works.

21.85.2: Flooding on Church Lane: There has been a significant amount of flooding on Church Lane. Councillor Marshall will liaise with her contacts at Highways to escalate the issues that continue to happen with flooding in this area.

Action: Councillor Marshall to contact Highways to try to get this situation resolved.

21.86) Parish Paths Partnership

None

21.87) Cricket Club Representation

21.87.1: Pavilion Heating: Oliver Russell has reviewed the pavilion heating system and recommends changing all the heaters to panel heaters which can be programmed and also have thermostats on them so they would not waste power. There are 8 heaters in the pavilion. To replace them all would cost £1640.00, including removal and disposal of the old heaters and installation of the new ones.

Two of the large existing heaters have timer plugs so Nigel Biggs has set these for the winter, leaving the internal doors open.

It was agreed that decisions to replace the heaters should be put on hold until more is known about the possibility of extending the pavilion. Nigel Biggs will be asked to obtain and fit thermostat plugs to the two heaters with timer plugs, so they only come on at a certain temperature.

21.87.2: Kitchen Grant: The Chairman met Nigel Biggs, at his request, to discuss the options of a grant for the pavilion kitchen. If the Herts League decides that teas will not be provided again next season, an application will not be submitted.

21.87.3: Storage Shed Door: The door of the shed is too narrow to allow easy access for the grass cutting vehicle so the cricket club has asked if 30cm could be removed from the side of the shed and a new door installed. The Chairman contacted Royal Doors to see if this work is feasible and has received a quote for £1795.00

Councillor Marshall suggested the possibility of modifying the door “in-house” so the Cricket Club will be asked to look into this before any decision is made.

21.87.4: Work on exterior of pavilion: The Chairman explained the work which is required on the exterior of the pavilion. A specialist carpenter is required so it was agreed that John Garnham would be asked to quote for this work.

Action: Councillor Burleigh agreed to take these items to the Cricket Club meeting which is being held on Tuesday 26 October.

21.88) Correspondence Received

No correspondence has been received.

21.89) Matters for future consideration

The budget, criteria for spending money from land sale, pond dredging and the shed door at the pavilion.

Date and Time of next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting: Thursday 2nd December 2021 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

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