

# Preston's Neighbourhood Plan

## Supporting New Community Facilities

The Preston Parish Neighbourhood Plan has been developed to establish a vision for the whole Parish and to help deliver the local community's wishes and needs for the plan period 2018 – 2031.

The sections pasted below are those relevant to the New Community Facilities project, which demonstrates the projects alignment with the vision for the Parish as laid out in the Neighbourhood Plan.

### Living in Preston (Quality of Life)

Objective Q1: To encourage the provision of opportunities for social interaction through education, cultural, leisure and sport for all members of the community.

#### **Policy QL1: Social Interaction:**

Development proposals for cultural, leisure, sport or commercial activities will be supported where they improve, maintain or make alternative provision for social interaction.

*See also Policy AF1 and Policy AF2*

### Amenities and Facilities

Residents of Preston would like a shop. Although many acknowledge the impracticalities of a local store, it is certainly the addition to the village most desired, as illustrated by the survey. The shop could be a community run business and the feasibility of a community shop has been added to the Project List. Following that, there is a desire for more activities for young people, especially teenagers, and some demand for tennis courts or a football pitch / club.

For the purpose of the Preston Parish Neighbourhood Plan, a community facility is a building, land or other structure that provides a service or facilitates recreation for the inhabitants of Preston.

#### **Policy AF1: New and Improved Community Facilities:**

Proposals for new or improved community facilities will be supported unless any adverse impacts would significantly outweigh the benefits. Improvements should improve accessibility for children, the elderly and those with disabilities.

*See also Community Rights paragraphs A & B*

An important objective for this plan is to sustain and support, where appropriate, the development of facilities for the parish, particularly as the number of inhabitants will increase with potential new development

Objective A1: To support all existing amenities, facilities and services available in the parish and new ventures where appropriate for the benefit of the community.

Objective A2: To support existing businesses and promote businesses and employment opportunities on a scale compatible with Preston Parish's rural character.

Objective H4: To support developments which have a low carbon footprint and are eco-friendly.

## Transport and Communication

Objective T1: To support and encourage safe and sustainable transport, including walking and cycling.

## Community Rights

6.5 The parishioners of Preston have a proven track record of pioneering community ventures.

### B) Community Right to Build:

Combined with other rights, this right may be used to ensure that any development within the parish is consistent with the needs and wants identified in the Neighbourhood Plan Survey 2017 and any subsequent consultations. It would involve the community carrying out the building project and may, for example, ensure that a development meets the community requirements for a mix of housing and affordability or provides a new village hall.

## Preston Parish Implementation Plan

Preston Parish Council will lead on and monitor the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan with a full review every five years to ensure that the policies remain in line with the North Hertfordshire Local Plan and any changes to national legislation. Within the context provided by the emerging North Hertfordshire Local Plan 2011-2031 the Parish Council will assess the need or otherwise for a review of the Neighbourhood Plan within twelve months of the adoption of the emerging Local Plan.

## Preston Parish Project List

Other points and ideas raised through the Neighbourhood Plan Survey and during the Regulation 14 Consultation have been incorporated into a Project List. These ideas fall outside of the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan but may be taken forward by interested parties and some may be guided by the Parish Council.

Community projects Section 106	Identify projects that could be proposed to improve facilities that would serve and benefit the community using Section 106 monies, ensuring that they meet the criteria agreed between NHDC, the developer and the Parish Council.	Ongoing	Preston Parish Council in conjunction with NHDC.
Community Projects General	Investigate general projects (future and identified in the Neighbourhood Plan consultations) that could improve facilities to serve and benefit the community - see village shop and village hall below.	As opportunity arises	Preston Parish Council and/or interested groups who wish to pursue initiatives.
Village Shop	Many residents have highlighted the need for a village shop. Any individual or group wishing to provide one should develop a business plan to ensure that it is a viable project.	As the need arises	Interested groups who wish to pursue this initiative.
Village Hall	Many residents have highlighted the need for a new, larger village hall. Any individual or group wishing to investigate the feasibility of this should contact the Parish Council with a detailed business plan. The Parish Council are custodians of the Village Hall which is owned by the Seebohm Trust, a registered charity which ensures that the Village Hall is maintained for use by the residents of Preston.	At an appropriate time for the interested groups.	Interested groups who wish to investigate this should present a viable business plan to the Parish Council.