

The Preston Trust Position On The New Community Facilities Project

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With regard to the role of The Preston Trust, **our current intention is to maintain a neutral position on the proposed community facility.** However, one of The Trusts primary objectives, and its original raison d'être, is to protect Preston and its environs from poor development and hold planners to the highest possible standards.

To that end in the short term:

- We may fact check statements in a PNS message request, advise of issues and/or moderate any that may mislead or offend – regardless of the source or whether the sender is promoting or has concerns about the proposed new facilities
- We will facilitate the communication needs of any group in the community who feel their wishes and concerns are going unheard compared to those who have a platform
- Continue to facilitate communication from the established key parish organisations.

Once sufficient information is available to justify time and cost, we may:

- Engage our independent planning consultant to assess the benefits and risks
- Talk to (and possibly engage) the traffic planning consultants we spoke to regarding the Castlefield development
- Engage an independent accountant who specialises in review and due diligence of community and charitable projects to go over published business plans.

In the medium to long term, as events unfold and depending on the outcomes of the above, the Trust may choose to: support, stay neutral, make representations asking for changes or object to the proposed community facility.

At all times individual committee members are free to state their own personal views and concerns as long as it is clear that is what they are. The committee is a broad church – rest assured that in various combinations we share and always work to understand your views.

The Preston Trust committee – Adrian, Jo, Liz, Rae, Tim, Vicky and Wal