

Parish of Preston

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Thursday 11th July 2024 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors: Sharon Anderson, Julie Buckland, Matt Burleigh, Jane Clark, Andy Hill, Ali Morecroft, Margaret Trinder (Chairman)

In Attendance: Two members of the public and Lisa Lathane (Clerk and RFO)

2.1) (Agenda 1) To receive and accept apologies for absence
None.

2.2) (Agenda 2) Chairman's Remarks
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman informed the meeting that HAPTC has organised a Zoom Call on Friday 2nd August, 10-11am, with our new MP Alistair Strathern for Parish Councillors to discuss local community issues. Anyone wishing to attend should RSVP to sue@haptc.org.uk

2.3) (Agenda 3) Declarations of Interest
None

2.4) (Agenda 4) To adopt minutes of the previous meeting
These were adopted and were signed by the Chairman.

2.5) (Agenda 5) To consider matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda
Proposed Shop and Coffee House: The Parish Council has been informed by Pilkington Farm Partnership that they have withdrawn their offer to the Working Group to convert the barn at Pond Farm into a shop and coffee house. They reached this decision because the project wasn't fully supported by the community and they had doubts about its viability based on their experience with the shop at Ley Green which they own. Should there be community support in 3 – 5 years' time they might re-consider their decision.

2.6) (Agenda 6) To consider items arising from the Annual Parish Meeting not already on the agenda
A member of the public suggested that section 106 funding could be applied for to install solar panels at the village hall. At its meeting on 14 June, the village hall committee decided not to consider this at the present time as other changes to the heating system are being looked at.

Information on the VETS system was included in the Chairman's report. Updated information is that one volunteer was added to the list but one had to leave because of family issues. Three Parish Councillors decided to become volunteers at this meeting.

The Parish Council agreed to install a defibrillator cabinet on the outside of the pavilion so that the second defibrillator will be more widely available. The Chairman will get quotes for a cabinet and its installation.

Action: The Chairman to obtain quotes for a defibrillator cabinet and its installation.

2.7) (Agenda 7) Comments from the general public and press (15 mins)

None.

2.8) (Agenda 8) County and District Update (15 mins)

None.

2.9) (Agenda 9) Planning

1. To note decisions and appeals:

- 24/00867/FPH, Lychgate House, Church Lane, Preston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7TP. Part two storey and part single storey rear extension following demolition of existing rear conservatory. First floor front extension and single storey side extension. Alterations to fenestration. PERMISSION GRANTED.

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

- An updated Master Plan with details of permissive paths at the Temple Dinsley development was circulated to the Parish Council

2.10) (Agenda 10) Finance

1. Members noted and authorised the payments and bank reconciliation shown in Annex 1.
2. Members authorised the signing of the bank reconciliation shown in Annex 2.
3. Members **NOTED** the 2024/2025 Budget.

2.11) (Agenda 11) To review and adopt the following suggested policies

Members reviewed the following policies and **AGREED** to adopt them:

1. Recording of Parish Council Meetings
2. Vexatious Complaints

2.12) (Agenda 12) Traffic Issues

1. There is still no progress with DriveSafe. Cllr Hill will chase to see if things can be moved along.
2. The chairman will contact Highways regarding what can be done to slow traffic along Chequers Lane.
3. Highways have again said that the subsidence on Crunnells Green does not meet the criteria for repair.

Action: Councillor Hill to contact the Police about Drive Safe

Action: The Chairman to contact highways about Chequers Lane

2.13) (Agenda 13) Information Boards

Cllr Clark will liaise with a design company to come up with a design for the boards.

2.14) (Agenda 14) Church Meadow

1. An update from NHDC on the lease should be available soon which will determine the order in which work can be undertaken.
2. Two quotes have been received to make good the land which the brambles have been removed from. Members **AGREED** to apply for the higher quote in regards to the play space funding.

2.15) (Agenda 15) Section 106

1. Two members of the Cricket Club attended to discuss what would be required from an extension to the Pavilion. A draft plan will be put together as a basis for further discussion.

2. Members will discuss the Section 106 list outside of the meeting with a view to agree a final list at the September meeting.

2.16) (Agenda 16) Village Hall Update

1. The Chairman and Clerk continue to work with the Village Hall Committee. Two providers are interested in starting a pre-school. At the time of writing one has been to visit and is writing a business plan. The Village Hall Committee has unanimously agreed to the hall being used 5 days per week for a pre-school. The Clerk is sending out a questionnaire locally to see if there are enough children requiring a place to make a pre-school viable.
2. The outcome of the electronic questionnaire on activities the community would like will be available soon. A Pilates teacher will be able to provide classes if there is sufficient interest.

2.17) (Agenda 17) Matters for future consideration

Section 106, Information Boards

The meeting closed at 10.30pm.

Date and Time of next Meeting: Thursday 5th September 2024 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

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ANNEX 1

Preston Parish Council PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST

9 July 2024 (2024-2025)

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
12	Salary	24/05/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-012	Payment - Salary	Staff	Z	-470.17		-470.17
13	Work From Home Allowance	24/05/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-013	Payment - Work From Home Al	Staff	Z	-26.00		-26.00
14	Electricity	29/05/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-014	Payment - Electricity	E.on	L	-122.22	-6.11	-128.33
5	Interest	03/06/2024		Barclays Business 1	R25-005	Receipt - Bank Interest	Barclays Bank	Z	37.92		37.92
6	Interest	03/06/2024		Barclays Business 2	R25-006	Receipt - Bank Interest	Barclays Bank	Z	328.51		328.51
15	Domain / emails	12/06/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-015	Payment - Cybercheck and Dor	Zen Internet Ltd	S	-6.49	-1.30	-7.79
15	Cybercheck	12/06/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-015	Payment - Cybercheck and Dor	Zen Internet Ltd	S	-10.00	-2.00	-12.00
16	Refuse Collection	13/06/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-016	Payment - Refuse Collection	NHDC	E	-112.40		-112.40
17	Electricity	21/06/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-017	Payment - Electricity	E.on	L	-109.73	-5.49	-115.22
20	Water	28/06/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-020	Payment - Water	Castle Water	Z	-16.88		-16.88
18	Salary	28/06/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-018	Payment - Salary	Staff	Z	-470.37		-470.37
19	Work From Home Allowance	28/06/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-019	Payment - Work From Home Al	Staff	Z	-26.00		-26.00
21	Cess Pit Emptying	03/07/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-021	Payment - Cess Pit Emptying	Haze Cleaning Services	S	-200.00	-40.00	-240.00
22	Memberships	09/07/2024		Barclays Current Acc	P25-022	Payment - VETS Scheme	Community Heartbeat Trus	S	-100.00	-20.00	-120.00
Total									-1,303.83	-74.90	-1,378.73

Parish of Preston

ANNEX 2

9 July 2024 (2024-2025)

Preston Parish Council

Prepared by: _____
Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Date: _____

Approved by: _____
Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

Date: _____

	Bank Reconciliation at 09/07/2024		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		97,891.65
	ADD		
	Receipts 01/04/2024 - 09/07/2024		10,285.33
			108,176.98
	SUBTRACT		
	Payments 01/04/2024 - 09/07/2024		3,936.31
A	Cash in Hand 09/07/2024 (per Cash Book)		104,240.67
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash	09/07/2024	0.00
	Barclays Current Account	09/07/2024	6,006.95
	Barclays Business 1	09/07/2024	10,176.52
	Barclays Business 2	09/07/2024	88,057.20
			104,240.67
	Less unrepresented payments		
			104,240.67
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		104,240.67
	A = B Checks out OK		