



# Preston Parish Council

## NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026 at 8pm  
Village Hall, School Lane, Preston, SG4 7UE**

To Cllrs: S Anderson, J Buckland, M Burleigh, J Clark, A Morecroft, H Page, M Trinder (Chair)

Councillors are respectively summoned to attend this meeting for the transaction of business in the agenda below. The meeting is open to members of the public and press.

Lisa Lathane, Clerk to Preston Parish Council – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### AGENDA

1. **To receive and accept apologies for absence.**
2. **Chairman's Remarks**
3. **Declarations of interest**
4. **To adopt minutes of the previous meeting**
5. **To consider matters arising from the previous minutes not already on the agenda**
6. **Comments from the general public and press (15 mins)**
7. **County and District Update (15 mins)**
8. **Finance**
  - a. **To authorise non-contractual payments and note payments to date**
  - b. **To authorise the signing of the Bank Reconciliation**
  - c. **To review the budget 2025/26**

Sent separately as the Financial Report to Cllrs.
  - d. **To review and agree new website costs**

#### Idnet:

Standard: 2GB:      £15 per month      £150 per annum: 20% reduction: £120  
Premium: 5GB      £30 per month      £300 per annum: 20% reduction: £240  
As a local company, idnet will waive the set-up fee of £30 and will give a 20% reduction on the monthly or annual cost. This is their way of trying to support the local community.

**Next scheduled meetings:** Parish Council meeting: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 8pm

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## ParishOnline

Your subscription would be **£350 ex vat per year** and if you're switching to a gov.uk domain you'd also qualify for our Parish Online switching fund taking **£100 ex vat off your first year's subscription** making your first year **£250 ex vat**.

Our subscription package includes:

- **Website** - a modern, accessible and responsive website using the Government design guidelines. Here are [examples from existing customers](#).
- **Email** - up to 20 mailboxes with 5GB storage each which are accessed through the provided apps for windows, mac or phone, via webmail, or you can connect it to your own phone or computer mail apps.
- **Gov.uk domain** - we register your new gov.uk domain and pay the fees instead of you having to pay for it. The domain is owned by you, but we manage it.  
Also included in our service and within the quoted price:
- **Hosting** - the servers where your website live
- **Ongoing Maintenance and Upgrades** - we invest in your service to make sure it's always the latest new features, security upgrades or updates to align to new legislation
- **SSL Certificate** - this keeps your site encrypted and safe for visitors
- **Content Migration** - we port over [key content](#) from your old site at no extra cost.
- **Accessibility** - our sites always follow the latest Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). Our sites already conform to WCAG 2.2 AA which was a requirement from October 2024.
- **Support** - we have a bank of [knowledge base](#) articles available to help you with managing your [website](#), [email](#) and [domain](#).  
We can offer the additional options at an extra cost:
- Upgrade one or more email accounts with additional storage - 10GB at £24 per year per upgraded mailbox
- Upgrade one or more email accounts with additional storage and Cloud Storage - standard 30GB mailbox and 10GB File Storage at £42 ex VAT per year per upgraded mailbox
- Hosting of old domain at £25 ex VAT per domain  
We can typically get websites ready in around 4-6 weeks.

## HugoFox

Like ParishOnline they specialise in Parish Council websites ensuring compliance with government guidelines.

£239.88 for the year including .gov domain.

For £149 + VAT can build website taking info from current website.  
Includes real-time planning tracker.

£1.59 + Vat per .gov email inbox.

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- e. To review the draft budget for 2026/27
- f. To review and agree the Precept for 2026/27

## 9. Planning

### a. To consider any new planning applications

- 25/03051/FPH - Highways, Church Lane, Preston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7TP

### b. To note decisions and appeals

- 25/02994/FPH - The Willows, Butchers Lane, Preston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7TR. PERMISSION GRANTED
- 25/02316/FPH - Lutyens Cottage, Hitchwood Lane, Preston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7RY. REFUSED.
- 25/02811/FPH - 2 Oakfields, Preston, Hertfordshire, SG4 7FB. PERMISSION GRANTED.

### c. To consider any other planning matters pertinent to the Parish Council

#### Update on Temple Dinsley

The Parish Council has been informed that The Door UK is in the process of finalising an arrangement with a partner company, resulting in the development of the Temple Dinsley site progressing as a joint venture. It is hoped that the deal will be finalised in March. Russell Prince and his team will continue to be heavily involved in the project and local links with the Parish Council, Preston residents, the Planning Officer and Conservation Officer at NHDC will be maintained.

## 10. Pavilion Working Party update

### a. Resolution 1

To accept the quote from Ridge for pre-application advice. Quotation to be circulated separately.

### b. Resolution 2

To simplify the resolution from the last meeting and ask the architects to quote for producing initial drawings for both a new build and an extension. The PWG to recommend which quotation to accept in preparation for the March Parish Council meeting.

### c. Resolution 3

At the same time, to ask the architects to quote for working up plans for the selected option to be suitable for submission for a planning application. It is anticipated that once a company has been asked to produce initial plans they would be asked to continue with the project.

### d. Resolution 4

To accept a quote from The Parkinson Partnership LLP to provide advice on the VAT implications of the proposed pavilion extension or

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replacement, including options available to maximise VAT recovery, for a fixed fee of £1,450 plus VAT.

## 11. Church Meadow

### a. To agree an application to NHDC for new equipment, picnic area and pathway

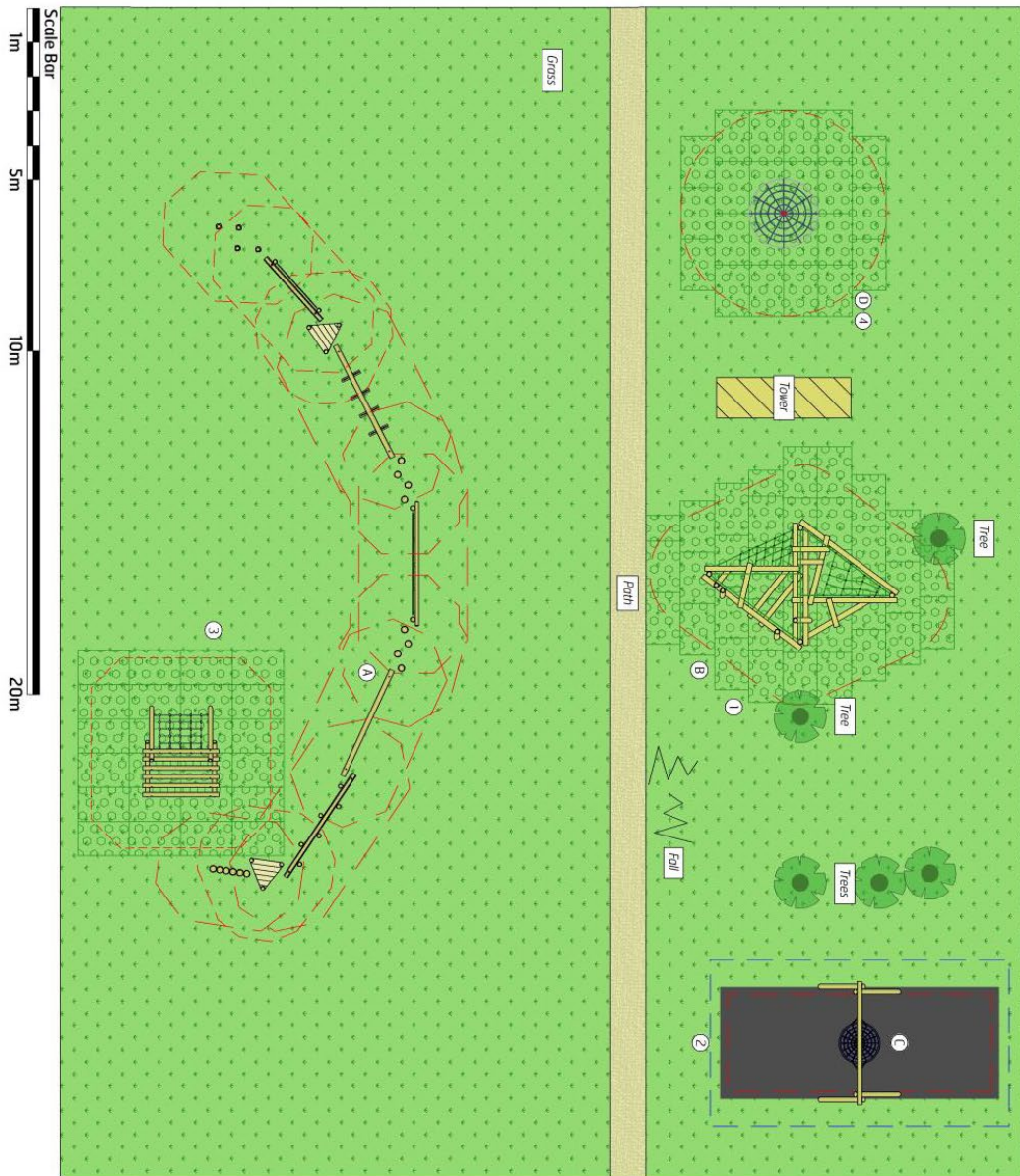
NHDC signed the lease for Church Meadow on 11 December so the next step is to apply to them for what we want to install. We have agreement and funding for everything, although we will have to ask for some quotes to be refreshed as it is so long since we got them.

The attached plan overleaf includes all the new playground equipment. Funding for the roundabout and the picnic area is in the Temple Dinsley funding.

When looking at this plan, to the right of the activity trail is the swings which will remain and to the right of them is the picnic area.

It would seem sensible to apply for everything in one application, although the equipment won't all be installed at the same time.

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Images shown are for representational purposes, products may vary. T: 01702 291129 - [www.sovereignplayequipment.co.uk](http://www.sovereignplayequipment.co.uk)

## Equipment:

- A Tree Top Tangle Trail B W/Scramble Net
- B Oboron - Extended Legs
- C 2.4m Log Swing With Basket Seat
- D 2.4m High Rota Net - Green Ropes

## Surfacing:

- 1 33x Grassguard Tiles
- 2 275mm Black Weepour Recessed @ 50mm (inc PCC Edging & 150mm Groundworks)
- 3 24x Grassguard Tiles
- 4 22x Grassguard Tiles

## Drains in surfacing areas:

- 11 Type 1 - Drain Cover left open
- 12 Type 2 - Surfacing covers Drain Cover
- 13 Type 3 - Drain Cover position marked in surface
- 14 Type 4 - Removable Pleated Gridded Tray for Weepour (See quote)

Ref: 79888-REV  
Date: 29/05/2024  
Scale: As Shown  
Designer: SJW  
Area Manager: Leigh Kosta

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Area One : Option Two

Next scheduled meetings: Parish Council meeting: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 8pm

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## 12. Playground Inspections – to review annual reports and agree next steps

Inspection reports sent separately to Cllrs on the 6<sup>th</sup> January.

## 13. Pavilion and Recreation Ground

- a. To agree a quotation for 5 year building survey of the pavilion for insurance purposes

Company	Cost
Aitchison Rafferty	£695 +VAT
Brown and Lee	£495 + VAT
RLP	£350 + VAT

## b. New bin collection from April

The cricket club would like a commercial bin this summer, ideally with a lock or a code. The bin will have to be out on the verge all the time and they're concerned that a large unlocked bin will mean other people put their rubbish in it.

## 14. Hertfordshire Highways Update

**Preston Sign:** This has to be funded from David Barnard's County Council Highways Locality Budget. No decision can be made until April.

**Templars Lane:** The Chairman continues to work with developers to try and get the potholes filled satisfactorily.

**Back Lane:** Potholes need to be reported on the online system.

## 15. Speed Management Survey – to agree a parish council response

Questions circulated separately

## 16. Parish Paths Partnership

## 17. Clerk's Report (information only)

Does anyone wish to be put forward for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party?

## 18. Correspondence received

## 19. Matters for future consideration

## 20. Date and time of next meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 8pm

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