

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date:	Monday 11 th March 2013.	Time:	7:30pm
Venue:	Preston Candover Village Hall		
Present:	Keith Irons	Chairman	
	Daphne Prosser		
	Marion Philips		
	Rob Marks		
	David Wilson		
	Alison Davidson		
	Wendy Simson	Clerk	
	PC Andy Reid		
Apologies:	Charles Bradshaw	Vice-Chairman	
	Alan Owencroft		

75 Apologies

The Chairman explained that the Vice-Chairman was away and so would not be attending. The Clerk has also had apologies from Councillor Owencroft.

76 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the February meeting were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting, and were signed by the Chairman.

77 Matters Arising

Advise about attendance at meetings – The Clerk explained that she had spoken to HALC (Hampshire Association of Local Councils) and had the following response:-

“The ‘persistent absence’ rule applies “If a member fails throughout six consecutive months to attend any meetings of the council or of its committees or sub-committees of which he is a member, or of a joint committee, joint board or other body to which any of the council’s powers have been transferred or delegates, he ceases automatically to be a member of the council, unless either he has a ‘statutory excuse’ or his failure is due to a reason approved by the council or he attended as a representative of the council at a meeting of any body of persons (such as the county association of local councils). The period begins with the last meeting attended.” LGA1972 s85(1) refers.”

Highways – The Chairman explained that he had not had a response from Mr Holdsworth regarding the highways issues in the area or attending the meeting. It was suggested that the Chairman escalate the issue to Councillor Anna McNair Scott, the Chairman is to make this decision.

Playground equipment literature – Councillor Davidson had brought some literature to the meeting including prices of various pieces for the play area. It was agreed that the £4,000 available would buy 2 pieces. The Council agreed that after the survey information had been

collected that a sample group of those who use the play area be asked about what type of equipment to buy.

School Parking Issues – The Chairman explained that having closed the gates onto the field next to the village hall, that there had been little affect on the parking issues. PC Reid had made comment about the issues in the Oxdrove and the school where able to re-direct parents to alternative parking as required.

Skate Park inspection – The Clerk circulated the inspection report from Basingstoke and Deane for the skate park which includes 2 minor issues, which are:-

- Screws missing off boards on side ramp
- Holes in side of ramp need plugging

The Clerk explained that Councillor Owencroft had agreed to meet the inspector at the play area on his next visit and get advice about getting all the minor items sorted out at both the play area and the skate park.

[Action: Councillor Owencroft to report progress at next meeting.](#)

Bus Shelter Repairs – The Chairman explained that work has started on the repairs.

Councillor Prosser explained the salt bins had been filled and the roads swept recently.

Street Lighting – The Clerk explained that the paperwork had been signed off and the contract was in place. Following the meeting the contractors reported that they had carried out the following work:-

On 20/2/13 we carried out;

- ELECTRICAL TEST OF LIGHTING UNIT
- SANNUAL BULK LAMP CLEAN & CHANGE
- VISUAL INSPECTION
- INVENTORY UPDATE

The Clerk will circulate the report as soon as it is received. The Clerk has also asked if SSC can provide a quote for the additional lamp by the village hall by the next meeting.

[Action: Clerk to bring quote for next meeting](#)

Website meeting – Councillor Wilson explained that the meeting on Saturday 2nd March had gone well and it is planned that the site will go live on Friday 15th March. It has been agreed that Councillor Wilson will be the deputy for Councillor Philips as the editor of the site for Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council.

Councillor Philips has placed a 1 page advert in the Oxdrove to promote the site. The editor of the Oxdrove has expressed concern about the website make the paper based magazine obsolete. Councillor Philip was able to reassure that this was not the intention.

78 Financial statement

The Clerk explained that there were no payments to be made this month; however the final payment for the village hall hire would be due at the next meeting along with the Clerk's final salary for 2012/13.

The Clerk explained that the bank account had finally been transferred across from the previous Clerk. The form to allow internet banking was agreed and signed by the Council. The Clerk explained that in the move that the account had become overdrawn and so a £15 charge had been levied. The Clerk explained that she had spoken to the bank about getting this withdrawn due to the excessive amount of time for the account to be move to her

control. The Clerk offered to cover the cost of the penalty if required and the Council agreed that this would not be necessary.

[Action: Clerk to return internet banking application form](#)

The Clerk also explained that she had received information about the external audit and how to pay PAYE online, which would be put in place.

[Action: Clerk to report at next meeting about any changes to external audit and issues with PAYE software.](#)

The Clerk also explained she had spoken to the internal auditor and had agreed the documents required, which would be prepared after the next meeting.

79 Planning Applications

There have been two pieces of planning information since the last meeting, they are:-

- A bat survey for the Water Tower at Nutley – this showed that there had been bat activity and if the application is granted that alternative arrangements would need to be made for the bat nesting.
- Thorpe's, Alresford Road, Preston Candover - Erection of a single storey side extension, single storey rear extension, re-roofing, alteration of windows and external insulation. Erection of a detached garage and store following demolition of the existing.

The Council talked through the bat report and agreed there was no further action required at this time.

The Council also talked through the Thorpe application and while they agreed that the pitch of the roof on the extension seemed to be very shallow that they saw no reason to object. The Council agreed that it would be useful for the applicant to produce a street view of the proposed garage as this will be the only part of the new build visible from the street.

[Action: Clerk to request street view and forward to Council.](#)

The Council also talked through the application for Malmsmead. There was no comment made about the application when it was presented at the January meeting and it was agreed that this would remain the Parish Council's response.

80 Council Property

Nothing further to report.

81 Section 106 funds

Councillor Marks had collected some information about speed alert devices. There are two manufacturers, one in Fordingbridge which are a distributor for a German supplier (www.radarspeedsigns.co.uk) and the other in Cumbria who manufacture the units in the UK (www.radarspeedsign.com). The costs for both are similar at between £1,900 and £2,500 depending on the specification. The units display the speed the driver approaches the device at and on the higher spec version can display this in green for those well within the limit, amber for those approaching the limit and red for those over the speed limit. There is also an option for "smilie faces" with those over the limit getting a sad face. The battery life is about 3 weeks for the model made in Cumbria while it is shorter for the German version, lasting about 10 days. It is possible to get a solar panel for the units but this would require that it is static, which the Council agreed was not what was required. Data from the units

can be downloaded via Bluetooth or a cable and it was agreed that PC Reid be given access to the data to identify times when speeding occurs.

The Council agreed a budget of £2,500 for purchasing one of the units which would be paid for from the section 106 budget for highways.

The Council questioned if the electricity poles could be used to fit the device to.

Action: Clerk to ask Electric Company about using their poles.

82 Flooding

The water levels appear to have dropped a little but there was concern raised about the culverts under the road by the pub and also the Old Vicarage.

Action: Vice Chairman to report at next meeting about update from Environment Agency

83 Valley & Council Website

Councillor Wilson explained that he had given most of the update under “matters arising”. The original survey carried out in 1990 was circulated to those members of the Council who were not at the last meeting along with the proposed amended version. There were concerns raised about the length of the survey and also what some of the information would be used for. An example was given of telephone suppliers and the Councillor Wilson explained that if poor service was being received in the villages and a high percentage of the residents used a supplier then leverage could be placed on the supplier to make the required changes.

84 Play area inspections

Covered in “matters arising”

85 Highways

Councillor Prosser reported that the roads were full of pot holes and the Chairman explained that he had included this within his letter to Mr Holdsworth at Hampshire Highways Department.

86 Rights of Way

Councillor Phillips explained that she had been informed that James Emmett was the new Senior Countryside Access Ranger for the North area of Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council. He will be responsible for any repairs that are required to signage etc along the Rights of Way. Mr Emmett also explained that there are Countryside Access Grants available which can be applied for to improve the access to these Rights of Way. The grants will cover 50% of the cost of a project and the Parish Council will be required to contribute the other 50%. The Parish Council’s 50% can however be in time as opposed to cash. The cut of dates for applications for the grants are April, June and September.

87 General Correspondence

The Clerk had three pieces of correspondence:-

- Hampshire Association of Local Councils has sent a booklet about their services
- Came & Co, the insurance broker, had sent their quarterly newsletter
- Basingstoke & Deane had sent some information about the local plan.

88 Any other business

Councillor Davidson has decided to resign her position on the Council.

Action: The Clerk is to inform Basingstoke & Deane about the vacancy.

89 Date of next meeting

Monday 15th April 2013 at 7:30pm at the Preston Candover Village Hall, this will be the AGM.

Action: Clerk to put advert in Oxdrove to promote next meeting.