

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 18th November 2013. **Time:** 7:30pm
Venue: Preston Candover Village Hall

Present: Keith Irons Chairman
Charles Bradshaw Vice-Chairman
Daphne Prosser
Marion Philips
Alex Taylor
David Wilson
Rob Marks
Wendy Simson Clerk
PC Andy Reid

Apologies: None

174 Councillor Alan Owencroft

The Chairman said a few words about Councillor Alan Owencroft who sadly passed away on Monday 11th November. The Chairman explained that the funeral service was to be held on Friday 22nd November at Basingstoke Crematorium and asked the Clerk to investigate if the family were happy for flowers to be sent. It was agreed by the Parish Council that the vacancy be held until the New Year as a mark of respect.

175 Apologise
None

176 Minutes of the last meeting

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

177 Police Update

PC Reid explained that there had been a number of incidents in Preston Candover since the last meeting, they are:-

- 17/9 - a car was issued with a fixed notice penalty notice for obstruction in Stenbury Drive
- 30/9 - a public order dispute in Preston Candover
- 11/10 - a HGV had travelled through the valley knocking branches down
- 18/10 - a damage road traffic incident between two cars on Dummer Road
- 23/10 - there was a report of concern for a teenager in Preston Candover
- 28/10 - a tree fell down in Berrydown Lane, Axford

- 11/11 – the sad death of Councillor Owencroft
- 18/11 – a lorry containing building waste dumped its load in the centre of Dummer Road blocking the highway.

Four individuals were also arrested for possession of Cannabis and there was an assault since the last meeting in September.

The Chairman asked about the issue of missing dogs and PC Reid confirmed that this was still happening with dogs being taken and then the reward collected for their safe return.

178 Matters Arising

Shop survey – Preston Candover Village Hall has been booked for Thursday 28th November to present the findings of the survey and look at the next steps for possibly moving towards setting up a Community Store.

Of the 700 copies of the survey which were circulated 196 had been returned, however 63 of these were from Preston Candover which is about 2/3 of the homes in the village. The Chairman was to look into being able to use the email addresses of those who had completed the survey to inform them of the meeting. Councillor Wilson expressed concern as the survey had clearly explained that those who had given this information would not be contacted via email unless they had requested communication in this format.

Action: Chairman to confirm if emails can be sent to all those who provided this information regardless of asking for communication via another means.

Councillor Taylor suggested having some posters produced to promote the meeting. The Council felt this was an excellent idea and Councillor Taylor agreed to source 2–3 posters which could be read when passing in a car.

10 people had expressed that they would be prepared to get involved with the Committee to run the new shop and the Chairman suggested that these people need to be made aware of the meeting so that they could be involved with the initial discussions.

Councillor Marks explained to the Council that the Post Office would not close as long as there was a plan to move the shop to a Community Store. Councillor Marks explained that if the Post Office was closed that it would be very difficult to re-open, he did suggest the if the new store was a registered charity that this may ensure a more supportive model be retained.

Lengths Man Role – The Clerk fed back that Candovers Parish Council had discussed the idea of recruiting a Lengths Man for both Parish Councils and that the feedback was that the activity required by them was mostly clearing of the Candover Brook. Candovers Parish Council felt that the Environment Agency did this work a couple of times a year and it was a waste of the Parish Council's resources to spend money on works which were already being carried out.

The Council decided that the project be shelved and that any work required be contracted when required.

War Memorial – The Chairman has applied for grants from English Heritage and the Lottery and would report at the next meeting about costs and money available.

Action: Chairman to report at next meeting.

Field by Village Hall – The contract has been drawn up and signed for the Parish Council to take responsibility for the field next to the Village Hall. The solicitor's costs of £1,100 were agreed at the meeting and signed off.

The Chairman explained that he would get plans drawn up which could be presented to the Parish. There were also plans to apply for an amenity grants from Basingstoke & Deane.

Website Training – The Chairman agreed to contact both Councillor Philips and the representative from Candovers Parish Council during week beginning 25th November to arrange to carry out some training.

Action: Clerk to inform representative from Candovers parish Council.

Road sign at Axford – this sign has not been replaced, however most of the others through the valley have been done.

Action: Chairman to contact Highways team

New Years Drinks Party donation – The Chairman had spoken to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee about the Parish Council sponsoring the Christmas Tree Burning refreshments as very few people attended the New Years drinks and the Tree Burning was very popular. The Village Hall Chairman explained that the Tree Burning was a good fund raiser and so would like the Parish Council to continue to support the New Year Drinks Party. The Parish Council agreed to this.

Under used flat at Moundsmere Close – The Vice Chairman explained that the Allotment Charity which manages the properties were aware that the flat was under used and that this had been agreed. The Parish Council asked that the Charity contact all the residents and make them aware of the situation.

Action: Vice Chair to get information to residents at Moundsmere.

Street Lamp fault – Councillor Prosser had reported that the street lamp in front of Dickers House in Preston Candover was not working and SSC had sent an invoice for replacing the bulb, however it was still not working. The Clerk had contacted SSC to say there was more of a fault as the bulb had not fixed the issue and was waiting for more information.

179 **Financial statement**

The following payment were discussed at the meeting and agreed:-

- £120.00 for grass maintenance
- £277.30 for Chairman's expenses for printing etc
- £59.00 for the fax machine
- £35.00 for the data protection insurance.
- £1,000 for the Village Hall grant for decorating
- £100 for the Village Hall grant for New Years Drinks Party
- £300 for The 1st Candover Scout Groups grant for camping equipment
- £1,110 for solicitors fees to set up the agreement for the field next to the Village Hall.

The Clerk explained that after the last meeting the fine of £400 for HMRC had been paid before she had been able to transfer sufficient funds to cover this payment. As it is the Clerk's responsibility to ensure sufficient funds are

in the correct account the Clerk agreed to cover the over drawn fee of £15.51. This amount would be deducted from the Clerk's salary payment due at the next meeting.

The Chairman had drawn up a budget report for 2014/15 which divided out the section 106 money from the regular income to enable the Parish Council to monitor both pots of funds. The Chairman agreed to complete this ready for the next meeting as precept requests were required to be to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council by 31st January 2014.

Councillor Wilson asked if the Candover Scout Group had been able to claim back the £700 that was in the bank account when the Scout group folded some years ago. Councillor Wilson explained that the money had been returned to the Scouts central funds but where on the understanding that they would be returned if the group re-formed.

Action: Clerk to speak to treasurer when passing on grant money.

180 Planning Applications

There were two notices for tree work, one for a dead willow at Beech Tree Cottage and the other to remove a Sycamore at Wilanda House. The Parish Council had no objections to either request.

There had also been a response received about the plans for a wind farm at Woodmancott. The Clerk agreed to circulate and collect thoughts about a response.

181 Council Property

The Council suggested that Preston Oakhill's may be a good site for the Scouts to camp.

182 Section 106 funds

Hampshire Highways had informed the Chairman that the cost of altering the Wield Road junction would be the full £18,000 which was held in a central account for Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council. The Parish Council agreed that they could not justify spending all the funds on this one project. The Chairman had also received two letters from Moundsmere about the issues with making changes to the junction and getting farm machinery through this junction if the alterations were made. It was therefore decided that this project be held.

The Parish Council did agree that they wanted to spend part of the funds on the additional street lamp at the lay-by and also the Speed induction device (SID). The Chairman asked that the quotes for these both be sent to him so he could forward to Hampshire Highways to get the money released.

Action: Clerk to send Chairman quote for additional street lamp

Action: Councillor Marks to send quote for SID.

183 Flooding

Nothing to report

184 Valley & Council Website

Councillor Philips expressed her concern that the website had gone into abeyance and may need to be started again if training was not received quickly as the information on it was so out of date. The Chairman had put some information on about the fireworks party but it was agreed that all information needed to be brought up to date.

185 Play areas

Following the death of Councillor Owencroft, Councillor Wilson agreed to send the notes about where to source parts for the Children's play area repairs to Councillor Taylor. Councillor Taylor agreed to take on getting these issues fixed.

Action: Councillor Wilson to send information to Councillor Taylor

Action: Councillor Taylor to order parts required

186 Highways

Councillor Prosser reported that the channels into the Candover Brook were blocked by mud and this meant water was standing on the road. The Vice Chairman reported that the Environment Agency had cleared the culverts etc at Church Lane and he agreed to contact them again about getting the others cleared.

Action: Vice Chairman to speak to Environment Agency about clearing channels.

187 Rights of Way

Councillor Philips reported that there were no major issues but any problems should be reported to her.

188 General Correspondence

The Mayor's Christmas Charity Show at St Michael's Church, Basingstoke on 7th December at 7:30pm.

The new committee at Association of Local Councils will be taking questions and comments directly, which in the past have had to go through the Hampshire division.

189 Any other business

Hampshire Association of Local Councils was happy to do a presentation about the new Localism Bill at a cost of £150. The Chairman asked the Clerk to contact Candovers Parish Council about getting involved. Date agreed as 5th February 2014. Chairman to also speak to Wield Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to Speak to Chairman at Candovers Parish Council

Action: Chairman to speak to Wield Parish Council

190 Date of next meeting

Monday 16th December 2013 at 7:30pm, in the Preston Candover Village Hall.