

PRESTON CANDOVER AND NUTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 15th February 2016. **Time:** 7:30pm
Venue: Preston Candover Village Hall

Present: Alex Taylor Chairman
Charles Bradshaw Vice-Chairman
Tish Owencroft
Ruth Chattell
Wendy Simson Clerk
PC Reid

Apologies: Rob Marks
Adam Alexander
Daphne Prosser

601 Apologies

Councillors Marks, Alexander and Prosser were not able to attend the meeting and sent apologies.

602 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 18th January were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

603 Police Update

PC Reid informed the Parish Council that there had been 2 incidents since the last Parish Council meeting in January, they were:-

- 4/2 – false/faulty burglar alarm activation
- 7/2 – severe flooding in Axford

There have been no crimes in Preston Candover & Nutley Parish in 2016.

The Chairman asked about rural policing and PC Reid explained that a response was expected from the Police and Crimes Commissioner to the letter sent by Herriard Parish Council.

The Chairman thanked PC Reid for all the work he does in the community particularly in times of crisis such as the flooding.

604 Planning

Martin Harradine, the planning advisor for the Nutley Manor Estate, joined the meeting to show the Parish Council the proposed plans for the bungalow, situated behind the old churchyard in Nutley. The plans are to remove the bungalow and replace it with a large barn for farm machinery and maintenance. A new house would be erected on the right hand side of the lane that runs up the side of the old churchyard.

Mr Harradine explained that the new position of the house would allow it to provide a security function for the estate and would act as a gate house to the property. The house would be a rendered finish with a thatched roof which is in keeping with a number of other properties in the valley.

The barn would fall within the footprint of the existing bungalow and the extension which has been granted planning permission.

The Councillors asked about moving the house from its current position to the proposed new location, Mr Harradine informed the Council that a property can be moved where there is shown to be an environmental benefit.

The Councillors asked if the new house would have an agricultural tie and they were assured this would be put in place.

Mr Harradine assured the Councillors that it would a condition of the build that the new house would not be occupied until the old bungalow was removed to ensure an additional house was not added to the hamlet.

Mr Harradine extended an offer for a site visit to those who would like to know more about the plans, Councillor Owencroft suggested that Mr & Mrs Spicer should be included and the Vice Chairman asked for Mr & Mrs Emck to also be invited.

605 Matter arising from previous meeting

Councillor Vacancy – The Clerk has spoken to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council about the vacant Councillor position and an advert has been placed on the notice boards. The advert needs to be in place for 14 working days and if no applications are received then the Council can co-opt.

It was agreed that any candidates be required to attend a Parish Council meeting and to give the Councillors a short presentation about themselves.

Proposed parking solution for the school – The Vice Chairman explained that little progress had been made since the previous meeting. It was agreed that Mr Blythe, who owns the lane that runs up the side of the school, and the Chair of the School Governors should be invited to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to invite Ron Blythe and Charlotte Whittle to the 21st March meeting.

606 Financial statement

The Clerk Presented the following payment for approval:-

- £108.00 – grass cutting and leaf clearing
- £117.00 – tree stump grinding work

The invoice for the new piece of play equipment has still not been received; the sum of £4,529 has been allocated to this from the section 106 money.

Interest on the bank account was 55p for February.

The section 106 money held by Basingstoke and Deane, £14,696.26, was discussed along with the plans for the lay-by. The initial project included putting a path along the back of the lay-by at a cost of £6,094 and replacing the drainage at £2,168, however the Councillors felt that while the drainage work was required that the path was not as important. This would then free up funds to support the project at the school.

The Vice Chairman agreed to email the plans to the Head Mistress and Chair of School Governors for their consideration. Councillor Chattell proposed that the plans be discussed with the residents in this part of the village.

Action: Vice Chairman to email Head Mistress and School Governors the plans

Action: Councillor Chattell to speak to local residents

Councillor Chattell presented the Parish Council with a grant application for St Mary's Churchyard, Preston Candover, where a large beech tree has fallen down and required cutting up and removal. The grant request is for £400 which is an estimate of the full cost. The Parish Council were supportive of the application but asked for a more accurate quote.

Action: Councillor Chattell to submit a quote again the grant application at next meeting

607 Flooding

A meeting is being arranged between the Vice Chairman, Councillor Marks and Simon Cramp, Environmental Initiatives Manager from Hampshire County Council to discuss progress with plans for the valley

Action: Vice Chairman to report at next meeting

The Clerk had been given a letter from Southern Water about plans to pump more water from the Candover Valley, the letter says:-

As you may be aware, in our Water Resources Management Plan, Southern Water committed to explore a range of options to secure water resources for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

To do this, last December we set up a steering group with representatives from various organisations including the Environment Agency (EA), Natural England, WWF, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, the Consumer Council for Water and Test Valley Borough Council.

Representatives from these organisations, and others, led a series of technical working groups to help us explore and refine our plans. The groups looked at the full range of options available to provide additional water for the area, the environmental impact of specific schemes and the impact of abstraction on the environment.

These groups in turn reported back to the steering group. The EA has supported this process and we are now in a position to progress with the preferred options.

It is vital that we improve the way we use and manage the sources of water in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to provide a better balance for both the environment and customers.

Between them, our 680,000 customers in the county, including in Southampton, Winchester, Romsey and Eastleigh as well as the Isle of Wight use an average of 144 million litres of water every day.

Currently, about 60 per cent of that water comes from the River Test and the River Itchen, with the remaining 40 per cent coming from underground aquifers. This raw water is treated at one of two sites – Testwood Water Supply Works in Totton in the south and Otterbourne Water Supply Works in the north, before being pumped to homes via a network of more than 4,000km of water mains.

However, the Habitats Directive now limits the amount of water we are allowed to take from the River Itchen in times of extreme drought to help protect the river's ecology. This means there is a need to balance this reduction with an increase in the amount of water taken from alternative sources, including the River Test, in order to maintain customers' supplies.

In October we volunteered changes to three abstraction licences that take water from the River Itchen to comply with the Habitats Directive. Some changes will be implemented soon

but the main changes have been deferred, in agreement with the EA, until December 31, 2018 to allow time for us to implement replacement supplies.

Central to the plans is an 18km pipeline, which was first explored as an option in 2012. It will be capable of transferring up to 45 million litres of water a day between the River Test and our Otterbourne Water Supply Works. The pipeline will carry raw, untreated water from the river to Otterbourne, where it will be treated and then supplied to homes in the eastern part of the county.

The amount of water taken from the River Test will remain within our existing abstraction licence and will depend on demand for water. Abstraction licence changes for the Test are under discussion with the EA and further joint work will be undertaken to better understand the ecological needs of the river and how to best manage these in balance with the need to maintain water supplies.

Ecological surveys along the pipeline route will continue across the coming year, with the planning application expected to be submitted in late 2016. Work on the pipeline itself is expected to start in 2017 and to take around 18 months to complete. The scheme must be commissioned within 2018 to allow us to operate within the intended new conditions for the River Itchen abstraction licences.

The pipeline will provide an essential strategic link between the River Test and the Otterbourne works, making the network more resilient and flexible by allowing us to move water around the area more easily, especially during times of drought.

A new bulk supply of up to 15 million litres of treated water a day from Portsmouth Water is also being implemented and will be used when required. Further resilience in times of drought will be provided by a project at Candover to top up the River Itchen with water abstracted from the chalk aquifer.

These projects are being implemented alongside ways of reducing water use – such as further reductions in leakage on the network and the roll out of metering which has already helped customers in Hampshire cut their water use by 16.5 per cent.

We continue to work closely with a range of people on this project, including local authorities, environmental groups and landowners and are incorporating their views and guidance into our plans.

For more information on the scheme, visit www.southernwater.co.uk/south-hampshire

I will keep you updated on our progress but please let me know if you have any questions or would like a face-to-face briefing on this via sam.underwood@southernwater.co.uk or my mobile – 07775 954206.

I would be pleased to visit you at your office to talk you through the above and, more broadly, on our operations and investment in your area at a suitable time – perhaps in the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Samuel Underwood - Stakeholder Manager

608 TAG Farnborough
Nothing further to report

609 Right of Way

Nothing further to report

610 Community Website

The Parish Council minutes have not been loaded onto the Community website for the last few months. The Chairman agreed to ask David Wilson to put the last sets on the minutes on.

611 Council Property

Nothing further to report

612 Children's play areas

Councillor Owencroft reported that the play area was up in good shape except the bottom step of the slide which had been temporarily repaired but needed to be properly fixed.

613 Recreation Ground

The Vice Chairman is supporting the Recreation Ground Committee in the presentation of the Annual Accounts; however last year data is missing. The Chairman is to check his paperwork from Keith Irons to check if these documents were included in the handover.

Action: Chairman to inform Vice Chairman if any relevant documents are found

614 Highways

Nothing further to report

615 Community Store

The Parish Meeting to allow the community to discuss the proposed plans on 23rd January went well and the option to build an extension to the village hall is being considered by a joint working party from both groups. Once any plans are agreed there will be further consultation with the community.

616 War Memorial

The Vice Chairman has applied for a grant of £2,500 from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council which along with the funding from the War Memorial Trust may cover the full cost of the work required. Confirmation of the grants should be given in early April 2016.

617 General Correspondence

The Chairman has received a letter from Lord Sainsbury terminating the lease on the field next to the village hall. The area will be taken back into the estate on 31st October 2016.

618 Any other business

The Chairman asked about training for the defibrillator which has been required for some months.

Action: Clerk to chase up on training with Andrew Fannon

619 Date of next meeting

Monday 21st March 2016, at Preston Candover Village Hall at 7:30pm.