

Minutes of the Meeting of Prees Parish Council held on Tuesday September 18<sup>th</sup> 2018  
at 7 pm in Prees Village Hall.

Present were: Cllrs R Hirons; J Whelan; Mrs S Jones; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs B Finch; Mrs D Foster; Mrs S Short;

J Allen and D Ladd. Also present were 6 members of the Public, PCSO Chris Hirons and the clerk Mrs Karen Sieloff.

111/18: Public Session

A resident spoke of her hopes of building a home under the Affordable Housing scheme on the site of Jasmine Cottage at Prees Green. She said that she would be applying for permission to site a caravan there once Planning Permission for the house was in progress.

A Prees resident spoke of his interest in the possibility of Shropshire Council being asked to use Section 215 of the Town and Planning Act 1990, invoked when the state of land or buildings adversely affects the amenity of a community, to tidy up unsightly dilapidated buildings in the centre of the village.

He also spoke of his continuing disquiet and frustration as the catalogue of mistakes and omissions made by Shropshire Council Planning, in considering the Mobile Phone Tower planning application, still reveals itself.

Cllr R Hirons suggested that both these latter items should be included in the October Agenda.

112/18: Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs L Baer; M Lanham; R List and P Wynn.

113/18: Disclosure of pecuniary or non/pecuniary interests in items on the Agenda.

There were none.

114/18: Minutes of the previous meeting held on August 21<sup>st</sup> 2018 (previously circulated) were agreed to be a true record. It was proposed that they be signed by Cllr Mrs S Jones and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs D Foster. All were in favour.

115/18: Actions arising from the Minutes

There were none that were not on the Agenda.

116/18: Shropshire Council Report.

Cllr P Wynn, in his absence, had emailed a brief report. He alluded to the controversy currently surrounding decisions about how CIL monies should be allocated. He spoke also of plans to extend the caravan site at Manor Park as the current provision is over-crowded. The Parish Council has already responded to a consultation concerning this application.

117/18: Community Policing

PCSO Chris Hirons delivered his report. He spoke of concerns reported to him about building works going on in Twemlows Wood and the possible disturbance of the resident bat colony. PCSO Hirons gave assurance that there is no apparent work going on in the building that houses the bats, and the owner of the building has been made fully aware of his responsibilities in law to protected species such as bats. PCSO Hirons also reported that there have been no recent incidences of theft from garages/sheds reported. The police have been carrying out focused searches in the area and around the homes of potential suspects. Stop searches and other tools have been used to disrupt criminal activity.

PCSO Hirons advised that his Rural Tours would be starting on 14<sup>th</sup> October with visits to Higher Heath Village Hall at 2pm; Fauls Church Hall at 2.45pm and Prees Village Hall at 3.30pm.

118/18: Planning Matters

- **18/03722/FUL:** Application under Section 73a of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the partial change of use farmstead to storage and distribution of garden paving slabs. Storage Land and Premises at Church Farm, Fauls, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Stone For Less Ltd. (Mr and Mrs R List, The Old Vicarage, Fauls, Whitchurch SY13 2 AU.)

It was resolved to support this Application as long as the Highways Dept have no concerns and vehicles accessing/leaving the site are restricted to 8.30am-5.00pm on weekdays and 9.00am-12.00pm on Saturdays. This was proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr J Whelan. All were in favour.

- **18/04208/FUL:** Erection of single storey extension. Laurel Bank, Painters Lane, Fauls SY13 2AT. Applicant: Mr J Scaratt.

The Parish Council had heard from neighbours objecting to this Application. There have been continuing concerns about the potential over-development of this site. Access from Painters Lane is also

judged to be an issue. It was resolved to call an Extraordinary meeting, in Fauls, to discuss this Planning Application. Proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour. Clerk to enquire about availability of Fauls Church Hall and circulate, and give notice of meeting in usual way.

- **Amendment to 18/03061/FUL:** Erection of four equine workers cottages and associated works following demolition of existing tractor shed. Mickley Stud, Mickley, Tern Hill, Market Drayton, Shropshire. Applicant: Mr Richard Kent. It was decided that this Application would also be considered at the Extraordinary Planning Meeting.

#### 119/18: Parish and Parish Council Matters

**Remembrance Services** November 11<sup>th</sup> 2018. Cllr D Foster will lay the wreath for the Parish Council at the Prees service in the morning and Cllr J Allen will lay one at the Fauls service, which this year will commence at 6 pm. The donation to the Poppy Appeal will be £100.00 to include two wreaths, as allowed for in the Budget.

**Battles Over November 11<sup>th</sup> 2018.** Cllr J Whelan advised that the Beacon would be lighted at 7pm on the grassy area at the Prees Cricket and Recreation Club. Cllr Whelan will organise a socket to hold the stem of the brazier. Cllr R Hirons is to light the Brazier. Mrs Cwredwyn Duncan to be asked to accompany him along with two children from Prees Primary School and two from Lower Heath Primary School. Cllr Mrs S Short will talk to Lower Heath and Cllr Mrs B Finch will speak to Prees Primary School about this.

On the evening there will be access to the Club for refreshments. The event is not religious and is open to all.

**Smartwater roll-out.** The Prees Village Hall is booked for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September for the handing-out of the first Smartwater kits. Clerk to enquire about availability of Fauls Church Hall for a similar event there.

**Vehicle Speed Monitor.** Cllr R Hirons asked the clerk to collate information about vehicle speed monitors from other companies: we need to consider at least two other providers to ensure we are getting the best value for money. Clerk was asked to find out which brand(s) of monitor are used by other local councils.

**Road Safety Poster Display.** Cllr R Hirons reported a disappointing response to this event but overall the project had been valuable and successful. Clerk will deliver the posters, shields and banners to the schools this week. Reports have been written and are ready for publication locally. Next year the theme will be another aspect of Staying Safe: perhaps Internet Safety?

**Ex-Military Buildings at Twemlows Wood.** The Planning Department has advised that these buildings can legitimately be used for agriculture or forestry. Cllrs R Hirons and M Lanham are pursuing the route of having the long-used paths formally recognised as Rights of Way. Long use has to be proved and documented. The area was used as Common land at some point. Cllr R Hirons reiterated that members of the Parish Council would be happy to listen to any resident who comes to share their ideas in an appropriate manner.

**Holes in the grass surface at Higher Heath playground.** There is evidence of burrowing, presumably by rabbits, around the equipment. Clerk to consult SALC about recommended methods of control.

**RoSPA Reports:** Cllrs R Hirons and Mrs B Finch will meet together with the clerk to consider the reports on the two playgrounds from RoSPA. Clerk to liaise to fix meeting.

**Apparent changes to the way that CIL funding is administered.** Cllr J Whelan reported on information received from the Chairman at Childs Ercall Parish Council, detailing worrying apparent changes to the way that CIL monies are distributed. It looks as though the 90% of Community Infrastructure Levy which historically went into a pot to fund local infrastructure, and to which parish councils could apply for funding, is now to disappear into a county-wide fund. It appears that this change in policy has been decided with no consultation, and applied retrospectively. It was resolved to write to the Chief Executive of Shropshire Council concerning this matter. Proposed by Cllr J Whelan and seconded by Cllr R Hirons. All were in favour. Clerk to draft letter.

**Cyclists' safety at Manor Place.** A response was received from Meres and Mosses advising that they would not consider erecting a barrier to ensure cyclists dismounted when emerging from the path onto the car park. Clerk to write and ask that all occupants of the new houses should be reminded by Meres and Mosses of the need for care when riding bicycles in the vicinity.

**Harven Gardens: overgrown trees.** An email was received from a resident at Harven Gardens requesting that the trees should be pruned as their growth was becoming hazardous. Clerk was asked to write to Shropshire Council to ask them to request Meres and Mosses to attend to this. Clerk also to request that SC prune the blackthorns at the rear of the Village Hall car park in Prees.

120/18: Accounting Matters

**Quarterly Bank Reconciliation:** Mr Jonathan Smith had checked the Bank Reconciliation for the first quarter of the year and declared himself satisfied that all was correct. He had suggested to the clerk that a further break-down of expenses in the Cashbook would be useful. The clerk is reluctant to extend with more columns an already very cumbersome spreadsheet, but she will start to keep a small separate spreadsheet which records expenses under all the useful headings.

**Accounts for Payment September 2018**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Short that the following accounts should be paid. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford and all were in favour.

Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary September	421.69
HMRC PAYE	3.80
Clerks expenses (detailed below)	240.73
Scottish Power (energy for streetlamps) 31.7.18-31.8.18	159.38
Jones Community Lighting :	
• streetlamp maintenance (August) 132.19	
• replacement lamps Mill Street 1713.70	
	Cheque total: 1845.89
Smartwater Technology Ltd	4304.04
David Gradwell: reimbursement: (paid Shelley Signs for fixing bolts to sign)	48.00
	Total <u>£7,023.53</u>
Late-arriving invoice:	
K D Sieloff: reimbursement of payment of Big Value Banners invoice by personal debit card 11.9.18	72.00
	GRAND TOTAL <u>£7,095.53</u>

**External Audit:** The clerk reported that along with many other Parish Council clerks, she has heard nothing from the external auditors PKF Littlejohn since final accounting documents were submitted in June. SALC is chasing the matter in the hope that results of the External Audit can be published by each Parish Council as required by the end of September.

121/18: Correspondence

- A letter of thanks was received from the Friends of Lord Hill’s Column (this was unfortunately overlooked at the last meeting, the clerk apologises) expressing gratitude for the Parish Council’s donation of £100.00 and offering the Parish Councillors the opportunity of climbing the Column.
- An email was received from Mr John Patrick advising that the Prees village sign had disappeared (presumed stolen) from Lacon Street and asking if the Parish Council could do more to help in the face of the recent spate of local thefts. The clerk responded by email, advising of the measures that have been taken by the Parish Council to encourage parishioners to safeguard their property (including the provision of free Smartwater kits) and of interactions with local police concerning the thefts.

122/18: Items for next Agenda

- Ongoing issues of The Square/Croydon House/Holly Bank
- Quarterly review of Actual Spending against Budget
- Pavilion: progress of demolition.

Meeting was closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....