

Minutes of the Meeting of Prees Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th May 2020
at 7.00 pm via the video conferencing platform 'Zoom'.

Present were Cllrs R Hirons; Mrs S Short; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs B Finch; Mrs D Foster; Mrs L Baer; R List; M Lanham; Also in attendance was Mrs K Sieloff clerk to the Parish Council.

038/20 Public session. Members of the public had been invited to attend via a link published on the Parish Council website, but on this occasion there were no members of the public present.

039/20 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Mrs S Jones, J Whelan, D Ladd and PCSO Graeme Baines.

040/20 Disclosure of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest. There were none.

041/20 Minutes of the meeting held on April 21 2020 had been previously circulated. The Minutes were agreed to be a true record and it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Rainford that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Short. All were in favour and the Chair duly signed.

042/20 Actions Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting. Nothing not included on the Agenda.

043/20 Shropshire Council report. There was no report available.

044/20 Community Policing Report. The following report had been provided by PCSO Graeme Baines documenting activity in the Parish during the past month:

1x uninsured vehicle recovered

1x vehicle recovered, used in crime

Several reports about bikes at the Raven. We attended and all in order. Social distancing was being observed.

1x Road traffic collision at Prees Green

Several reports of a male in the Prees Heath area. This male was staying at the Hotel but has now been moved.

1x Covid breach reported but was unfounded. Precautions were being carried out.

1x Suspicious vehicle in the area

1x Theft of temporary traffic lights.

1x ASB in Shrewsbury Street.

045/20 Planning matters.

Current planning applications:

- **FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** consultation closed. (Consultation period fell between meetings.) **Amendments to 20/01472/FUL:** Erection of a single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory and detached double garage/store. Redthorn, 63 Twemlows Avenue, Higher Heath, Whitchurch SY13 2HD. The Parish Council had received assurance that the garage/store would only be permitted to be used for domestic purposes, and as this was its only reason for objecting, it felt able to support the amended Application and the clerk had registered this.
- **FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** consultation closed. (Consultation period fell between meetings.) **Amendments to 20/02796/FUL:** Change of use of land to commercial vehicle and plant auction site to include provision of customer parking, erection of an office and preparation building; creation of 2m high perimeter bund and 10m landscaping strip of SE boundary (relocation of Existing Auction Site from the A49 Grain Store site) (resubmission.) Land and buildings at The Firs, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Malcolm Harris Auctions. The clerk had been asked to register the Parish Council's continuing objection, as it was felt that the amendments did not materially address the extensive catalogue of reasons for objecting.
- **20/01728/FUL:** Change of use of domestic amenity land to storage for vehicles associated with Pine Lodge Cars (B8 use.) Mill House, Mill Lane, Higher Heath, Whitchurch SY13 2JA. Applicant: Mr L Ferguson. The Parish Council resolved to support this Planning Application. This was proposed by Cllr Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Foster. All were in favour.
- **20/01727/OUT:** Outline application (all matters reserved) for a new build 80 bed Eco Hotel with associated car parking and a separate small retail facility on site. Site of former Filling Station, Sandford, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Telbury Construction.

After discussion, the Parish Council resolved to object to this Planning Application. Although it is not opposed in principle to the proposal of a hotel on this site, it is of the opinion that a more traditional design than the one suggested, and with a limitation of two storeys rather than three, would sit more sympathetically in the context. This was proposed by Cllr Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs L Baer. All were in favour.

Recent Planning decisions received from Shropshire Council

- **20/00806/FUL:** Conversion of garage to annexe to include first floor extension. Laurel Bank, Painters Lane, Fauls, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2AT. Decision: Grant Permission. (This Decision was inadvertently omitted from the previous Agenda: the clerk apologises.)
- **20/00768/FUL:** Erection of extensions and conversion of garage to residential accommodation. Heatherdene, Steel Heath, Prees Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 3LE. Decision: Grant Permission.
- **19/04659/FUL:** Change of use of land to 12 touring caravan pitches, 4 camping pitches and 3 glamping pods for holiday use; erection of shower/toilet block; and native landscaping screen (Amended Description.) Decision: Grant Permission.

046/20 Parish and Parish Council Matters.

Coronavirus epidemic: local update. Cllr R Hirons reminded the Meeting not to neglect to read the stream of updates currently being published, as there was the possibility of missing useful information about grants available, etc. Cllr Mrs S Short raised a virus-related issue which she hoped the PC could consider helping with. She reported that she knew that Elmhurst Nursing Home, in Lacon Street, was facing exorbitant costs imposed by Covid 19 and would benefit from any help the Parish Council could give to support their endeavours to keep residents connected with their families during lock-down through the use of technology. Cllr Short explained the need was for i-pads, or something similar: something with a clear screen and easy-to-use controls. All the councillors present agreed that they were in principle happy to support the provision of Cllr Short suggested she talk to Cllr Mrs Rainford about possible options and report back at the next meeting.

Community-Led Building Development of Affordable Homes. Cllr Hirons reported back from the latest meeting of the Project Board, held via Microsoft Teams on-line conferencing facility on 12.5.20. The lay-out of the 27 houses on the site behind the Medical Centre has been agreed, but there is still uncertainty as to how far towards a Passivhaus model the funds available will allow us to progress. Passivhaus is a German concept providing houses that are extremely well-insulated and therefore extraordinarily economic to heat. The builder will be Hawk. A public consultative meeting is planned, but of course this has its challenges in the current situation with the virus. It is intended that the process will involve opportunities for the public to engage in the consultation on-line and also through distributed paper documents.

Smartwater. The clerk reported that she had been contacted by the We Don't Buy Crime team at West Mercia Police offering the team's services to distribute the remaining 40 or so Smartwater packs, which she had happily handed over. When they have been distributed it will indicate that our target of a 70% coverage of households in the Prees and Fauls wards of the Parish has been achieved.

Parish Council House-keeping: Clerk had reported potholes in Moreton Street to Environmental Maintenance. No new issues reported.

PC Facebook page: nothing new to report.

A41 Incident Log: nothing new to report.

Parish Council insurance due for renewal June 2020. Clerk reported that she had researched alternative insurers and was recommending that the PC took out a policy with Parish Protect who had quoted £638.40 per annum for a three-year agreement which represented a very considerable saving on what was currently. The clerk acknowledged that this had at first seemed too good to be true, but she had examined and discussed every item in the schedule with Parish Protect and she was satisfied that the policy they offer gives the same cover that our current one does. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Finch that the quotation from Parish Protect should be accepted and this was seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.

Manor House Lane: problems caused by its use by HGVs. Cllr Hirons reminded the meeting that this issue is a long-standing and on-going one. Unfortunately the current time of lock-down makes meeting with SC officers almost impossible so probably advisable to carry this matter forward.

Outdoor storage of textile waste at Prees Industrial Estate. Cllr Mrs Foster reported that the mound of textiles stored outside at AAT Recycling on the industrial estate is only slightly diminished. She has noticed sacks from inside the buildings being loaded onto waiting lorries, but the external stocks seem to remain. This is despite several promises over the last year or so that this practice would not continue. Cllr Short added that a resident

in Turnpike Rise, which is opposite the industrial estate, is having problems with rats. He attributes this to the textile-recycling operation. Clerk asked to contact Environmental Health at SC.

Play-grounds/Playing field. Clerk reminded the meeting that playgrounds and outdoor gyms were still closed, in accordance with government guidance. Higher Heath playing-field was available as an exercise-space only, but none of the equipment either there or at Prees Playground must currently be accessed. Clear notices at both sites notify the public of this. Unfortunately no update on rabbit cull at HH playing-field currently available: carry forward.

047/20 SALC.

Clerk had received information regarding forthcoming on-line training opportunities (via Zoom)

- Fundamentals for Councillors 28.5.20 2-4pm or 4.6.20 5-7pm.

048/20 Accounting Matters

Accounts for Payment May 2020

	£
Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary May 2020	465.12
HMRC (PAYE)	3.00
Clerks expenses (detailed below)	137.83
Scottish Power streetlight energy 31.3.20 – 30.4.20	123.73
Groundforce Landscape Ltd: grass-cutting etc, invoice for April	<u>457.80</u>
Total	£1187.48

Clerk's expenditure 17.4.20 – 12.5.20

May BT line rental contribution: £12.50

3 x 2nd class stamps @ 65p = £1.95

1 x printer paper @ £3.50

Zoom upgrade for one year (carried forward from last month)= £119.88

Total = £137.83

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Short that the accounts should be paid and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour.

049/20 Correspondence:

- The Village Hall Committee had asked their thanks to be relayed to the Parish Council for its generous decision to continue to pay the usual monthly Village Hall rental during lock-down.

050/20 Items for next Agenda:

Possible donation of equipment to Elmhurst - Twemlows Woods Paths - AAT Recycling - Neighbourhood Fund.

Meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....