

Minutes of the Meeting of Prees Parish Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
at 7.00 pm via the video conferencing platform 'Zoom'.

Present were Cllrs R Hiron; Mrs S Short; Mrs B Finch; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs D Foster; M Lanham; R List; J Whelan; D Ladd; PWynn together with Mrs K Sieloff clerk to the Parish Council.

020/21 Public session. Two members of the public were present but did not wish to address the Parish Council.

021/21 Apologies received from Cllrs Mrs S Jones; Mrs L Baer and J Allen.

022/21 For members to disclose pecuniary or impecuniary interests.

Cllr Mrs B Finch disclosed an interest in planning application 21/00138/CPE and Cllr J Whelan disclosed an interest in planning application 20/05430/FUL. Clerk will provide forms for them to sign as soon as possible.

023/21 Minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday January 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 had been previously circulated. The clerk apologised that the recording of those present at the meeting was incorrect and advised that the following amendment was necessary: Cllrs P Wynn and J Allen to be recorded as present, Cllr Mrs S Jones' name to be removed from those recorded as present and Cllr D Ladd to be recorded as joining the meeting partway through item 011/21. With these amendments the Minutes were agreed to be a true record and it was proposed by Cllr Mrs D Foster that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

024/21 Actions arising from the Minutes that are not on the Agenda. There were none.

025/21 Shropshire Council Report. Cllr P Wynn's report made the following points:

- A Covid-19 vaccination centre is up and running at Prees Medical Centre
- Advisory signage discouraging heavy traffic from using Mickley Lane was erected the day before. It is hoped that this will be replaced by permanent signage 'Not Suitable for HGVs'. It is hoped that drainage problems in the area will be resolved within a couple of weeks. Potholes beyond Sandford are due to be addressed.
- Disquiet about commercial activities in Twemlows Wood will be chased up.
- Waste bins can be relocated by Shropshire Council if requested. Dog waste, securely bagged, can be put in 'ordinary' waste bins.
- Pothole repair in Moreton Street has again been raised with SC. Storm drains need more frequent cleaning out to avoid flooding and Cllr Wynn is pursuing this.

Cllr J Whelan thanked Cllr Wynn for his report and asked whether it might be possible for Mickley Lane to have a weight restriction of 7.5 tonnes imposed on it, except for access. Cllr Wynn said he would follow this idea up.

026/21 Community Policing. PC Deb Wheeler kindly provided the following report for the past month.

*RTC's: 1 RTC reported slight injury.*

*Mobile Patrols: SNT have been carrying out regular mobile patrols within your area.*

*Anti-Social Behaviour: Report of loose dogs on Lighteach Road, SNT dealing*

*Highways: numerous reports of flooding due to the weather, 1 report of loose sheep on the highway.*

*Covid Breaches: 1 report of a covid breach has been received from your area, officers have attended no breach.*

*West Mercia website:*

*West Mercia website can be used to Report incidents, Did you know that West Mercia prioritise on-line reports ([www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report](http://www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report)) in exactly the same way as calls to 101.*

*The site also provides Crime prevention advice and tips: ([www.westmercia.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention](http://www.westmercia.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention))*

*SNT Inspector*

*Claire GREENAWAY has now returned to SNT as an Inspector (3155) covering your area.*

*MONTHLY Crime advice:*

*SCAM TELEPHONE CALLS: Don't part with any of your personal information, bank cards, money or valuables. Remember:*

*Criminals may be calling: Suspect anyone you don't know, regardless of who they claim to be. Answer 'NO' to any personal questions: Don't part with any of your personal information or money. Remember, the police and your bank would NEVER ask for such details as your PIN or account numbers over the phone.*

*Leave the conversation: If you are suspicious or feel uncomfortable with the caller's questions, then end the call.*

*Let us know: If in doubt hang up and wait 10 minutes, then report to Action Fraud: 0300 123 2040 I [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or the police\* on 101 or report online at: [www.westmercia.police.uk/report](http://www.westmercia.police.uk/report) Report to the police if the crime is still happening, the suspect is in the local area or if you are vulnerable and unable to contact Action Fraud.*

### **Campaigns:**

*As part of Operation Snap, members of the public can report and submit digital footage showing potential traffic offences via a secure online form. The form can be found on*

*<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/operationsnap>*

*This can range from driving dangerously or carelessly to overtaking on solid white lines, using a mobile phone while driving, ignoring traffic lights or dangerous driving around other road users, such as horse riders and cyclists. Your submission will be sent to West Mercia Police where the evidence will be reviewed by one of our road traffic police officers. Due to the large volume of submissions received each week, we are unable to update each submitter regarding the outcome of their allegation. However, all submissions are dealt with pro-actively to help reduce risk taking and poor driving on our counties roads. Any footage submitted through the portal can be used by us to help educate other road users and to advice on case results.*

*For more information, please see the Frequently Asked Questions section or email [OpSnap@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:OpSnap@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)*

### **Mobile phones:**

*West Mercia Police are supporting the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) mobile phone campaign (8<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Feb), by targeting motorists who continue to use their mobile phone at the wheel.*

*Distraction behind the wheel is such a significant contributory factor with regards to road collisions and this campaign demonstrates a willingness by police forces across the UK to tackle the issue of mobile phone use. As part of the campaign motorists are being urged to really consider the impact using a mobile phone has on their driving ability, whether this is hand held or hands free and for all use, not just calls. Whilst hands free is still legal, it is still a distraction and has been proven that drivers are more likely to be involved in a collision, are far less likely to notice or react to hazards, show poor lane discipline and display variable speed choices. If being distracted is leading to dangerous driving behaviour then enforcement can still be an option whether hands free or not.*

*For some people ensuring that your mobile phone is kept out of easy reach or turning your mobile off whilst driving is an easy way of avoiding the temptation.*

*Motorists caught using a mobile phone could face a £200 fine and six points on their licence. Drivers caught twice face a lengthy ban – which could also then lead to a £1,000 fine. While new drivers - those who have passed within the last two years - face having their licence revoked if caught just once.*

*The SNT would like to thank the local residents for calling 101 and passing on information.*

027/21 Planning Matters.

Current planning applications for consultation:

- 20/05430/FUL: Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for siting of a static caravan. Caravan At Grassleigh, Whitchurch Road, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2DD. Applicant: Miss Felicity Beddoes (Grassleah, Platt Farm, Prees, SY13 2DD)

(At this point the clerk's access to the internet was lost and she dropped out of the meeting. Cllr Mrs S Short kindly took the Minutes until the clerk was able to rejoin the meeting at the point indicated.)

It was noted that the "static caravan" had been brought to site in July 2020. This application had been refused in 2017 and there was no change in the application, so the meeting felt it should object to this application. The

proposal was made to this effect by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Foster. The vote was unanimous in support of this proposal.

- 21/00318/FUL: Proposal: Erection of a pitched roof single storey side extension and erection of new boundary wall with timber fence inserts, and surfacing of part of front garden to allow additional on-site parking following demolition of existing garage. The New House, 1A Station Road, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2DN. Applicant: Mr And Mrs P Mitchell.

Cllr Whelan informed the meeting that the proposed position for the oil tank was non-complaint and therefore it was inappropriate for the Council to support this application. At the present time there was not a Highways report with regard the driveway. Therefore the Parish Council had a duty to object to this application. This was proposed by Cllr Whelan and seconded by Cllr Foster. The vote was unanimous in support.

- 21/00120/REM: Approval of reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline permission 17/03775/OUT for the erection of 5No. residential dwellings including access off Shrewsbury Street in line with condition 1 the application is looking to seek consent upon appearance, layout, scale, landscaping. An access plan was approved under the outline but additional information is provided in line with condition 1 and 11. The outline permission requires a suite of additional information to be submitted with the first reserved matters which include; Foul and Surface Water Drainage Up to date Arboriculture Report and Tree Protection Plan Updated Ecological Report Construction Environmental Management Plan Detailed Landscaping Plan. Applicant: Messrs John & William Nash (Co Peter Richards & Co. Limited, Crabtree Farm, Prees Heath, Whitchurch, SY13 3JY)

There was considerable discussion on this application. There were two issues of concern. Firstly, it was thought that Highways required more detail on the layout of the access to the development area, which would be necessary because of the possible further development on the site. Secondly, the access must be appropriate for emergency vehicles (including waste disposal vehicles /20 ton wt limit) from the outset, for the present application and in readiness for future development. The proposal to object to this application was put forward by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr List. The vote was unanimous in support.

- 21/00640/TCA: PROPOSED TREE WORKS: Various works to trees within Prees Conservation Area (see schedule of works): Old Vicarage, Church Street, Prees, Whitchurch, Shrops.

(At this point the clerk returned to the meeting and resumed the minute-taking.) The Parish Council resolved to support this Application for necessary remedial works to the trees including the felling of two in danger of falling. This was proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.

*The following Application is sent to the PC for information only:*

- 21/00138/CPE: Application for Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of domestic storage of an outbuilding previously classed as agricultural storage. The application is made in relation to Section 191(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as the development was carried out more than 10 years ago and the use has been ongoing and uninterrupted by enforcement action. Waverley , Nook Lane, Weston Under Redcastle, SY4 5LP. Applicant: Mr And Mrs N Bell.

Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council:

**20/05259/FUL:** Proposal: Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the change of use from retail use (A1) to display and sale of cars (Sui Generis) for a temporary 2 year period. Former Black Shop, Mill Lane, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2HR

Decision: Grant Permission.

**20/05276/TPO:** Prune back Oak Trees protected by The North Shropshire District Council (Prees Higher Heath No 6) TPO 1975. 104 Twemlows Avenue, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2HD. Decision: Grant Permission

**20/04621/FUL :** Erection of extension and conversion of existing garage to form self-contained granny annexe Roma , 32 Twemlows Avenue, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, SY13 2HE. Decision: Grant Permission

Other planning matters:

Twemlows Wood: update on current situation. Cllr Wynn to follow up, as stated in his report.

Heathwood Road: concern about removal of hedges and trees. Planning department at SC has confirmed that the works carried out were authorised.

028/21 Parish and Parish Council Matters.

**Mickley and Lostford Lanes:** addressed in Cllr Wynn's report.

**Covid-Heroes Garden Party.** The clerk reported that this event has now been postponed until June 2022, but decisions about nominations are still to be made this year. This will be an Agenda item in March.

**Prees Medical Centre: update.** Cllr Mrs S Short reported that, after further communication with the Practice Manager, she was able to report that the Vaccination programme was for categories 1 – 4 only at the present time, but 2<sup>nd</sup> doses would soon commence. There was also the vaccinating of housebound and care home residents happening at the present time as well. She wished to pass on a big thank you to local residents for coping with the considerable increase of traffic throughout the village.

Information is changing all the time, with regards the vaccination programme, so her message was also, for people not to call the Practice on this matter, as they are busy phoning hundreds of patients to book them in. It was resolved to send a letter to the Practice (addressed to Dr Catherine Rogers) thanking all personnel, both paid and voluntary, involved in the roll-out of the vaccine. Proposed by Cllr Mrs B Rainford and seconded by Cllr D Ladd. Clerk to draft letter for Chair to sign.

### **Playground Matters**

- Repair of equipment at Prees playground has been arranged. Clerk following up insurance claim.
- Posts at HH playing-field: quotes awaited for alternative posts.
- Rabbit cull at HH. Permission requested to extend permitted hours of activity. Unanimously agreed that culling activity could be extended until 11 am Monday to Friday, but all work to be stopped if children present. Clerk to draft permit for Chair to sign.

**Community-led Build of Affordable Homes.** Last meeting was 25.1.21. Traditional timber porches agreed on and brick boundary walls to be retained. Decision on planning application expected soon.

Hazardous footpath crossing of A49. Cllr Mrs D Foster to meet on-site with David Gradwell from SC Highways in the coming week. Item for next Agenda.

**Wrafton Terrace.** Carried forward as Cllr J Allen not present.

**War Memorial.** The clerk had obtained three quotes for the work of cleaning and re-pointing the War Memorial and these had been previously circulated to all cllrs. The quotes ranged from £875.00 to £1050 (ex VAT.) At the meeting it was resolved to accept the quote from Masonry Renovations whose quote was the lowest while still providing evidence of quality work. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Short and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.

**The Square.** The clerk reported that she was awaiting a report from Building Control at SC following their officers' visit on 11<sup>th</sup> February to assess the hazards about which the PC had registered concern.

**Website.** Cllr Mrs B Rainford and the clerk had researched various alternative website-providers and three quotes had been obtained and circulated to all cllrs. Quotes ranged from £650.00 for the set-up of a new website plus a monthly charge of £40.00 for maintenance, to £330.00 for the set-up and a monthly charge of £10.00. Cllr Mrs Rainford and the clerk were both content that My Parish Council, whose quote was cheapest, would provide an adequate service. Cllr Mrs Rainford reminded the meeting that it would also be necessary to purchase a domain name, which would be at a cost of approximately £10.00 per annum. She recommended that this should be [preesparish@org.uk](mailto:preesparish@org.uk) to which nobody objected. Cllr Mrs Rainford proposed that the quote from My Parish Council should be accepted and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.

**Housekeeping matters:** nothing new to report but clerk to check that the Venture carries advice on how residents can report potholes directly to Shropshire Council.

**PC Facebook page:** Nothing new to report.:

**A41 incident log:** nothing new to report.

Neighbourhood Fund spending priorities. The working party reported that they had gone through the suggestions received from parishioners and excluded all those items that were deemed to be the responsibility of other agencies. After careful consideration of all the other suggestions a shortlist of three had been made: footpath to the railway station; multi-use skate park; cycle path from Prees to Higher Heath and on to Whitchurch. Further consideration of these ideas to be made at the next meeting.

**Youth Shelter:** The Parish Council has heard that the Cricket and Recreation Club staff are still having to clean up glass and litter in and around the Youth Shelter and this is not an acceptable situation. There is a bin in the Shelter but it is not always used. Cllr J Whelan is on the Committee at the Club but his internet connection to the meeting was lost before he could contribute to this item and he was not able to return to the meeting. The item will be carried forward to the next meeting. In the mean-time Cllrs Mrs S Short offered to communicate with the leaders of local youth groups to see if it was possible to influence the way the Shelter was used and Cllr Mrs B Finch offered to assist with this. The clerk was asked to enquire from other clerks what they did in similar circumstances.

**Vehicle speed monitors.** The clerk reported that she had been in contact with a couple of Parish Councils who had funded the installation of posts themselves. She will follow up the contacts she has been given.

**Prees Convenience Store:** Cllr Mrs B Finch reported that pallets were still being stacked on the pavement at the front of the shop despite a letter from the PC requesting that they be stored to the rear of the shop to avoid potential hazard. The clerk was asked to contact SC and request their help with the matter.

**Census 2021:** The census is to take place on 21 March 2021. Cllr Hirons and the clerk attended a seminar disseminating information and learned that all Prees parishioners will receive paper Census documents through the post although the document can be completed online if preferred.

**Election 2021:** Cllr Hirons reminded the meeting that Parish Council Elections will take place on May 6<sup>th</sup> of this year. The clerk will be attending training on March 5<sup>th</sup> and will share information as necessary.

**Resumption of face-to-face meetings.** Cllr Hirons reported that as it stands, PC meetings can only be held virtually up to and including 6<sup>th</sup> May of this year. After that the current legislation allowing virtual meetings runs out and from 7<sup>th</sup> May face to face meetings must resume.

**Dog waste bin** for footpath by industrial estate. Residents have requested a dog waste bin on this footpath. SC had quoted £300.00 for the supply of a high-capacity multipurpose bin with an annual charge of £125.00 for it to be emptied. Cllr Lanham confirmed for the meeting that appropriately bagged dog waste can be disposed of in 'ordinary' rubbish bins: it does not have to go into a dedicated dog waste bin. Cllr D Ladd suggested that as there is a general rubbish bin as well as a dedicated dog waste bin by Jackie's Shop in the centre of Prees, the dog waste bin could be relocated for use at the footpath, presumably without any additional emptying charge from SC. Clerk to enquire if this could be arranged. Clerk to map the provision of bins throughout the parish and to source bin-labels advising that dog waste can be disposed of in general rubbish bins as this seems not to be widely known.

**Streetlamp maintenance contract.** One more quote awaited. Matter to be on March Agenda for decision.

**SALC.** Nothing to report.

## 029/21 Accounting Matters

Payment of Accounts February 2021

### Accounts for Payment February 2021

	£
Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary February 2021	465.12
HMRC (PAYE)	3.00
Clerks expenditure (detailed below)	15.14
Scottish Power (streetlight energy 31.12.20-31.1.21)	128.27
Groundforce Landscape Ltd (works January 2021)	24.00
ALC Annual Affiliation fees (1.4.20-31.3.21 )	1054.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>1690.29</b>

*Clerk's expenditure 13.1.21-10.2.21*  
*February BT line rental contribution: £12.50*  
*Stamps: 4 x 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps @ 66p = £2.64*  
*Total = £15.14*

Cllr Mrs Short proposed that these accounts should be paid and this was seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.

030/21 Correspondence

- Email from resident concerned about vehicles parked on verge by burial ground. Clerk to find out whose land it is and to advise resident accordingly.
- Letter received suggesting that Parish Council might consider spending Neighbourhood Fund money on land to be used for burials. Agenda item for next meeting.
- Clerk reported several Final Demands erroneously issued by Scottish Power for alleged non-payment of invoices. Some of these were received after the cheque in question had been cashed. Clerk sought permission to make a formal complaint and this was unanimously given.

031/21 Items for next Agenda

- Presentation about work to local footpaths
- Traffic problems outside local schools

The meeting was closed at 8.50.

Signed..... Date.....