

Minutes of the Meeting of Prees Parish Council held on Tuesday July 19<sup>th</sup> 2022  
at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Present were Cllr J Whelan; Mrs B Finch; Mrs S Jones; Mrs L Baer; R List; J Allen and M Lanham together with Mrs K Sieloff, clerk to the Parish Council. There was also one member of the Public present.

**091/22** Public Session. There were no contributions from the Public.

**092/22** Apologies received from Cllrs R Hirons; Mrs S Short; Mrs B Rainford and D Ladd;

**093/22.** Declaration of Interests. Cllr J Whelan declared an interest in the item under Parish and Parish Council Matters concerning the local branch of the Royal British Legion as he is Chairman.

**094/22** Minutes. The Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022 which had been previously circulated were agreed to be a true record. Cllr Mrs B Finch proposed that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr J Allen. All were in favour.

**095/22** Matters Arising from the Minutes (which are not included on the Agenda.

- The bench bought for the bus shelter in Heathwood Road in Higher Heath has now been installed.

**096/22** Shropshire Council Report. There was no report available.

**097/22** Community Policing Report. PCSO Hannah Lister attended with a colleague and delivered the following report:

Incidents to be aware of (June 2022)

- Mobile Police Station was in Prees on the morning of 6 June 2022.
- Proactive Traffic Operation carried out throughout North Shropshire area including Prees on 25 June 2022. One vehicle seized and five Traffic Offence Reports issued.
- 2 x RTCs: One minor damage only and one with male arrested for various motoring offences.
- Three assaults (all unrelated) with suspects identified and arrested.
- 1 x Criminal Damage with suspect identified and enquiries ongoing.
- 1 x Make Off Without Payment: suspect has been identified and enquiries on-going.
- 1 x report of a suspicious male in Prees. Attended by PCSO: area search, no trace and reassurance given to informant.
- 1 x Mental Health incident where a male was taken to hospital for appropriate support.
- 1 x Missing Person with dementia who was located by Police and returned home.

**Priority: Speeding**. SNT have completed speed surveys on Whitchurch Road, Prees and in Lower Heath with figures sent to the Road Safety Team for relevant action. Highest speed recorded: 52 mph.

**Mobile Police Station** Whitchurch SNT will be in Prees and Higher Heath with the Mobile Police Station during August. Dates to be confirmed.

**098/22** Planning

Current planning applications for consultation: there were none.

The following Application for a Lawful Development Certificate was for information only.

- 22/02826/CPE: Application for a Lawful Development Certificate in relation to a breach of an 'agricultural occupancy condition' tied to a property. The property has been occupied continually by a person or persons not connected with agriculture for a period of over 10 years. We request therefore that occupancy by any person be confirmed as lawful and that the condition is therefore no longer applicable to the property. Church Farm Bungalow, Fauls, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2AU. Applicant: Mr Robert Irvine-List.

**Planning decisions received from Shropshire Council**

- 22/02288/FUL: Hatton House, Darliston, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2AP. Erection of tow storey rear extension, single storey side extension, elevational alteration and the addition of a porch to the front elevation.

Decision: Grant Permission.

- 22/02483/TPO: The Maples, Heathwood Road, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HG. Proposal: Fell 1no Scots Pine protected by The North District Council (Drumcote, Heathwood Road, Prees) TPO 1981 (Ref: NS/00055/81)  
Decision: Grant Permission.
- 22/02183/FUL: Laurel Bank, Painters Lane, Fauls, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2AT. Erection of two storey rear extension. Decision: Refuse.
- 22/02253/FUL: Knights Grange, Prees Green, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2BN. Change of use of agricultural land to domestic and the erection of conservatory to rear elevation (change in development description.) Decision: Grant Permission.
- 22/02062/FUL: Unit 2 Former Grain Store, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA. Re-configuration of internal road arrangement. Decision: Grant Permission.
- 22/02453/FUL: Lilyfields, Lighteach Road, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2DR. Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of an agricultural building for housing cattle. Decision: Grant Permission

#### **099/22 Parish and Parish Council Matters.**

- Co-option of Parish Councillor to fill vacancy: progress report from clerk.  
The vacancy has been advertised with a closing date for applications of 7 August 2022. Eligible applicants will be asked to attend the August 16<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting where voting will take place if necessary to find a candidate to immediately join the Parish Council.
- Lack of burial space at St Chad's. Update by Cllr M Lanham.  
Cllr Lanham reported that having ascertained who owns the field next to the churchyard, he had been in conversation with one of the family in the hope that they would perhaps be open to providing some of that land to the Church for burial use. The family's response is awaited. Clerk to draft a letter to the Parochial Church Council providing an update.
- Community Led Building Development Whitchurch Road.  
An email from Wrekin has confirmed that the contractor Hawk has finally gone into liquidation and a new contractor will have to be found. There will hopefully be further information available following a meeting of the Project Board on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- Homes Plus Group expresses an interest in developing the site at the front of the Industrial Estate (including the Canteen site) for Affordable Housing.  
Following a consultation with Tim Shrosbree at SC, the Parish Council's position is that there is currently no need for further Affordable Homes development in Prees. When the current development in Whitchurch Road is completed another assessment of need can be carried out to ascertain any requirements at that point. Clerk to convey this to Homes Plus Group.
- Local speeding issues.
  1. Vehicle speed monitors. Have we enough volunteers to maintain them?  
Cllr J Allen offered to take on the maintenance of the monitor outside Holly Farm on the A49. Clerk to ask Cllr Ladd if he would kindly show Cllr Allen the necessary process.
  2. Clerk to find out whether monitors with a re-chargeable battery can be converted to solar power.
  3. Should we join the West Mercia Police Community Speed Partnership Programme? Clerk to advertise the Programme on PC website to assess local interest, and to ask Cllr Ladd to do the same on Facebook.
  4. Clerk to enquire of Hodnet Parish Council concerning the success or otherwise of their Community speed monitoring.
  5. Are we any closer to the much-requested extension of 30 mph along Whitchurch Road? Clerk to ask for an update from Cllr P Wynn.
- Helicopter Noise Liaison Group. Cllr Mrs S Short provided the following report made from Minutes issued this week of the Meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

*21 people attended the meeting, with 14 apologies*

*The Station Commander gave an update, identifying that 36 helicopters are used to train aircrew from all 3 services, both at RAF Shawbury and RAF Valley. He also informed the meeting that 45% of the training is now undertaken in flight simulators.*

*He stated that the main areas used for training are Tern Hill, Chetwynd, Nesscliff Training Area and Sleaf Airfield, in addition there are 82 fields and clearings that Landowners have given their permission for RAF Shawbury to use.*

*Information was displayed at the meeting showing the number of complaints received from 2016 -2022. There was a reduced level of complaints received in 2022 which was due to the changeover to the UK Military Training System. The increase in complaints in 2020 and 2021 was thought to be due to the impact of Covid-19, as more people were working from home, as well as an influx of people moving into the area who were unaware that it is an active helicopter training area.*

*A cluster of complaints were received from near Tern Hill, Nesscliff and Chetwynd.*

*The increase in drone activity and its potential dangers to airspace users and especially helicopter training activities was also discussed.*

*There were no complaints submitted to Shropshire Council.*

- Possibility of the provision of a central car-charging point in Prees. Information received is that Parish Councils are not permitted to charge for the provision of electricity and therefore provision of a charging-point for electrical cars in Prees would have to be undertaken by a third party. Clerk to contact SC to ask if it would consider installing a charger in the Village Hall car park and also to enquire of Meres and Mosses, and Shropshire Rural, whether they had any plans to provide such a facility locally. Clerk also to find out if the Parish Council can ask for the provision of EV charge-point as a condition of supporting a planning application.
- Request for funding from Prees Royal British Legion Branch. Cllr J Whelan asked Cllr J Allen to take over as Chair for this item as he is himself Chair of the local branch. Cllr J Allen advised that Prees Royal British Legion has written to request a contribution from the Parish Council of £300.00 towards re-design of War Memorial garden to make them easier to maintain. Cllr Mrs S Jones proposed that the contribution should be made and this was seconded by Cllr J Allen. All were in favour. Health and Wellbeing Survey for Prees and Whitchurch residents. The details of this were sent to the PC by Chris Hirons in his role as part of the Shropshire Public Health team delivering the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment programme. Clerk to ask Cllr D Ladd to post on Facebook. Link to the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ShropCommunitySurvey>
- Police and Crime Commissioners Town and Parish Council Survey 2022. The Parish Council completed the Survey as a body. Clerk to post.
- Whitchurch Road/A49 mowing has been reduced. Clerk has reported this to the contractor and requested response.
- Ideas received for Neighbourhood Fund expenditure:
  1. Church street footway improvement. Clerk is researching the possibilities on this.
  2. A49 Prees Green footpath. Cllr Lanham hopes the re-opening of a currently blocked rural footpath following a similar route will provide the same facility. He hopes to organize this remedial work for this year.
  3. New road-name signs for Towers Drive, Higher Heath. This is a matter for Shropshire Council. Clerk to pass on.
- Commemorative trees in the three Wards for Platinum Jubilee. Update Clerk has contacted Fauls (Parochial Church Council) and Higher Heath (Village Hall Committee) wards about this. Both have said the matter will be discussed and responded to in due course. Cllr

Whelan reported that the Prees Cricket and Recreation Club are also considering whether they could accommodate a tree.

- Housekeeping: nothing current to report.
- Facebook: nothing current to report.

**100/22 SALC.** Nothing to report.

**101/22 Accounting Matters**

- Accounts for Payment July 2022

It was proposed by Cllr M Lanham that the following accounts should be paid and this was seconded by Cllr R List. All were in favour.

Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary July 2022	481.62
HMRC (PAYE)	8.12
Clerk's expenditure (16.6.22- 12.7.22)	187.82
Scottish Power (streetlight energy 31.5.22-30.6.22)	475.07
Highline Electrical Ltd (June 2022)	391.20
Groundforce Landscape Ltd (June 2022)	347.64
Playsafety Ltd	277.20
Garoll Construction Services	<u>245.99</u>
Total	2,414.66

*Late arriving invoices to be included*

Bernard Townson internal audit fee	110.00
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**Grand Total £ 2,524.66**

Clerk's expenditure 16.6.22-12.7.22

*BT line rental contribution July 2022: £ 12.50*

*2x return trips to internal auditor = mileage allowance of 56 miles @ 45ppm=£25.20*

*Trip to noticeboards for June Agenda etc: mileage allowance of 8 miles @ 45 ppm: £3.60*

*Stamps: 4 x 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps @ 66p=£2.64*

*Automatic annual payment for Zoom subscription (overlooked April 2022): £143.88*

*Total= £187.82.*

- Review of Actual Spend Against Budget for First Quarter April-June 2022.  
The PC perused the document. It was agreed that it contained no alarming information apart from the huge leap in energy costs (streetlamp electricity) which means that more than 44% of the amount budgeted for the year has already been spent. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council fortunately has substantial reserves.  
It was also noted that next year the amount budgeted for Annual Fees (membership subscriptions etc) needs to be increased.
- Clerk explained that on Cllr Mrs D Fosters resignation she would be grateful if another cllr would take on the task of checking the Bank Reconciliations. Cllr Mrs L Baer kindly offered to do this.
- Audit of financial year 2021-2
  1. Internal Auditors report had been received and was now scrutinised. The internal auditor had found no reasons for concern. He had also supplied a letter explaining the assessments he had recorded on the AGAR form.
  2. The clerk confirmed that the Unaudited Accounts have been advertised as available for public scrutiny from 1.7.22.

3. Clerk confirmed that the completed AGAR for 2021-22 will now go off to External Auditor.

**102/22** Correspondence: None outstanding.

**103/22** Items for next Agenda (August 16 2022.)

- War Memorial at Fauls. Whose asset?
- Should the Parish Council contribute to the maintenance of Church property?
- RoSPA report on Parish playgrounds
- Cycle-racks for village centre?

The Meeting was closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

DRAFT