

Minutes of the Meeting of Prees Parish Council held on Tuesday April 18 2023
at 7.00 pm in Prees Village Hall

Present were Cllrs R Hiron; J Whelan; Mrs B Finch; Mrs L Baer; Mrs S Jones; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs J Catterall; M Lanham and R List. Mrs K Sieloff clerk to the Parish Council was also present. There were no members of the public attending.

041/23 Public Session. There were no contributions from the public.

042/23 Apologies received from Cllrs Mrs S Short; D Ladd; J Allen and P Wynn.

043/23 Declaration of Interests. There were none.

044/23 The Minutes of the meeting held on March 21 2023, previously circulated, were agreed to be a true record and Cllr Mrs B Finch proposed that they should be signed. This was seconded by Cllr J Whelan and all were in favour.

045/23 Matters Arising from the Minutes (which are not included on the Agenda.) There were none.

046/23 Shropshire Council report. Cllr Wynn reported confidentially on a couple of Enforcement issues and in addition made the following points:

- The Parish Council's concerns about the safety of Lighteach Road for both vehicles and pedestrians if planned development along there goes ahead are not supported by Highway officers who have no objection as it is a public highway with no restriction on it.
- Cllr Wynn has taken action to support Mr Ian Henderson's and the clerk's efforts to have the unsightly 'temporary' fence behind the bus shelter on Whitchurch Road replaced.

047/23 Community Policing Report. There was no report available.

048/23 Planning Matters

Current planning applications for consultation:

The following for information only, already decided.

23/01042/TCA: Old Vicarage, Church Street, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2EE. Fell 2no Pine within Prees Conservation Area. Applicant: Mrs Amber Noss.

Planning decisions received from Shropshire Council.

23/00381/FUL: Cornerwood, Formerly Nosregor The Bungalow, Sandford, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HZ. Erection of garage with store over including change of use of land and a new log store.

Decision: Refuse.

23/00086/FUL: 9 Sandford, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2AW. Erection of a two storey front and rear extension of outbuilding to provide garden room and erection of domestic garage.

Decision: Refuse.

049/23 Parish and Parish Council Matters

- The Square, Prees. Cllr Ladd had reported a leak at the site between the new house and the hairdresser's shop. In trying to report this to the solicitors handling the property, the clerk had found out that they had fallen foul of the Solicitors' regulatory body and were no longer in business. Clerk had updated Helen Morgan MP who was going to make enquiries with Shropshire Council about possible enforcement action against the owners of The Square.
Clerk to research if a Parish Council is able to spend funds on engaging legal help in such cases.
- Highway matters
 1. Unlawful parking at Prees centre crossroads causing obstruction to emergency vehicles.
Clerk to write to John Campion. Parish Council was promised reinstated double yellow lines as a matter of priority a year ago.
 2. Hazardous parking outside Prees School. Clerk to email Cllr Paul Wynn to ask if there is any progress.

3. Heathgates Crossroads: proposed stopping-up of road out to A41 Sandford. Clerk has heard nothing in response to her enquiries. What has happened to this proposal? Clerk to further pursue.

- Lengthsman. Cllr Mrs B Rainford proposed that a lengthsman should be appointed by the Parish Council initially for 4 hours per week to tackle tasks such as sweeping leaves off pathways; cleaning road signs; cutting back over-growth etc. Cllr M Lanham seconded this proposal and all were in favour. Clerk to check insurance requirements; ask for advice from Audlem who run a similar system; ask Shropshire Council if we can have debris collected and also if they can provide PPE. It was agreed that the person appointed would be expected to organize their own workload.
- Highway improvements in Higher Heath proposed by WSP. The Parish Council did not have an alternative proposal to those put forward. Clerk to advise Jon Eastwood.
- Station Road streetlamp: quote for lopping of obstructing tree. Clerk advised that Nathan Roberts is to meet with her on-site as soon as he has availability. Clerk was asked to obtain additional quote.
- Community-led housing project – update from Project Board. Members of the Project Board advised there is a meeting next Tuesday 25 April 2023.
- Infrastructure Levy consultation by DLUHC. NALC invites response by 19 May 2023. The Parish Council noted the consultation but declined to make a formal response.
- Proposed new printer purchase. After consideration of the installation fees payable, it was agreed that these were not unreasonable considering the level of service/support offered. Cllr Mrs B Rainford proposed that the purchase of the new printer should go ahead. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs L Baer. All were in favour.
- Update on progress of conversion of street-lamp stock to LED. Item carried forward.
- Lighting needed on path to Playground in Higher Heath? Cllr Mrs S Jones voiced concerns about the lack of street lighting in particular areas of Higher Heath, especially on the path to the playground on Manor House Lane. Clerk to find out if Shropshire Council has a lighting advisor. Clerk also to research current solar-powered lighting and to find out whether SC would need to approve installation of same.
- Do local dog-owners need education concerning the hazards of dog excrement. Cllr Mrs Jones expressed her concerns about the number of dog-owners who seem unaware of the need to clean up after their pets. Clerk to research posters/signage encouraging responsible dog-ownership. NFU may be able to advise.
- Improvements to playground facilities. Clerk to contact the two local primary schools to see if any parents would be interested in putting forward ideas for improvements to provision, hopefully to widen appeal and to make more provision for less able. Cllrs Mrs Finch and Mrs Catterall to meet with clerk on site. Clerk to liaise with schools and cllrs.
- Housekeeping matters to report? It was reported that paint has been thrown over the plastic bus shelter at Manor Place. Clerk to ask SC for advice about cleaning it.
- Facebook: anything to report? Nothing currently.

050/23 SALC. A meeting held the evening before (17.4.23) will be reported on in due course.

051/23 Accounting Matters

Prees Parish Council Accounts for Payment April 2023

	£
Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary April 2023	481.62
HMRC (PAYE)	8.12
Clerk's expenditure (16.3.23- 12.4.23)	18.08
Technochip Computers Ltd	170.00
Scottish Power (streetlight energy 1.3.23-1.4.23)	222.57
Groundforce Landscape Ltd (works March 2023))	<u>347.64</u>

	TOTAL	1248.03
Additional invoice for payment Ray Parry Playgrounds		<u>3558.00</u>
	GRAND TOTAL	<u>4806.03</u>

Clerk's expenditure 16.3.23-12.4.23

BT line rental contribution April 2023: £ 12.50

Petrol: 1 x trip to noticeboards (March Meeting documents) 8 miles @ 45p per mile =£3.60

Stamps: 3 x 2nd class stamps @ 66p= £1.98

Total= £18.08

052/23 Correspondence.

Clerk received email from parishioner concerned about local mole-catcher's practice of displaying dead moles on public fence. Cllr Wynn had been able to resolve issue by making contact with land-owner, who apologised for offence caused.

053/23 Items for next Agenda.

054/23 Move to Exclude Press and Public.

Cllr Hirons proposed that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Catterall. All were in favour and the Parish Council continued in private session.

055/23 Confidential item: lack of burial space at St Chad's.

The meeting was closed at 9.00pm

Signed.....

Date