

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2013

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs C Sutton, (Chairman), Cllr Mrs P Chester-Master (Vice-Chairman), Cllr R Canton, Cllr Mrs Regine Freyne, Cllr Mrs J Tomblin, Cllr C Bennett (District), Cllr Ms J Layton (District), Cllr S Parson (County) and Mrs C Braidwood (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

None

2. **Minutes of the last Parish Meeting held on 3 May 2012**

It was agreed that the Minutes were a true and accurate record of the previous meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

It was noted that the Highways issues raised in 2012 remain outstanding and they should be taken up with Highways at the earliest opportunity. The Village farm sign is also still an issue.

3. **Annual Report of Preston Parish Council**

The Chairman gave a report from the Parish Council (attached) and asked for a letter of thanks to be sent to Mrs Warren for all her work on the Village Newsletter. Cllr Mrs Chester-Master then gave a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

4. **Reports from County and District Councillors**

Cllr Clive Bennett (District)

Report Attached

Shaun Parsons (County)

- Reduced staff numbers by 1400 and costs in order to keep the Council tax down.
- GCC budget is £400m as opposed to £11m at CDC
- Social Services costs are increasing and take larger proportion of the budget.
- Rural communities not so dependent upon social services where sustainability is more of an issue and GCC is improving broadband in partnership with BT.
- Conservatives have no overall control after recent election with only 23 seats.
- GCC has reduced the number of Councillors by 10 resulting in bigger Divisions. Water Park now goes as far north as the Northleach boundary on A429.
- Flooding and sewage is still a major problem. Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP arranged meetings with all agencies and the public to look at the problem. There has been a considerable understatement of the number of properties affected and a more accurate database is being developed with a grant from DEFRA. There is still much confusion about who can do what and who the riparian owners are.
- Need to progress consultation on the speed limit on A419 for which £3,000 is set aside.
- Starting emergency potholing together with more major work and resurfacing areas where the tarmac has dried out.

Juliet Layton (District)

Report Attached

5. **Finance Report (Attached)**

The increase in administration costs was queried.

6. **Questions from the Public**

None

7. **Any Other Business**

None

6. **The Meeting Closed at 8.05 pm**

