**PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2015**

**PRESENT**:, Cllr Mrs J Tomblin (Chairman), Cllr Mrs S Cameron (Vice-Chairman), Cllr G Edwards, Cllr Mrs R Freyne, Cllr N Price and Cllr Mrs C Sutton

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**:) Mr N Dummett (CPRE), Mr M Rogers (Belectric), Mr and Mrs R Canton, Mr C Huck and Ms M Longstaff and Mrs C Braidwood (Clerk)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Apologies and Reasons for Absence**  Cllr Mrs P Chester-Master (Personal) and Cllr S Parsons (CDC & GCC) |
|  |  |
| **2.** | **Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct** |
| **2.1** | **To Receive Member’s Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda**  None |
| **2.2** | **To Receive Updates to Members Register of Interests**  None |
|  |  |
| **3.** | **Minutes from Previous Meetings** |
| **3.1** | **Acceptance and signing of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 14 May 2015**  **RESOLUTION 21/15**  The Minutes were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman |
| **3.2** | **To Note the Minutes of the Annual Village Meeting held on Thursday, 14 May 2015**  Noted |
|  |  |
| **4.** | **Matters Arising from the Minutes** |
| ***Action:*** | **Village Road Signs – To Consider Quotation from Highways**  The Chairman advised that she and the Clerk would meet with Mr Gray from Highways on the proposed sites of the signs to clarify the exact costs and report by email. It was agreed to also obtain the cost of an additional sign for the Kingshill Lane end of the Village. |
|  | **Speed Limit at the Toll Bar**  The Chairman reported that Cllr Joe Harris of Cirencester Town Council, Cotswold District Council and Gloucestershire County Council is pursuing the matter of speed on the ring road and the toll bar with Gloucestershire Highways and would involve Preston in any further discussions. It was noted that he is using the argument of reduced costs for grass cutting on the verges and roundabouts if the speed limit is reduced. |
|  |  |
| **5.** | **Village Design Statement**  Cllr Mrs Sutton reported that photographs of the whole Village have been taken and the features that are typical of the Village identified, both good and bad. A questionnaire will be circulated to everyone in the Parish (attached) in September. |
|  |  |
| **6.** | **Report from County and District Councillor – Cllr Shaun Parsons**  Not available |
|  |  |
| **7.**  ***Action:*** | **Questions and Comments from the Public**  Mrs Canton raised the issue of the bus service consultation and the proposal to reduce the current 854 service. Mr and Mrs Canton had responded to the consultation stating that the bus service must continue. It is a ¾ hour walk from the Village to link up with any other service in Cirencester and there is no safe pedestrian route to Siddington. Changes are due to come into effect during the week commencing 26 July. The Clerk was requested to check the situation with GCC as residents need to know what is being put in place. |
|  |  |
| **8.** | **Playing Field** |
| **8.1** | **Play Area Report – Cllr G Edwards**  Cllr Edwards confirmed that the equipment is deteriorating and needs to be replaced as soon as possible. |
| **8.2**  ***Action:*** | **Play Area Refurbishment Update**  The Clerk confirmed that the grant applications are in hand. |
|  |  |
| **9.** | **Village Hall - To Receive Report and Update from the Last Meeting – Cllr Mrs C Sutton**  Cllr Mrs Sutton reported that there is a Quiz evening coming up and another theatrical production. |
|  |  |
| **10.** | **Village Affairs**  **Bench**  Members thanked Cllr Price for installing the bench in on the verge outside Kellway and everyone agreed that it looks very good.  **Community Noticeboard**  The Chairman reported that Mr Kendrick would make the Community Notice Board, as soon as he is able to and that he will liaise with Mr and Mrs Mingins regarding the installation. |
|  |  |
| **11.** | **Finance** |
| **11.1** | **Bank Reconciliation and Budget Status up to 30 June 2015**  Noted  Cllr Mrs Sutton raised the matter of the need to appoint a Councillor to oversee Finance and Cllr Price agreed to take on this role. |
| **11.2** | **Bills for Payment**  **RESOLUTION 22/15**  Bibury Landscape Contractors – May & June Grasscutting £499.20  Busy Fingers – May Newsletter £ 29.16 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **12.** | **Planning** |
| **12.1** | **New Planning Applications** |
|  | **15/01923/FUL** **Land Parcel East Of Witpit Lane Preston Gloucestershire**  Proposed development of solar photovoltaic modules including access, temporary construction compound; single and double inverter platforms; transfer station; collecting station; security fencing; CCTV cameras and poles; landscaping; and associated works and infrastructure including underground cable along London Road verge and Witpit Lane verge and related equipment to allow connection to the electricity distribution network  The Chairman advised that new landscaping details have been received and asked those present for their views on the application as a whole. The following issues were raised:   * Concern about noise from inverters * Staff transport during the building phase * Will the Bridleway be closed during the building phase ? – will be up to Gloucestershire Highways. * Signage is needed to prevent traffic speeding. * Will a mock up of the visual impact be available – Mike Rogers agreed to send * Belectric have included 2 options for the position of cameras around the site – at 3m high and 6.6 m high – Belectric prefers the latter position. * Operations Team will monitor cameras.   CPRE considers that the site will have a significant visual impact on the open countryside and suggested that residents and the Parish Council need to decide how valuable the view is to the local community bearing in mind that planting will take away the open view. It was stated that the 419 has already ruined the open view.  CPRE did not object to the solar farm in Ampney Crucis, as it was low visual impact but will object to this site.  The applicant stated that no one has right to a view but CPRE replied that views are in the public domain. |
| **12.2** | **Planning Applications Responded to Since Last Meeting** |
|  | **15/01733/FUL** **Preston Field Barn Cottage Abbey Home Farm Fosseway Preston CIRENCESTER Gloucestershire GL7 5HA**  Replacement of existing semi-detached cottages together with associated ancillary development. (Variation of condition 2 to substitute revised plans for the addition of dormer windows and use of stone for walling instead of timber)  **No Objections** |
| **12.3** | **Decision Notices Received** |
|  | None |
| **12.4** | **Planning Correspondence and Issues** |
|  | **14/02240/FUL** **Land Parcel Off Witpit Lane Adjacent To The A417, Preston, Gloucestershire,**  Change of use to park two HGV's including trailers  Mr Huck confirmed that the lorry drivers would be reapplying for planning approval as the current arrangement expires on 10 September 2015. Cllr Mrs Cameron and Cllr Mrs Sutton stated that the lorries are very visible and screening isn’t adequate together with noise from engines left running late at night and early in the morning. Mr Huck suggested that the lorries could be parked in between the 2 sheds and that this could be included in the Parish Council’s response. It was noted that engines are unlikely to be left running during the summer months and that lorries are not being driven through the Village. |
|  |  |
| **13.** | **Website - To Receive Update**  Nothing to report. |
|  |  |
| **14.** | **Correspondence** |
|  | None |
|  |  |
| **15.** | **Any Other Business**  None |
|  |  |
| **16.** | **Date and Time of Next Meeting**  **Thursday, 3 September 2015 at 7 pm in the Village Hall** |

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm**