

# PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 5 JULY 2018

**PRESENT:** Mr & Mrs A Warren, Mr C Huck, Mrs A Rawlins, Ms C Clarke, Mr M Dyson, Mrs E Cooper, Mr K Tomblin, Mr O Tomblin, Mrs A Mingins, Mrs S Gulliford, Mrs P Chester-Master, Mr A White, Mrs H Lynas, Mrs J Canton, Mrs L Spivey, Mrs J Tomblin, Mrs R Freyne, Mrs S Cameron, Mrs A Swain, Dr A Pellegram (Planning Consultant) and Mrs C Braidwood (Parish Clerk).

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Mr & Mrs I Jones Jones, Mr & Mrs Alexander Lindsay, Mr R Canton, Mrs C Sutton, Mr & Mrs A Stone, Mr G Edwards and Mr N Price

**2. Minutes of the last Parish Meeting held on 11 May 2017**

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

**Matters Arising**

None

**3. Finance Report**

The report was given as attached.

**4. Annual Report of Preston Parish Council - Attached**

Cllr Mrs Tomblin gave an overview of the work of the Council during the past year. She thanked Mrs Warren for her work in editing the Newsletter and Mrs Warren thanked Mrs Freyne for organising the distribution.

Mrs Chester Master gave a vote of thanks to the Chairman for her work on behalf of the Village and the Parish Council.

**5. Neighbourhood Development Plan**

**Dr Andrea Pellegram and Mr Tony Warren, Chairman of the Steering Group**

- Mr Warren explained why the NDP was started, the process required, the role of the Steering Group and highlighted the main points that had come out of recent consultations:
- Separation from Cirencester was more important to everyone than anything else and most didn't want the community to change in any way.
- Transport issues.
- There is a very stable community – most residents been here for over 20 years.
- Buses are not much used, but the foot paths are.
- Surrounding countryside is of great importance
- A Pub would be a popular addition.
- Very few people are interested in downsizing.

Mr Warren encouraged everyone to look at the draft plan and evidence papers detailing how Preston should look in 2030. He explained that the Steering Group had managed to stay on track and it is hoped that the Plan will be completed, and a referendum held by the end of the year. The Group is only too happy to hear what people have to say before the Draft is finalised.

Mr Warren thanked all who have worked on the Plan and also everyone who has responded to consultations and attended public meeting.

**Questions Raised**

**Q1 Mr C Huck – Policy 3 Employment Land**

Mr Huck referred to the resistance in changing units at Village Farm from commercial / agricultural to residential. He said that whilst he wouldn't wish to so do at the moment he may wish to in the future.

**A Dr Pellegram** replied that whilst Village Farm is currently designated employment land, it doesn't mean that it can never change, and that planning cannot be inflexible.

- Q2 Mr C Huck - Development along Swindon Road**  
Mr Huck stated that he saw development along the Swindon Road as the most likely although Figure 6 showed that it would be resisted in that area.
- A Dr Pellegram** advised that the area shown in Figure 6 has now been changed and is more precise. It had been difficult to identify areas where development would be resisted and not to be too specific. The NDP doesn't have to allocate sites and refinements are being added where there is a wish to retain views.
- Q3 Mr M Dyson**  
When will the process be finished ?
- A Dr Pellegram** confirmed that it is hoped to complete it by the end of 2018 but will depend on Cotswold District Council timescale for consultation and referendum.
- Q4 Mrs C Clarke**  
How will the Plan be used ?
- A** Once the Plan is 'made' these will be used by Planners when considering planning applications.
- Q5 Mr I Jones (by email)**  
It is a priority to make turning left from the village onto the A417 safer for cars, and make crossing the A417 safer for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Q6 Mr I Jones (by email)**  
Reducing noise from the By-Pass should have more emphasis in the documents. Traffic noise travels down to the village from the North-East and is really bad in the current weather pattern. Being a major trunk road, it continues all night.
- Q7 Mrs C Sutton**  
Could the area where development would be resisted be changed to include The Old Farm ?
- Q8 Mrs A Swain**  
Will the Group be meeting with the same Officers at CDC or will it always be different people ?
- A** Likely to be the same Officers.
- Q9 Last Point in Policy 4**  
Connection to PF6 needs clarification.
- Q10 The inclusion of Hunters Care Home** in some of the data gives a false impression. Can it be amended or clarified to give a more accurate picture?
- Mr Warren concluded by saying that the Draft Plan is not yet a perfect document and that the Group are happy to make amendments. He advised that an initial meeting has already taken place with CDC Planners and that they have seen the draft document.
- 6. Annual Reports from County and District Councillors**  
Not available.
- 7. Comments from the Public**  
**Mrs A Swain asked about the recent burglary.**  
The Chairman confirmed that the details had been circulated via the Neighbourhood Watch email alerts as soon as she knew about it. She highlighted that residents should sign up to receive these email alerts and the Village Newsletter and those that didn't would receive this important information. Residents without email would still receive the Newsletter in hard copy.  
**Mrs A Swain asked about a safe crossing on A417.**  
She stated that drivers from Swindon can't see the crossing.  
The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council has tried to persuade Gloucestershire Highways to improve the crossing but there are no accident statistics and not enough people use the crossing to justify further expenditure. She went on to say that the only way improvements will be made is through community benefits attached to future developments which will increase traffic levels further.  
Mrs Swain also asked about the goal nets on the Playing Field that have been damaged by the grass cutter.  
The Chairman confirmed that this will be investigated.

**8. Any Other Business**

None.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking all Members of the Parish Council and the NDP Steering Group for their work.

**The Meeting Closed at 8.20 pm**

DRAFT