

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2019

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs J Tomblin (Chairman), Cllr Mrs S Cameron (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mrs R Freyne, Cllr Mrs P Chester-Master, Cllr A Stone, Cllr Mrs N Jones and Cllr N Price.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr & Mrs R Canton, Mr K Tomblin, Cllr M Evemy (CDC), Cllr S Parsons (GCC) and Mrs C Braidwood (Clerk)

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr Mrs Julie Tomblin was unanimously elected to hold office until the Annual Council Meeting 2020 and duly signed her Chairman's Acceptance of Office

2. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Mrs Sue Cameron was unanimously elected to hold office until the Annual Council Meeting 2020 and duly signed her Vice-Chairman's Acceptance of Office
Cllrs Mrs R Freyne, Mrs P Chester-Master and N Price who were elected during the recent election also signed the Acceptance of Office.

3. Vacancies

RESOLUTION 09/19

Mr Alan Stone and Mrs Natalie Jones were unanimously co-opted to fill the vacancies left following the recent election and duly signed their Acceptance of Office

4. Councillor's Portfolios

It was agreed that Councillors would hold the following portfolios:

Cllr Mrs J Tomblin and Cllr Mrs S Cameron would share the responsibility to attend Village Hall Committee meetings between them.

Cllr Mrs P Chester-Master - Footpaths and Bridleways

Cllr N Price - Village Maintenance and Finance

Cllr A Stone - Highways and Planning

Cllr Mrs R Freyne - Planning

Cllr Mrs J Tomblin - Playing Field

Cllr Mrs N Jones - Finance

Cllr Mrs J Tomblin, Cllr Mrs R Freyne and Cllr Mrs S Cameron - Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

5. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

None

6. Declarations of Interest and Update Register of Members' Interests (as required)

All Members were given new Register of Interests forms to complete.

**7. Acceptance and signing of Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 7 March 2019
RESOLUTION 10/19**

The Minutes were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

8. Matters Arising from the Minutes

30mph sign at Village Farm

It was noted that this had been reported to Gloucestershire Highways and the sign replaced.

9. Chairman's Report

Nothing to report

- 10. Reports from County and District Councillors**
 Cllr Mike Every (CDC) introduced himself and explained that as he had been elected the previous week, he had little to report except that with the change in political power at District, residents are likely to see different things happening in the future.
 Cllr Stone explained that he had recently emailed the District Council but received no reply and asked if an automated response system could be put in place.
- 11. Village Affairs**
First Aid Course – 8 June 2019 – Update
 The Clerk confirmed that there are 6 places still available.
Annual Litter pick – Feedback
 The Chairman confirmed that there had been a fantastic turnout and lots of rubbish had been collected in Witpit Lane.
 Cllr Mrs Chester-Master advised that she is looking into blocking the gateway off the lay-by in Witpit Lane to attempt to prevent fly-tipping and Cllr Price agreed to see if he had any suitably large stones available.
Action: PCM & NP
- 12. Questions from the Public**
Traffic Volume and Speed on Kingshill Lane
 It was noted that recent housing developments, particularly in London Road, had resulted in increased traffic levels on Kingshill Lane. In order to make it safer for all users the speed limit needs to be lowered, a safe pedestrian / cycle route provided as well as a safe crossing at the Toll Bar. There has also been an increase in the number of lorries using the Lane.
 It was agreed to contact Gloucestershire Highways with a request to enforce local lorry routes, reduction in the speed limit and construction of a pedestrian / cycle way on Kingshill Lane and a safe crossing at the Toll Bar. Cllr Every agreed to add his support.
Action: CB
- 13. Playing Field**
Annual Safety Report
 The Report had been circulated and it was noted that the condition of the football nets had been questioned but rarely used.
 Cllr Stone raised the matter of equipment supported by timber posts; how long should they be expected to last and were they covered by the Council's insurance policy. The Clerk agreed to check as part of the review and renewal process.
 Cllr Price advised that the weeds on the Playing Field had been sprayed and re-seeding will take place tomorrow.
Action: CB
- 14. Village Hall**
Draft Minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on 1 April 2019
 Noted. The Chairman advised that she had attended the meeting on behalf of the Council and reported that the meeting had discussed the possibility of a finger board sign to help people locate the Hall, but it was difficult to find a suitable place for this to be installed.
- 15. Neighbourhood Development Plan**
Draft Minutes from the Meeting held on 2 May 2019
 Noted. The Chairman explained that the main item discussed at the meeting was the new Green Gap Policy written by Portus & Whitton.
Verbal Update
 This would be given by Dr Pellegrin at the following Annual Village (Parish) Meeting.
- 16. Finance**
16.1 Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation for Year Ending 31 March 2019 (Attached)
RESOLUTION 11/19
 It was resolved to adopt the report as attached.
16.2 Audit Return for Year Ending 31 March 2019

- 16.2.1 Certificate of Exemption
RESOLUTION 12/19**
It was resolved that the Council's turnover is below £25,000 pa. and the Certificate of Exemption completed as attached.
- 16.2.2 Annual Internal Audit Report
RESOLUTION 13/19**
It was resolved to adopt the Annual Audit Report as attached
- 16.2.3 Annual Governance Statement
RESOLUTION 14/19**
It was resolved to adopt the Annual Governance Statement as attached
- 16.2.4 Annual Accounting Statements
RESOLUTION 15/19**
It was resolved to adopt the Annual Accounting Statement as attached
- 16.3 Broadband to the Village Hall**
It was noted that the Village Hall Committee do not wish to pay for Broadband once the Transparency Grant funding comes to an end and it was agreed to cancel the service when this is reached.
- 16.4 Budget and Bank Reconciliation up to 30 April 2019
RESOLUTION 16/19**
It was resolved to adopt the report as attached
- 16.5 Bills for Payment as detailed on the attached Schedule
RESOLUTION 17/19**
It was resolved to pay the Bills as detailed on the attached Schedule
- 16.6 Insurance Renewal (Three Year Agreement)**
It was agreed that this would be decided by email once the details of cover had been agreed.
- 17. Planning**
- 17.1 New Planning Applications. - None**
- 17.2 Planning Applications Responded to Since Last Meeting
19/01264/OPANOT Forty Farm**
Preston Parish Council has no objections in principle but request that the following is taken into account when making a decision.
Access on to Kingshill Lane - this is already a busy road particularly during rush hours and the only way to access the site is by car. Conversion and development of other farm buildings at Forty Farm have recently been approved and this current application will only increase the number of vehicles accessing and leaving the site which is opposite the junction of the main route through the village and will increase the hazard.
From the site, up Kingshill Lane to the Primary and Secondary Schools and on to the junction with London Road there is no footway and the speed limit is 60mph for most of its length. In fact, it has long been of concern to the Parish Council that there is no safe way for children of the village to access either of the schools on Kingshill Lane unless they are taken by car.
- 17.3 Planning Decisions Received – None**
- 17.4 Planning Correspondence - None**
- 18. Correspondence**
GAPTC – Invitation to AGM on 20 July 2019 - Noted
- 19. Any Other Business**
Cllr Mrs Chester-Master advised that the handrails on the footbridge to the rear of the Church are being replaced.
- 20. Date and Time of Next Meeting – Parish Council Meeting**
Thursday, 4 July 2019 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall
There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.40 pm