

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2022

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs J Tomblin (Chairman), Cllr A Stone and Cllr N Price

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs H Lynas, Cllr L Spivey (GCC) and Mrs C Braidwood (Clerk)

1. **Apologies and Reasons for Absence**
Cllr Mrs S Cameron (Personal) and Cllr Mrs C Elson (Personal) Cllr Mrs P Chester-Master (Personal) and Cllr M Every (CDC)
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 5 May 2022**
RESOLUTION 26/22
The Minutes were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.
 - 3.2 **Matters Arising from the Minutes** – None
Cardboard Policeman – The Council has been asked, at the Annual Parish Meeting, to investigate these but no one was in favour of installing them, so it was agreed not to pursue. It was noted that cut outs and models of children placed on pavements had proved successful in more populated areas in making drivers more aware, but it was acknowledged that speeding drivers are generally not on the lookout for anything; this included signs or anything else. In any case, there are few verges in the Village to install such devices.
 - 3.3 **Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 5 May 2022** - Noted
4. **Reports from County and District Councillors**
Cllr Spivey reported:
She had recently walked the proposed route to Kingshill School with Hannah Fountain, Sustainable Transport Officer. It was determined that the route is within statutory guidelines and, therefore, there is no justification for a new footpath. She acknowledged the unfairness of one child having been given transport while others have been told to walk and confirmed that there is an Appeal Process. Members pointed out that there are now several young children so that the problem would increase in the future.
Tour of Britain will come through Cirencester next week. It was noted that the roads on the route have been resurfaced. It was suggested that a reminder should be sent out to residents as many of the roads will be closed.
Travellers on Witpit Lane have now moved on and only a small amount of rubbish was left.
GCC meeting on 14 September :
 - A cross party motion was passed to look at financial support for people due to the increase in energy prices.
 - 4 care homes are due to be closed.
 - There is considerable concern about ambulance response times.
5. **Police – PCSO Beverley Rowe and PCSO Sue Fellows** – Not Available
6. **Questions and Comments from the Public** - None
7. **Chairman's Report – Cllr Mrs J Tomblin** - Nothing further to report.

8. **Playing Field**
Verbal Report – Cllr Mrs Elson was unavailable
Update re Lease – The Clerk reported that she had been unable to make contact with the Trustees' Agent.
9. **Village Hall**
Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 April 2022 - Noted
Minutes of the AGM held on 11 April 2022, Chairman's Report and Finance Report - Noted
Verbal Report from Trustees
The next Committee meeting is to be held on 17 September when information will be given on how to use the new TV screen. There are plans to decorate once various work has been carried out.
10. **Village Affairs**
Gridserve – Update Re Cirencester Solar Farm
The Clerk reported that a Purchase Order had been received and that she had been asked to submit an Invoice for the Community Benefit sum, but no further information has been received.
Transport to School and Footway for Kingshill Lane - Cllr Spivey
See Item 4
Queen's Jubilee (Big Jubilee Lunch) – 5 June 2022 – Feedback
The costs of the event had been circulated and the Clerk confirmed that the Village Hall Committee have contributed 50%.
The Chairman reported that whilst the weather was a little chilly, the rain kept off and the event was very well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by the whole Village. It was nice to see so many people.
Maintenance of Hedge Opposite the Rectory
It was agreed that Cllr Price would arrange for the annual cut.
Cllr Price also reported that the Oak trees planted in recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee have died and he will look to source replacements.
Action: NP
Rangeford Retirement Village – Siddington Park
Properties are beginning to be occupied and the Village Newsletter Editor is keen to circulate copies. However, Members agreed that whilst a few copies could be placed in a communal place, residents should be encouraged to register their email addresses.
Action: JT & CB
Replacement Notice Board for Kingsway
The Clerk advised that the condition of the noticeboard is now very poor and needs to be replaced. Members agreed that the Clerk should take steps to purchase a new recycled plastic board, as installed at the other end of the Village. In the meantime, Cllr Price would check the condition of the posts.
Action: CB & NP
Central Reservation at the Toll Bar
It was agreed to ask Gloucestershire Highways to cut the central reservation on a regular basis as the wildflowers sown some years ago have not been successful. It was noted that the weeds have become established and look unsightly.
Action: CB
11. **Finance**
11.1 **Bank Reconciliation and Budget Status up to 31 August 2022**
RESOLUTION 27/22
It was resolved to adopt the report as attached.
11.2 **Bills for Payment: Attached Schedule**
RESOLUTION 28/22
It was resolved to pay the bills detailed on the attached schedule.
11.3 **Notice of Exemption of Audit 2021-22** - Noted
11.4 **Option to Opt out of Central Auditor Appointment Arrangements**
RESOLUTION 29/22
It was agreed to remain opted into the Central Auditor Appointment arrangements.
12. **Planning**
12.1 **New Planning Applications**

22/02687/FUL Preston Court Siddington Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6ET

Erection of single-storey side extension, rear extension, detached carport, porch and flagpole

During raised the following points:

The application has recently built barrier in middle of river. Cllr Spivey agreed to take this up with CDC Planning and the Environment Agency who she was certain would object.

Drawings show trees which no longer exist including on the car port.

New planting has not been carried out as required by previous Decision Notices.

It was agreed to make the following response:

The Parish Council strongly objects to this application on the grounds of over development and the effects on the biodiversity of the site.

The Council is particularly concerned that too much information has been drip fed with the submission of successive applications which are often contradictory or, at best, misleading and we would like to see a consolidation of all the proposals into one application so that everyone concerned has a clearer picture of what the applicant is endeavouring to achieve.

Of perhaps greatest concern is the environmental impact of the development on this site. In particular, the light spill towards the riverbank, loss of habitat and the apparent will full destruction of trees and vegetation. All of this has happened despite conditions having been imposed on previous applications but not followed up by Enforcement. We now understand that the applicant has built a wall in the middle of the riverbed which affects the natural flow of water.

The Parish Council would also like to draw attention to the following comments:

1. A previous application ref.: 19/01647/FUL proposed that a conifer hedge between the house and the boundary wall would be removed and replaced with "pleached Hornbeam hedge". This is clearly shown on the elevations. Condition 12 of the Consent advised that all the approved planting should be completed by the end of the first planting season. There is no evidence of this hedge, and the current proposal (22/02687/FUL) would require some of it to be removed to enable the construction of the en-suite and the utility room etc.

2. We are not aware whether Conditions 13-15 of Planning Consent for 19/01647/FUL have been fully complied with but feel this should be investigated.

3. A 5-bar hardwood gate was proposed for the main entrance on application ref: 19/01647/FUL. This has not been provided and there does not appear to be any reference to it on subsequent applications. However, on application ref: 21/02393/FUL there is a reference to replacement gates, but no details are given.

4. The East Elevation (Street View) on drawing No. 19-012-P-E400 is incorrect as the height of the boundary wall has not been updated to show the raising of the wall to 2m (from the South Cerney Road) and the mortar capping. The drawing is, therefore, misleading.

5. In addition, the note on the East Elevation (Street view without garden) refers to the "grey fibreglass roof" being hidden behind the parapet wall when the edge of the roof is clearly shown on the drawing. The site plan, drawing No. 19-012-P-SP400, also notes that the roof finish will be hidden behind the parapet wall and clearly shows the top of the parapet wall. Therefore, the elevation should be amended to show the parapet wall if it is intended that the roof will not be seen from the road.

6. The Council is concerned that the current proposals (incl. 22/01203/FUL) indicate that the garage could be used as a separate single dwelling with the existing ground floor also being used as domestic accommodation.

12.2 Planning Applications Responded to Since Last Meeting - None

12.3 Planning Applications Responded to and Awaiting Decision – Noted

21/03907/LBC Old Farm House Preston Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5PR

Replace existing wooden casement single glazed windows with double glazed, wooden casement windows.

12.3 Decision Notices Received

22/00896/FUL Rose Cottage Preston Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5PR

Permitted 11 May 2022

21/01532/FUL Norcote Grange Norcote Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RJ

Permitted 10 June 2022

21/04689/FUL 6 Preston Leigh Siddington Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6GE

Permitted 3 May 2022

21/04757/FUL. Land Parcel East Of Witpit Lane Preston Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5PW

Permitted 11 April 2022

21/02702/OUT The Old Pump House South Cerney Road Siddington Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6ET

Refused 20 April 2022

21/01532/FUL Norcote Grange Norcote Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RJ .

Permitted 10 June 2022

21/03825/FUL Beechnut Cottage Preston Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5PR

Permitted 5 July 2022

12.4 Planning Correspondence & Other Matters - None

13. Correspondence

GRCC – Community Approaches to Road Safety - Noted

GCC – Funding for Community Speedwatch - Noted

14. Any Other Business - None

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 3 November 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 20.43