

## Preston Parish Council

### **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in Preston Village Hall.**

Present: Cllr O Chapman (Chairman)  
Cllr T Bradley  
Cllr L Hunt  
Cllr J Lawson  
Cllr C Wallis  
Cllr T Bartlett (DDC)  
Mr F Pinnington (Clerk)

#### **Issues to be raised by members of the public prior to the formal meeting.**

Jenny Ralph raised her concerns about the Disabled Parking issues at the Downs. There was a need for more disabled parking and for cars to access directly to house. DDC had been very supportive in this matter and she raised concerns that others might not be aware of this situation. She also raised concerns about the lack of things for young people in Preston. The parish had no youth club and this was vital. There had been damage to the picnic tables in the summer holidays by youths riding on them. She had raised the issue with the young people and a local resident had provided some logs to use. The clerk explained that he was seeking funding for youth workers to run a youth club in his lottery bid for a community centre. However this did not address the immediate problem.

Roger Ayling asked whether the six acres of land had yet been transferred to the Parish Council. He also asked whether the benefits to the parish from the S106 agreement had been received. Cllr Chapman explained that the council had rejected a previous offer; that they were in discussions with their solicitor about the transfer of the land; and that the benefits to the parish would be activated when the 23<sup>rd</sup> house was occupied.

Brian de Barra raised his concerns, as a new resident in the village, about speeding traffic in the area from both cars and motorbikes. Cllr Chapman explained about the ongoing discussions with Kent Highways both about a pedestrian route from the new estate but also about traffic calming measures. The Village Society was also actively pursuing this matter. The narrowness of the road in the area accentuated the appearance of speed which was apparent when Kent Police had previously carried out speed checks

2. **Apologies for absence.** Cllr Matthews had sent her apologies as she was abroad. It was proposed by Cllr Lawson and seconded by Cllr Hunt and **RESOLVED** unanimously that the apology be accepted.
3. **Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda and changes of interests**  
Nil .
4. **To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of September 7th 2016.**  
Cllr Bradley proposed and Cllr Lawson seconded that the minutes of the meeting of July 6th 2016 be confirmed as a true record. It was then **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes were a true record and they were signed as such by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising from the Minutes of September 7th 2016.**  
(i) **Report of crimes:** Cllrs were not aware of any crimes being committed in the parish in the previous month. **160901**

- ii) Kent Highways: Cllr Chapman reported on the discussions regarding the closure of roads and the lack of warnings about this. Kent Highways stated that they would look at their procedures to see if the council could be automatically informed of closures in the area. Cllr Bartlett explained that Ash council received a list of all closures regularly and agreed to contact Gordon Measey so that the same information be automatically sent to Preston. (Action TBa) The issue of clearing drains had also been raised.
- iii) Paul Kent: Southern Water. Paul Kent had reported that Court Farm Pumping Station had been refurbished and no issues had occurred since then.
- iv) Mobile Home The Clerk reported that no planning application had been made about the mobile home in the field behind Bishop Jenner Court. He had contacted the enforcement officers to see whether action was to be taken. So far he had no response.
- v) Picnic benches. Jenny Ralph had raised the fact that some benches had been damaged in the summer holidays.
- vi) Preston Hill: The Clerk reported that the clerk at Wingham had stated that the junction at Preston Hill would be addressed in the A257 Action Plan .

**5. Planning Applications and Parish Council response.**

- 1. Planning Applications. DV/16/00761. Erection of a detached building. Court Lane. The council would object to this application. (Action FPI)DOV/16/00903 Erection of single storey extension etc at Low Lands The Street. This was being circulated
- ii) Decisions DOV/16/00420 Change of windows Preston Village store and DOV/16/00471. St. Olaves. Elmstone. Extension had been granted permission. DOV/The Heathers. Elmstone. Erection of replacement building. Had been refused permission. DOV/16/00781. Change of use. No prior approval required.
- iii) Enforcement issues. Mobile Home in field behind Bishop Jenner Court. Ongoing.
- iv) Appeals. DOV/15/01119. Removal of agricultural occupancy condition. The Hallands. Court Lane.

**6. Report from a District or County Councillor**

Cllr Bartlett reported:

- i) The bid for funding at Kearnsey Abbey had been successful.
- ii) The bid for funding for the new leisure centre had been successful.
- iii) The conversion of Dover Town Hall was progressing.
- iv) Ground maintenance had been taken back in house.
- v) Limited progress was being made on the issue of super councils.
- vi) A new Skate Park at the Butts in Sandwich was to be provided. The young people themselves had taken part in the fundraising.

**7. Reports from representatives.**

- (i) The Village Hall Committee: No report.
- (ii) KALC: No report.
- (iii) Village Society: No report.
- (iv) Sandwich Neighbourhood Forum: No report.
- (vi) A257 Committee. No report.

**8. To authorise payments.**

It was proposed by Cllr Hunt and seconded by Cllr Wallis and

**RESOLVED** unanimously that the following payments be made. **160902**

- i) Village Hall. Maintenance of recreation Ground. £500.
- ii) Village Hall. Purchase of defibrillator. £350.

Cllr Hunt asked about the placing of the defibrillator and public awareness of where it was placed and how to use it.

**9. Grove Road Update**

- i) Draft Deed. The Council had received the draft deed of transfer as well as a map showing the six acres of land to be transferred. The council confirmed the accuracy of the map and asked the Clerk to seek a resume from our solicitor on the legal document. (Action FPi) There was discussion on the issue of access.
- ii) Pedestrian routes. Cllr Chapman reported on the discussion with Kent Highways. The council believed that the pedestrian route should continue along to a crossing at the Downs. Kent Highways had insisted that the crossing be at the Village Store. The Council asked that the Clerk contact Huw Evans at Quinn Estates to make it clear that the council would object to this element of the plans when the formal application was made. (Action FPi) It was also agreed to contact Leyland Ridings and Roger Gale MP.
- iii) Any other information. The Clerk explained that there had been various rumours over the summer that there were viability issues regarding the David Wilson site. He had ascertained from discussions that there had simply been a temporary slowdown in the building work

**10. Co-option of Councillor.**

Cllr Bradley proposed and Cllr Wallis seconded and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Alwyn Pidgen be co-opted as a councillor. (Action FPi)

**11. Correspondence.**

- i) Kent. Local Transport Plan consultation. Noted.
- ii) Managing Freight. Highways. England. Noted.
- iii) National Grid. Noted.
- iv) UK Power Network. Noted.
- v) Footpath Warden. The parish footpath warden had moved from the area. There would be an advertisement for a volunteer to take over this role in the next newsletter.

**12. Any other information.**

- i) Right of Way: The Clerk reported that he had reported a footpath blockage to KCC.
- ii) Phone box. Padbrook Lane, The council would object to its removal.(Action FPi)
- iii) The Clerk asked that a request for funding from the village hall development committee be on the next agenda. (Action FPi)

**13. The date of the next Parish Council Meeting**

The next council meeting would be on **Wednesday October 5th 2016** in the Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 8.42pm

Chairman

Date

**160903**

