



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 11th November 2019 at Great Missenden Memorial Centre
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum:

A resident regarding the 5G network.
Two residents regarding the Link Road widening plans
One resident regarding pot holes in Church Street
One resident regarding parking in Prestwood

Present: Councillor A Hewett, Chair
Councillors: A Brazil, G Bridges, L Cook, S Humphreys, M Johnstone, I Lovegrove
K Pither, V Marshall, V Martin, R Pusey, S Rhodes, T Stevenson.

Also present: Jane Hennessy, clerk

1. Apologies: Councillors, C Baxter, P Jager, M Lee,

2. Declarations of Interest:
Cllr Martin – items 6.i) & 13.c)ii)

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2019 were **agreed** and signed as a correct record with one amendment.

4. Matters arising

The order for the replacement metal posts at Prestwood Common has been placed and are due to be installed at the beginning of December. The regular users of the Community Centre, the Scouts and Prestwood Colts will be advised of the date of installation.

The floodlight by the sports wall at Prestwood Common has been vandalised. Quotes will be sought for the repair for the council to consider.

The Prestwood MVA co-ordinator is leaving at the end of the year. Cllr Hewett asked for any volunteers to let her know if they were interested in taking on this roll in 2020.

GMVA have advised that they are covered under their own public liability insurance to arrange litter pick events.

Cllr Hewett laid a wreath at St Peter & St Paul's church on Remembrance Sunday. Missenden Walled Garden provided an environmentally friendly wreath for £10 and it was agreed that the council would donate £20 to the British Legion.

5. VE Day 75th anniversary celebrations 2020

The council were asked to suggest ideas for an event for the 75th anniversary celebrations of VE day. Cllr Bridges suggested a village picnic, Green's fair are planning an event on the Buryfield but Prestwood Common is an option. Cllr Hewett suggested applying for a road closure in Great Missenden. This item was deferred to the December meeting for further discussion.

6. Parking

i) Update on parking consultation and proposal to agree end date

The council have launched a public consultation on the proposed replacement parking options for Great Missenden. It was announced at the GMVA AGM and has been advertised on various websites around the parish. It is intended to advertise the consultation in the next edition of The Source and to distribute the consultation survey to the local shops, library and station. A couple of dates were suggested for a consultation event, the clerk will check the availability of the memorial hall and email the dates around. Once the event date is decided then the close date of the consultation can be agreed.

ii) Chiltern District Council – Update and confirmation of additional free parking dates

The council noted that CDC had agreed to the suggestion of free parking on Saturdays in November for Buryfield and the Link Road car parks. The clerk was asked to check if the additional dates agreed by CDC in November (2nd, 9th, 16th) also included the Prestwood car park. CDC had also made other parking suggestions due to the disruption of the Link Road and the clerk was also asked to check if these suggestions were still being progressed.

7. LAF Frith Hill parking application - update

TfB requested confirmation that the council would like to proceed with the costings for this project, given the likelihood that the costs for this scheme would be high. The council resolved to continue to the costing stage.

8. BCC Community Emergency Plan - Update

An update was received from BCC advising of the reasons it would be beneficial for Great Missenden to have a parish community emergency plan. The council resolved to research this further and Cllr Cook would provide a draft plan for discussion.

9. Great Missenden Memorial Hall – update & quote

The HS2 CEF application was still progressing. Planning permission had been given for the proposed works and costs were now being finalised. Cllr Hewett suggested that to future proof the council consideration should be given to removing the stage in the Memorial Hall and creating a meeting room and storage area. It was agreed to notify the regular hall users as to the proposal to remove the stage for their feedback and further discussion at the December meeting.

10. Parish Meeting and Community Engagement

Following two requests to the council for a parish meeting Cllr Hewett reported that she had been in contact with a spokesperson for the 'save the Link Road trees' campaign and agreed to call a parish meeting. Cllr Hewett requested that the agenda was suggested by the residents to ensure that the meeting could be as effective as possible and currently agenda items are awaited. Following recent developments regarding the Link Road it was felt that perhaps it would be more beneficial to consider calling a meeting after the revised road layout plans had been provided by HS2/BCC. It would also be important to ensure that relevant representatives were available to attend and also to ensure that the meeting was publicised widely within the parish to maximise attendance.

11. Council Meeting Schedule 2020 – for approval

The schedule was approved by resolution including the start time of 6.30pm for the December meeting.

12. Emails

Cllr Humphreys requested that email etiquette was reviewed to reduce the number of emails. It was also discussed that an email/communications policy may be considered and that phase two of the new website will give the council further options to manage the volume of emails.

13. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on **4th November** were agreed and confirmed.

ii) Neighbourhood Plan

The council agreed to the planning committee's recommendation to recommence research into a neighbourhood plan for the parish, particularly given that larger grants were now available to parish councils to help towards the costs. A specialist consultancy company had been identified and it was agreed that they would be approached to attend a meeting to further discuss this.

iii) Proposal for chair of planning

Cllr Cook was proposed and unanimously voted as the chair of the planning committee.

b) HS2

Update

Immediately following the October meeting protestors had taken occupancy on the Link Road to save the eight trees that were proposed to be removed as part of the HS2 mitigation road widening scheme. As a result of the protest campaign the proposed works have been halted. Meetings were held with GMPC, BCC and two residents, following which HS2 have agreed to a redesign of the Link Road which will save removing seven of the eight trees. Unfortunately there is still expected to be a loss of on-street parking spaces as the entrance to Buryfield, exacerbated by more school children, requires traffic safety measures such as a wider entrance with proper footways and sight lines from the entrance.

The safety works to upgrade the Link Road roundabout with vehicle restraint measures are now complete, as is the haul road itself and the hoarding with woodland scene is in place. Footpaths are closed at Bury Farm, South Heath and Mulberry Park Hill as Balfour Beatty carried out ground clearance work for National Grid.

It has been noted that Fusion/Balfour Beatty brought heavy duty transporters with caterpillar tracked tree clearance machinery up Frith Hill instead of using the haul road, to which the response from Fusion has been that it was too wet at the top of the haul road. Subsequently, HS2 apologised as the subcontractors had not been correctly advised!

The night road works from 2nd – 12th December 2019 are still set to go ahead.

A further letter has been sent, in conjunction with The Lee & Wendover Parish Councils, calling for the enabling works to be halted whilst the outcome of the Oakervee report is awaited.

Cllr Johnstone also provided a brief history of the council's opposition to HS2 and the endeavours it has taken to support the halting of the project over the last eleven years. This included the efforts the parish council have taken to secure mitigation from the impact of

the construction and operation of the project, on behalf of residents, businesses and visitors to the parish, once it was announced that HS2 would go ahead.

c) Open Spaces and Lighting

i) Collings Walk – update

It was confirmed that J&D Clark have been instructed to go ahead with the work to the three trees at Collings Walk. It is likely that this work will be carried out on January 8th, 9th 10th & 13th 2020. Hiscox have had sight of the draft letter to Innovation, have made minor amendments and agreed that the request for formal indemnity is included.

ii) Street lighting repairs – Great Missenden High Street & proposal re: repairs

A broken streetlight on Great Missenden High Street (outside home no's 6 & 8) has been reported. As other streetlight repairs were due to be carried out w/c 11th November Ford & McHugh had offered a discount if this repair can be carried out at the same time. Cllr Pither had approved the cost of approx. £280 + VAT for upgrade of this light to LED to take advantage of the offered price reduction.

It was also resolved by majority vote for any further LED upgrades under £500 not to require full council approval to enable the repair process to be more efficient.

iii) Chiltern District Council – Large Project fund - update

Following confirmation that the CDC large project fund application for Prestwood track had been successful it was confirmed that a grant of £20,000 has been awarded. This gives the current total funding available as £31,046 (including the LAF contribution of £11,046). As the LAF contribution is specifically for the Prestwood Common track this part of the project will have to be completed first and the LAF will need to be invoiced by 31st March 2020. Further quotes will be sought for the construction of the track. Following completion of the track, project funding will need to be arranged to complete the remaining landscaping of Prestwood Recreation Ground and Prestwood Common. The other application to the CDC large project fund for the bridleway GMI/55/4, part of the National Cycle route 57 was not successful.

iv) Allotments – update & proposals

The following requests were approved by resolution:-

- return of £50 deposit to the tenant of plot 5A, Ballinger
- Ballinger plots 18A and 18B to be let as a full plot for £30, instead of two half plots at £25 each.
- the tenant of Ballinger plot 16 to take on half of plot 15 for an annual cost of £25.

The following was also noted:-

- the strimming of vacant allotments had been completed
- feedback from the best kept allotment competition was positive
- signs have been placed restricting vehicle access at all allotment sites.

v) Youth Offending Service - update

A meeting is planned with the Youth Offending Service at Prestwood Community Centre in order for a risk assessment to be carried out in respect of potential internal and external painting work. There will be supervision provided but the paint, brushes, etc will need to be supplied. The council requested a copy of the relevant insurance and confirmation of the age of the individuals who would be undertaking the work. A further risk assessment is planned in respect of clearing an unused allotment at Nairdwood Lane when weather permits.

vi) Buryfield Lane - update

The council noted the report regarding the recent unsuccessful Land Registry application for the unregistered strip of land on Buryfield. As Bucks County Council have objected to the application on the grounds that the land is still considered a public highway, Land Registry cannot proceed with the application and has refunded the previously paid registration fee.

vii) GMVA/GMPRG – request for memorial bench

A request for a memorial bench funded by GMPRG/GMVA was considered by the council. The location suggested nearby the toddler play area, adjacent to the existing bench and litter bin but away from the tree canopy was approved. The council requested that the bench have extra long legs, for concreting in position and that it should be made of vandal proof material.

viii) Charity Santa Dash – request to use Buryfield

The council approved by resolution the request from the Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity to use part of Buryfield as a planned route for a charity running event on December 8th 2019.

ix) The Cage - update

Cllr Hewett updated the council that the lock to The Cage had been replaced following a report of two items going missing from storage. The council resolved by majority vote for the parish office to be the only key holders, for users of The Cage to sign a contract and for an inventory of the items currently stored there to be completed. It was suggested that the inventory and clear could be undertaken in the spring time.

x) Street lights – request for repair in Back Lane

A letter from a resident of Back Lane had been received requesting the repair of the streetlight opposite no.1 Back Lane. The council were reminded that UKPN had confirmed in March 2018 that there is no power to this streetlight and due to the type of cable UKPN are unable to reconnect it. The council had previously voted to leave this streetlight unconnected. An electricity reconnection quote was requested for the council to consider.

xi) Trees - update

The clerk reported that the application to the Woodland Trust for 30 free trees for Buryfield had been successful. The saplings would be arriving in March and consideration needs to be given regarding planting and watering.

A date is still awaited for the work required to remove the deadwood from the trees in the Buryfield car park. This work is required on safety grounds as the trees are in close proximity to car park spaces. CDC are arranging this work as part of their management of the car park. It had been agreed that further maintenance work on the trees was not essential at this time.

xii) Scout Hut lights - update

The Scouts have kindly agreed to trial using the external lighting already installed on the scout hut to light the gate and gravel drive at Prestwood Community Centre. The times of the regular evening users have been passed to the Scouts to co-ordinate the lighting times. This will be reviewed with the regular evening users at the end of December.

xiii) Buryfield – request from residents regarding hedgehogs

The council approved by resolution the request to leave a small area of the Buryfield that borders Augustine Mews uncut to allow habitat for hedgehogs and other wildlife.

xiv) Buryfield – clearance quote

The council resolved to approve the quote for £535 + VAT, from Sextons, to clear the remainder of the debris from the edges of the Buryfield boundary and level off the remaining area. A reminder of using vehicles on the Buryfield during the winter was asked to be passed on.

xiv) Request to use Prestwood Common – Colts Presentation Weekend

The council resolved to accept the request from Prestwood Colts to use the Common for their presentation weekend on 12th, 13th & 14th June 2020.

xv) Playground Equipment – consider site for removed multiplay equipment

The decision on where to re-instate the toddler multiplay equipment was deferred to the December agenda. The equipment is currently being stored free of charge by Playground Facilities and they have asked for a decision as they are currently moving premises. In the meantime, the council asked for a quote for the cost of storage.

d) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Website – update

The website working party are now undertaking the upload of content to the new website. It is hoped that the basics will be completed by November 22nd and therefore available for all councillors to review from 25th November for feedback on the content to be given to the working party before the December council meeting, where it is hoped that final approval can be given. The switch over from the old website will then take a couple of days to be seamless for any users. Ongoing work will then continue.

ii) Budget ideas

Cllr Johnstone requested all budget ideas be sent through. A meeting of the finance and general purposes committee will then be called to prepare and review a draft budget with the intention that this is included on the December agenda. He pointed out that this budget is the last one before the creation of the unitary authority and that the council need to be aware that devolution of urban services is on the new council's agenda.

iii) Request for a grant – Chiltern Citizens Advice Bureau

The council resolved to accept the request for a grant from Chiltern Citizens Advice Bureau for £2,284. This is as agreed in the budget.

iv) Request for a grant – Prestwood Events Group

A request for a grant of £1,500 was approved by resolution, from Prestwood Events Group. This is as agreed in the budget.

vii) Payment of accounts for November

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers 128-149 in the sum of **£16,145.11 (inc VAT)** for **November** be agreed for payment and petty cash items of **£40.99** be ratified.

e) Editorial Working Party

Cllr Hewett reported that articles for The Source were being prepared including the Prestwood track, Christmas free parking dates and the parking consultation.

10. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

None.

11. Clerks Report

i) The clerk's progress report was noted.

ii) The time of the next full council meeting on 9th December was agreed to be moved to 6.30pm – notices will be updated to reflect this.

12. Matters for information

None.

13. Future meetings

- a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. **Monday 2nd December 2019** in the Parish Office
- b) Parish Council Meeting – **6.30 p.m Monday 9th November 2019** in the **Great Missenden Memorial Centre**

The meeting closed at 10.30pm.