



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 7th March 2022 at 7.30 p.m.
Great Missenden Memorial Centre, Great Missenden**

Public Forum:

- 5 representatives from Save Leather Lane Campaign – requesting support for a letter to DEFRA requesting that the mitigation hierarchy is applied in order to protect the biodiversity on Leather Lane and that the overbridge is re-aligned to the north to save the oak trees which form a bat corridor.
- A representative from GMPRG – to request parish council assistance with the required licences for installing a bench on Bucks Council land at Prestwood Co-op.
- A representative from a community led group asking for parish council support in principle for a biodiversity project.
- A representative from Lighthouse – regarding the request to use Buryfield.

Present: Councillor A Hewett - chair
Councillors: J Brooke , C Bunting, L Cook, S Humphreys, M Johnstone,
I Lovegrove, V Marshall, V Martin, K Pither, R Pusey, S Rhodes,
T Stevenson

Also present: Jane Hennessy – clerk

1. Apologies: Cllrs C Ormesher, C Baxter, M Lee

2. Declarations of Interest:
None.

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on **7th February 2022** were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising

- The work to the Memorial Centre entrance is due to start mid April. An incident where a pedestrian slipped in the mud in this area was reported. The contractor has been contacted to ask to carry out the work sooner, if possible, and the caretaker of the hall has tried to clear up the muddy area and place bollards to alert pedestrians. However, there are problems with the bollards being removed overnight.
- The parish council response to the Bucks Council Local Plan has been sent.
- A response has been received from Bucks Council, following the request for a dog waste bin in Link Road car park, in Nov 2020. They have apologised for the delay in responding but as there are already two litter bins in the Link Road car park and dog waste can be put into these, the request has been denied.
- The draft lease for the substation at Ballinger Common has been received today. It will be added to the April agenda.
- The parish owned bus shelter in Prestwood, outside the village hall, has been covered in graffiti. A quote is awaited to remove the graffiti.

- The Buryfield car park account has been received from Bucks Council, for 2020-21, with apologies for the delay. There is a deficit on the account and the parish council owe £1,999.02.
- Ballinger Waggoners comments on the proposed licence were not received in time for the March agenda and will be added to the April agenda for discussion.

5. Parking

Cllr Brooke's recommendations for unused signage to be removed in Buryfield car park were discussed. It was agreed to request to meet with Julie Rushton from Bucks Council, as the managers of the car park, to discuss arrangements for removal.

6. Councillor Surgeries – location for discussion

Cllr Lovegrove apologised for not progressing the Prestwood location for the councillor surgery and he will contact The Pantry @ 51 and request a table for Saturday March 26th 11.00am – 12.00pm. It was also agreed to book Great Missenden Library for the April, July and October surgeries.

7. Public Liability Insurance for contractors

The parish council discussed the need take a more flexible approach on the level of public liability insurance (PLI) for contractors. Advice from the council's insurers indicated that insurance cover should be appropriate for the service that is being provided, but would usually be between £5 and £10 million. The council resolved by majority vote to assess the level of PLI on a case by case basis, with a minimum of £5million and to request a justification for the level of public liability insurance for each contractor that they use.

8.Badger Cull – request for opposition letter

The council discussed the proposal to ask Bucks Council to assess if a badger cull is necessary in the county but this did not receive a majority vote.

9. Telegraph Pole move – Back Lane/Twitchell Road – request for support

The council resolved by majority vote to support the request from Great Missenden Village Association to contact a local resident/Bucks Council rights of way team to request that a telegraph pole is not moved into the footpath at the side of The George. This was due to safety concerns that the path is too narrow in that location.

10. GMPRG – request for Parish Council to apply to Bucks Council for licence to install bench at Prestwood car park

The council resolved to request the appropriate licence for the installation of the bench at Prestwood car park from Bucks Council and to pay up to £108 for this licence, if required. GMPRG have paid for the bench, will organise the installation and have agreed with Bucks Council that they will maintain it. The parish council will review the process of the licence application once this bench is installed in order to agree a way forward.

11. Community Board – update

The parish council noted the update that the following submissions for funding to the Community Board had been successful:-

- Church Street bollards around the green - £7,927.47
- Great Missenden Village Improvements - £24,248

- Jubilee events funding towards bunting/flags/cakes – to be split equally between Great Missenden and Prestwood (£500 each).

12. Bucks Council – ward boundaries consultation

Cllrs Johnstone & Stevenson updated the council after attending a presentation by the Local Government Boundary Commission regarding new ward boundaries across Bucks. The parish council resolved to submit individual responses and to advertise the consultation on the website.

13. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on **7th March 2022** were agreed and confirmed. Cllr Lovegrove asked that thanks to Cllr Rhodes were recorded for his research on recent applications.

ii) Draft letter to Bucks Council regarding enforcement for approval

Cllr Rhodes letter of complaint to Ian Thompson, Bucks Council's Corporate for Planning was approved with amendments.

b) HS2

A summary of the report presented by Cllr Johnstone is below.

i) Chesham Road Intervention Shaft (CRIS) – ALIGN

- Excavation work is now complete and concrete pours will now take place regularly. Completion date is approx. end of May 2022.

ii) North Portal – Chiltern Tunnel

- Barrettes and portal headwall – ALIGN – the construction of the barrettes continue. Site hours are 7am-10pm weekdays and 7am – 1pm Saturdays. Two recent overrun occurrences were reported by residents as complaints, but as they were due to concrete pours due to pump failure, the regulations allow for overruns in these circumstances.
- 3.6m noise barrier is now complete. A recent poll of councillors, local groups and some residents had agreed on a design for the noise barrier and the result passed to HS2.

iii) Earthworks – EKFB

- Schedule 17 has been submitted by EKFB for the South Heath cutting, earthworks and structures. It does not include the alignment of Leather Lane nor the North Portal buildings.

iv) The Conveyor

- A conveyor system has been proposed and accepted in principle to take spoil and materials between two sites either side of the A413 and the Chiltern railway. The conveyors will be fully enclosed and have noise reducing cladding. They should not be visible from the ground. It is planned to start operating the conveyor for two years from Summer 2022. Some local road closures for construction and vegetation clearance will be necessary.

v) Construction Traffic

- Discussions on the impact of the additional HGV traffic on the A413 & A355 continue. Bucks Council awaits results of appeals against the lorry route decisions. In the meantime two contractors have produced a Traffic Management Information Guide. This indicates that HGV movements along the A413 are in the region of 540 movements each weekday.

v) Engagement

- An HS2 mobile visitor centre is due to visit the parish on Thursday 7th April 2022 10am-3pm in Buryfield car park.
- An in person event is due towards the end of March – date to be confirmed, followed by a virtual event the following day.

vi) Construction Traffic

- Under current plans HGV traffic movements are at a peak level in February and March.
- Bucks Council have agreed to consider deploying the mobile CCTV camera which monitors HS2 traffic, it was agreed that this will be placed at the top of the Link Road on the skatepark side and would be available for two months. A confirmation and a date are awaited.
- The High Court have granted Bucks Council permission to go to Judicial Review on the appeals against six lorry route decisions. The hearing is likely to take place in April/May
- When sending complaints to hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk please also copy in Bucks Council at ewrandhs2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk and to our clerk.

vii) Save Leather Lane Oaks campaign – summary for noting

- The council noted the update on the history of Leather Lane Oaks campaign. The request to support the campaign, as presented in the public forum, will be on the April agenda. In the meantime a meeting at the end of March is planned with HS2 engineers and the campaigners to discuss the options for the positioning of re-aligned Leather Lane and overbridge. The parish council will also arrange to meet with the representatives of the campaign.

c) Open Spaces and Lighting

i) Land adjacent to Link Road – response from Bucks Council – for noting

The council noted the response from Carter Jonas advising that Bucks Council were proceeding with letting this land on a short term 12 month licence to a third party. The parish council are invited to submit a more detailed proposal for their plans for the land to be considered at the end of the 12 month arrangement. A working party consisting of Cllrs Hewett, Bunting, Lovegrove, Pusey, Pither, Brooke & Johnstone will start research the possibilities to present to council.

ii) Land at London Road – grass cutting invoice for consideration and approval

The council resolved by majority vote to pay the invoice from The Misbourne of £3,980 + VAT to cover the grass and hedge cutting of the parish owned land adjacent to London Road. This covers the last two years and was cheaper than a comparison quote obtained. The council discussed the way forward and it was agreed for the Open Spaces Committee to consider this and make recommendations to the council.

iii) Request to use Prestwood Common – fundraiser event – for approval

The council approved by majority resolution to the request to use Prestwood Common on 16th July for a charity fundraising events. Prestwood Colts have been informed and are supporting the event.

iv) Request to use Buryfield – Lighthouse – for approval

The council resolved by majority vote to approve the request for Lighthouse to use Buryfield from Saturday 17th July – Monday 1st August. The council requested an updated plan to take into account the new picnic benches and requested that these were left accessible for other users of Buryfield.

v) Request to use Buryfield – Greens Funfair

The request to use Buryfield from 23rd May to Monday 6th June (opening the fair from Friday 27th May – Sunday 5th June) was resolved

vi) Request to put posters on Buryfield – Bucks Pottery & Sculpture exhibition

The request for advertising posters on stakes on Buryfield directing people to an exhibition at Oldham Hall from 8th April to 10th April was resolved. A reminder to remove the posters immediately after the event will also be sent.

vii) Request for a jubilee beacon – Prestwood Scouts – for consideration

The council approved the request from Prestwood Scouts to have a low level beacon for the jubilee in the Prestwood Community Centre parking area.

viii) Allotments – Spurlands End Road – hedge – for consideration & approval

The council resolved the invoice of £210.00 from Missenden Walled Garden to supply and plant native hedge at the base of the new fence panels on the border of Spurlands End Road allotments.

ix) Allotments – request for sheds/polytunnel – for approval

The following requests were approved:-

- Chequers Lane plot 5 – shed 6’x4’
- Chequers Lane plot 16b – shed 6’x4’
- Chequers Lane plot 6a – polytunnel 6’x6’ (no taller than a shed)

Tenants will be reminded that it is their responsibility to remove these structures at the end of their tenancy.

x) Buryfield vandalism – hedge & tree – revised quote for approval

The council resolved to accept the quote of £1,197.50 + VAT to move a section of the Buryfield Hedge from by the lamppost/chained entrance to fill in the vandalised section of hedge at the top by the picnic benches.

xi) Play Areas – Sibleys Rise & Prestwood Common – quotes for surfacing – for approval

This item was asked to be placed on the upcoming Open Spaces Committee meeting so a recommendation can be made to council.

xii) Greenlands Lane biodiversity project – for consideration

The council discussed the biodiversity project which is being proposed by a community led group. The aim is to identify an area of public owned land that could be left wild throughout the growing season and Kiln Common in Prestwood was the area proposed by the group. The council agreed support for the project, in principle, however did not feel that the area adjacent to the allotments was the most suitable place.

xiii) Greenlands Lane - SM&OPC request to renew lease – for approval/noting

The decision, under clerks delegated powers, to renew the lease for the land at Greenlands Lane, Prestwood, under the same terms and annual fee, £750, for a further five years, was ratified by the council.

xiv) Allotments – suggestion to consider skips

The council discussed the suggestion to consider skips at some of the allotment sites, however it was put forward that this had only happened previously as an exception as bonfires were not permitted during Covid lockdowns. The proposal was not moved to a vote.

xv) Prestwood Recreation Ground - update

The council noted that Bucks Council devolution team had initially responded that an amended expression of interest would be needed regarding the leasehold of Prestwood Recreation Ground. This would need to detail all the planned work that the parish council would carry out as this would form part of the legal arrangements, following that a business case would then be required. Cllr Hewett advised that Bucks Cllr Peter Martin, had been able to intervene, and a further email had been received, which offers a 25 year lease at a nominal fee, with the requirement that the Parish Council will need to seek consent from Bucks Council before any development. The clerk was asked to forward the email to all councillors for their comments to formulate a response to Bucks Council.

d) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Parish Warden – for discussion

A proposal to defer this item was resolved.

ii) Request for a grant – Age Concern

The grant request for £238.00 towards the running costs of testing and serving the tail lift of the minibus every six months was resolved by majority.

iii) Request for a grant – Citizens Advice Bureau

The grant request for £5,000 towards volunteer training courses and advisor expenses for residents of Great Missenden parish was discussed. Cllr Johnstone confirmed that although this was over the £2,500 allocated that the increased amount was available in the grant budget for this financial year. This request, and budget reallocation, was resolved by majority vote.

iv) Payment of accounts for March - interim 2022

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **227-244** in the sum of **£24,369.47 (inc VAT)** be agreed for payment and petty cash items of **£77.46** be ratified. It was noted that there would be a final payment run at the end of March, to include outstanding end of financial year invoices.

14. Editorial Working Party

i) The Source – councillors were thanked for recent article submissions. The 20 is plenty article had elicited over 30 responses so far, these will be summarised for the council.

15. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

i) Cllr Cook updated the council on the recent Prestwood Village Association meeting and the request for a presentation by a Prestwood Councillor at the AGM on 26th April. Cllr Cook volunteered to present on behalf of the council and this was agreed. All Prestwood councillors were invited to attend the AGM.

16. Clerks Report

i) The clerk's progress report was noted.

ii) The details of the NJC annual salary award for 2021/22 were noted, as was the backdated pay, as per the clerks contracts.

17. Matters for information

- The council was reminded that the next parish council meeting would be held in the Committee Room at the Memorial Centre.
- Following the sad death of Richard Hildreth, the clerk was asked to send a card on behalf of the parish council.

18. Future meetings

- a) Planning Committee – **7.30 p.m. Monday 4th April 2022** – Great Missenden Memorial Centre
- b) Parish Council Meeting – **7.30pm Monday 11th April 2022**– Great Missenden Memorial Centre

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.