



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th January 2023 @ 7.30pm

Committee Room, Great Missenden Memorial Centre, Link Road,
Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 9AE

Public Forum: A representative from Lighthouse regarding their annual request to use Buryfield. A representative from Citizens Advice Bucks thanking the council for their support and providing an update on the use of last years grant funding and their volunteer recruitment program for 2023.

Present: Councillor K Pither – Vice Chair (chaired the meeting)
Councillors: J Brooke, C Bunting, L Cook, J Gladwin, S Humphreys, M Johnstone, M Lee,
V Marshall, R Pusey, I Lovegrove, S Rhodes, T Stevenson

Also present: Jane Hennessy, Clerk

2023/1 **Apologies**

Cllrs: A Hewett, V Martin, C Ormesher

Not present: Cllr Lovegrove

2023/2 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

2023/3 The minutes of the meeting held on **12th December 2022** were agreed and signed as a correct record.

2023/4 **Matters arising**

- The amended Councillor Surgery rota has been circulated to all. Cllrs Lee & Lovegrove to advise on the Prestwood location for the 28th January.
- A request for charges to be waived for a booking for Prestwood Community Centre by Bucks Community Safety and Bucks Trading Standards for an 'Avoiding Scams' workshop planned for 3 hours on 22nd February. This was approved by all present and resolved under clerks delegated powers.
- The clerk advised that a meeting has been held with the Bucks Council Cemetery Manager, Michaela Pottle, and an agreement for a Bucks Council cemetery officer to attend all interments at the Lawn Cemetery. The clerks will forward details of all interments to BC on a regular basis.

2023/5 **Parking – Buryfield car park lease – update** – it was reported that an updated copy of the lease, with all the requested amendments had been received by the clerk today. The solicitors will be advised to complete the lease.

2023/6 **Parish Cup – request for nominations** - a request for nominations for the annual parish cup. Any further nominations to be sent to the clerk for voting at the February meeting.

2023/7 **Great Missenden Village Improvements Project – update** – Cllr Johnstone advised that work was nearly completed at the Fire Station, and Library and that the remaining work should re-commence at the end of the week/beginning of next week. Thanks to Mop Denson who has worked hard on the project and recently planted bulbs.

2023/8 **Climate & Environment Working Party – update** – Cllr Bunting presented the update from the recent Climate & Environment Working Party meeting and proposed the following:-

- Declaration of acknowledgement of a climate emergency, recognising the scientific information regarding climate change as a public body – resolved by majority. Cllr Bunting to provide wording to reflect this for the website.
- ImpactTool report detailing Great Missenden Parish’s carbon footprint & the recent Environmental Audit report to be posted to the website – resolved by majority.
- Amendment to working party terms of reference to reduce quorate to 2 – resolved by majority.

Further recommendations will be made to the council from the working party including; use of a decision making matrix to ensure the environment is considered in all projects, consistency of arboriculturist use, tree planting map, biodiversity target, parish wide environment event, engagement with schools and businesses on projects such as pollinator highways, carbon emission projects.

2023/9 **GMPRG – Prestwood Bike Racks – update** – it was confirmed by Bucks Council Highways that the Parish Council would be responsible for future maintenance of the proposed bike racks in Prestwood. The parish council resolved to accept responsibility, but, depending on repairs that may be required, a guarantee is not given to replace an item, if it is beyond repair. The council are however keen to support any projects that encourage less use of cars.

2023/10 **Prestwood Community Centre**

1. Request for 12 months free hire from Climate Café – this is for four sessions during 2023 – resolved.
2. External Damage – the recent damage was noted and a quote awaited.
3. Electrical Test report & heater timer replacement – the following were resolved:-
 - to carry out electrical safety testing – recommended every 5 years - £300.
 - to supply, wire, fit & test 24 hr timeclock to replace existing failed - £115.00

2023/11 **Civility & Respect pledge – for discussion** – the council continued discussions regarding this pledge. Cllr Bunting proposed that the council should sign up and this was resolved by majority vote. (Cllr Gladwin asked for the number of votes to be recorded, 8 in favour, 1 object, 3 abstain.)

2023/12 **GMMC – request to paint bollards** – the quote for £25 + VAT to paint the concrete bollards outside the bifold windows of the Memorial Centre, white, was resolved.

COMMITTEES - Planning

2023/13 Minutes of the meeting held on **3rd January 2023** were approved, with a minor amendment and will be signed at the next planning meeting. Thanks were asked to be recorded for Cllr Rhodes for his hard work and perseverance with enforcement issues.

2023/14 **Local Plan Bucks Council Evidence Base – Settlement Review** - Cllr Gladwin updated the council on the email received from Bucks Council calling for information on facilities in the parish. It was agreed that a response would be drafted asking for clarification and that a meeting would be arranged for all councillors to attend to agree on the final response.

2023/15 HS2- Update

1. Chesham Road Intervention Shaft - excavation of the shaft is complete, the next stage is for an internal staircase to be started. Traffic lights are due to be in place on Chesham Road whilst UKPN complete the mains electrical connection for the Chesham Road site.

2. North Portal - the barrettes have been completed. Work is now focused on preparing for the arrival of the tunnel boring machines in mid 2024 and drainage

installation. UKPN are organising the mains connection to the North Portal. It is likely that there will be a 6 week closure of Frith Hill, South Heath leg, for this connection. A start date is to be confirmed.

3. Leather Lane update – EKFB have confirmed that they are still awaiting the bat data for the surveys undertaken in 2022. The parish council resolved to support the Save Leather Lane Campaigners grant application to the Missendens Community Board for £3,025. These funds are for a bat project; specifically, professional advice on bat data analysis in 2022 and 2023 and attendance at meetings by an ecologist, printing and training, etc.

4. Various Updates – the conveyor at Wendover is undergoing commissioning prior to full operation in February.

- the concrete pour for the north abutment to the Wendover Dean viaduct is due to commence 9th January. The south abutment bored piling will be carried out from 23rd January.

- abnormal length loads are planned for delivery in the evenings from the end of February/March.

- Bowood planting – The Lee Parish Council have been monitoring the progress of HS2 tree planting in the new woodland, created by Fusion JV. 83% of the trees have survived after the first planting in 2020/21. EKFB have now planted a few more and are due to conduct a survey on the condition of the trees.

- sheet piling for the Rocky Lane underbridge will be carried out in January for around six weeks.

- Utility companies will be diverting supply to enable diversion of the A413 to allow the piers for the Small Dean Viaduct to be completed. Road closures are yet to be decided.

Open Spaces and Lighting

2023/16 **Request to use Buryfield – Lighthouse** – this request to use Buryfield from Sunday 16th July – Monday 31st July 2023 was approved by resolution.

2023/17 **Prestwood Recreation Ground – update** – a response is awaited from the parish council's solicitors. On last contact, before Christmas, nothing had been received from Bucks Council.

2023/18 **Benches – Prestwood Recreation Ground** – Cllr Pither updated the council on the proposed location of the two benches to be donated by the Prestwood WI groups (to be located up in the corner of the Recreation Group adjacent to the garages and near the container). This position has been approved by Bucks Council. It was also advised that the Woodland Trust trees will be scheduled for planting on the Common and the Recreation Ground soon. All locations have been approved by Bucks Council.

2023/19 **Ballinger Common Car Park – weighted barrier** – Cllr Rhodes advised that the two chained areas around Ballinger Car Park should be upgraded to barriers and/or one area replaced with bollards and one with a barrier. Quotes will be arranged and the Cricket Club consulted for their views.

2023/20 **Ballinger Common – replacement swing** – The council approved the quote from Caledonia Play to supply and install the replacement toddler swing at Ballinger Common for a cost of £316.70. As Caledonia Play have not been used by the council before references will be taken up.

2023/21 **Tree Policy** – this was reviewed and adopted with a minor amendment.

Finance and General Purposes

2023/22 Minutes of the meeting held on **19th December 2023** were approved and will be signed at a later date.

- 2023/23 **Budget 2023/24** – Cllr Johnstone presented the budget, which was updated following discussion at the December parish council meeting, and includes the suggested amendments and details of earmarked reserves. The parish council approved the budget and reserves by resolution, giving a precept request for 2023/24 of £289,940, equating to a 4.7% band D council tax increase.
- 2023/24 **Request for grant – Great Missenden Chamber of Trade** – the grant of £620.00 for 62 Christmas trees for Great Missenden High Street was approved by resolution.
- 2023/25 **Grant Awarding policy** – the grant policy was reviewed and adopted with a minor amendment to the condition no 2 where ‘commercial’ was amended to read ‘commercial/profit-making’.
- 2023/26 **Legal Notices** – none for noting
- 2023/27 **Payment of accounts for January 2023** numbered **210 – 231** in the sum of **£20,734.41** (inc VAT) were agreed for payment and petty cash items for January of **£45.09** be ratified.
- Editorial Working Party**
- 2023/28 **‘The Source’** – a reminder for any articles for the next issue of The Source.
- 2023/29 **Reports from Representatives to outside Groups** - none.
- 2023/30 **Clerk’s Report** – noted.
- 2023/31 **Matters for information** – none.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Future Meetings

- a) **Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 6th February 2023 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre**
- b) **Parish Council – 7.30pm Monday 13th February 2023 – Prestwood Village Hall**