



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 7th August 2023 @ 7.30pm
Prestwood Village Hall, 1 Wycombe Road, Prestwood HP16 0NZ

Public Forum: One representative from Leather Lane Conservation Group regarding the bat data and green bridge.

Present: Councillor K Pither, vice-chair – chaired the meeting
Councillors: C Bains, L Cook, J Gladwin, S Humphreys, M Johnstone, I Lovegrove, V Marshall, V Martin, C Ormesher, R Pusey, S Rhodes, T Stevenson

2023/249 Apologies

Cllrs C Bunting, Hewett, Lee

2023/250 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Pither & Cook – item 272

2023/251 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2023 – were agreed and signed as a correct record.

2023/252 Matters arising

- The Trend antivirus software renewal for 3 pc's for 2 years increased in cost over that approved at the previous meeting. The total cost was now £256.39 + VAT and had been approved by the Cllr Johnstone, as chair of Finance Committee
- The planning application for improvements at Ballinger Common by Ballinger Waggoners Cricket Club is being prepared for submission.
- Funding for a speed survey on A413 by the Community Board and Transport for Bucks is not available. Bucks Councillor Peter Martin is enquiring if any of the footage from the HS2 mobile camera at the Link Road roundabout would be suitable.
- A parish council owned streetlight on Rignall Road bridge has been reported as covered in vegetation. Bucks Council have advised that the location of the streetlamp is owned by Network Rail, and this has been reported online with them.
- Thank you to Cllr Humphreys for repairing the bench at Prestwood Common.
- The parish survey deadline has been extended and Cllr Johnstone suggested a Zoom meeting to complete the survey online. The clerk will arrange a date.
- The streetworks 171 licence has been submitted on behalf of Great Missenden & Prestwood Revite Group for the work to install the bike racks.
- The work to replace the fence and cut back the vegetation on the border of Buryfield car park is due to start on 15th August.
- Please forward any comments regarding the proposed scout hut design to the clerk. The design documents will be re-forwarded by email to all as requested.
- It was noted that a bootcamp is running on Buryfield. Public Liability Insurance details have been received along with a request to approve 3 classes a week, Tues 7pm, Thurs 7pm and Saturday 8am. As there are no other classes running currently it was agreed for the clerk to resolve this under delegated powers. This was resolved by majority.
- It was noted that the proposed planning terms of reference had not been included on the agenda. The clerk advised that the item will be considered on the September agenda.

- Cllr Stevenson asked if all the councillors could be made aware of all meetings, especially those of working parties. The clerk advised a councillors' only web page was being created and a calendar could be made available for all to access there.

2023/253 Prestwood Community Centre

- 1. Notes from working party meeting** – were noted.
- 2. Proposal to replace building with new brick built structure** – Cllr Pither proposed that investigations are made to replace the Community Centre with a more permanent structure. This was approved in principle and resolved by majority vote to create a working party to look at options. Cllrs Pither, Marshall, Cook, Lovegrove, Bains, Humphreys, Pusey & Stephenson volunteered to join the working party.
- 3. Pool table** – this has been advertised, free for collection, and it is planned that it will be collected within the next week.
- 4. Complaint regarding oven – Sparkling Oven - now cleaned** – the cost of £80 from Sparkling Ovens was approved by Cllr Pither as chair of Open Spaces. A provision in the budget for an annual clean was also resolved.
- 5. Request for free hire – children's Grow Your Own project** – Cllrs Pither & Bains proposed that the parish council run a series of 'Grow your Own' events for children. Hildreths have donated seeds, etc and children will attend with their parents. Cllrs Pither & Bains proposed to run the events at Prestwood Community Centre. There will be no charge made for this. The parish council approved this in principle, provided that the council had no financial interest in the event and that the clerk check if the council have the power to run this type of event and also confirm with the insurers that the event will be covered. The council approved 4 free sessions of hire at Prestwood Community Centre for this project.

2023/254 Parking - Buryfield car park lease – update – the council discussed the request from Bucks Council for amendments to the lease prior to signing. The council resolved to accept the request to extend the lease to 10 years but agreed to leave the break period at six months, by majority vote.

2023/255 Community Payback – update – the parish council were re-assured by the responses from both Zurich Insurance and the Community Payback insurers, however did ask the clerk for a further check with Zurich insurers. The council resolved to progress this initiative and all ideas for projects should be emailed to the clerks.

2023/256 Request for bench, Church Lane from St Peter & St Paul Church – the council discussed the request to provide a bench on Church Lane, leading up to the church. There was concern about the location, especially when cars are parked on the Lane. As the land doesn't belong to the parish council, it was resolved to ask the resident to direct this request to Bucks Council.

COMMITTEES - Planning

2023/257 Minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2023 – were approved as a correct record and will be signed at the next planning committee meeting.

2023/258 HS2- Update

- 1. Construction Update** – The Tunnel Boring Machines (TBM) have completed 75% of the 16km tunnel. They have completed under the A413 and TBM Cecilia is being maintained in the Little Missenden Vent shaft whilst TBM Florence is moving up the hill.
Earthworks – the excavation of the South Heath cutting is progressing. Temporary bunds are being used to hold the spoil as there is limited space until the design of the green tunnel at Wendover has been decided.

Roadworks on A413 continue with overnight closures planned at Wendover, all to prepare for the road diversion to enable the piers for the viaduct to be constructed.

2. Environment

Sinkhole – there are discussions between the Environment Agency and the landowner regarding filling the sinkhole as there has been no change to it and no further ground movements.

Hydrology – there are concerns that the construction of the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile tunnel box alongside the Wendover Bypass as part of the green tunnel will cause flooding at Stoke Mandeville and west of Aylesbury. The Environment Agency has restricted excavation for the present.

Bowood Lane overbridge planning submission has been rejected and an appeal is in progress for the creation of a green bridge.

Leather Lane – the layout for the re-aligned overbridge has yet to be decided, together with mitigation for the bat corridor, evidence of barbastelle bat has been shared by the Leather Lane Conservation Group along with a request for support for a green bridge.

It was resolved by majority vote to write to Leather Lane Conservation Group with the parish council's support for the green overbridge initiative and confirm continuing support for ecological conservation in the area, including reconvening of a meeting to resolve the mitigation of the bat population, the realignment of the lane and the retention of the lone oak.

3. **Engagement** – upcoming drop in events with Align/EKFB on 14th September & 7th December in Great Missenden Memorial Centre and the HS2 mobile visitor centre on 15th August at Stoke Mandeville and 31st August at Bucks County Show. The parish council and The Lee parish council are invited to meet approximately every three weeks with HS2 main contractors. Dates are variable. Action notes and list of forthcoming works are circulated to HS2 working party members.

4. Working Party – update

The HS2 working party met on 11th July and the notes were made available.

The terms of reference proposed for the working party were resolved by majority vote as follows:-

To monitor the HS2 construction activities to hold the HS2 main works contractors to account and to communicate issues and progress to residents.

The working party will meet when there is a substantive issue to review.

Cllr Pither asked for thanks to be recorded for Cllr Johnstone for all his hard work and for arranging the recent informative visit to the North Portal site.

Open Spaces and Lighting

2023/259 Prestwood Recreation Ground – Lease – the council noted that the lease has now been signed and returned to the solicitors to arrange for Bucks Council to sign. There is a Deed of Novation for the existing Colts licence to use Prestwood Recreation Ground which is outstanding and is hoped to be signed by the Colts this week.

2023/260 Buryfield – path – for approval to apply for planning permission and seek funding – this was agreed in principle, subject to agreement of route and materials prior to submission, by majority vote.

2023/261 Prestwood Recreation Ground – path – for approval to apply for planning permission and seek funding - this was agreed in principle, subject to agreement of route and materials prior to submission, by majority vote.

- 2023/262 Playground repairs – working party to prioritise repairs – to agree members** - Cllrs Pither, Bains, Humphreys and Hewett have agreed to join the working party and a meeting will be arranged by Cllr Pither.
- 2023/263 Land at London Road – wayleave for existing equipment** – this was approved by majority and the clerk requested to negotiate maximum back charges and annual fee.
- 2023/264 Gryms Dyke – swing replacement** – the cost of the replacement swing from Komplan at £281.64 and the cost from Chesham Town Council of £105 + VAT, were approved by Cllr Pither as chair of Open Spaces and the new swing was installed today.
- 2023/265 Request to use Buryfield – Gateway – charge** – the council discussed the resolution made at last month’s meeting to go forward with a trial period of one term for Gateway to use part of Buryfield up to three times a week and what a reasonable charge would be for this period. The council resolved by majority vote to charge £200 for the trial period .
- 2023/266 Buryfield – Repairs to grass – Greens/Lighthouse** –
 Greens Funfair - following the May visit from Greens Funfair a patch of grass has died. Greens have re-seeded the patch and will monitor to see if further repairs are needed.
 Lighthouse - due to the wet weather when Lighthouse vacated Buryfield some damage has been noted to the grass, particularly lorry tracks. Lighthouse have raked these areas and will monitor.
- 2023/267 Great Missenden Memorial Centre – blocked kitchen drain** – it was noted that the external drain from the sink outlet was not flowing freely and flooding. All Clear Burkes Effluent Services were called out and have jet cleaned the drains. They have also been asked to quote for the replacement drain covers in the car park which are required.
- 2023/268 Vehicles on allotments** – Cllr Pither advised that during the recent wet weather it would be prudent to monitor the allotment sites with regards vehicle access.
- 2023/269 General Repairs – Sexton quotes** – the council approved the following quotes:-
- Remove of rotten wooden steps to the tennis courts £130.00
 - Removal of two metal posts in the Buryfield £70.00
 - To cut back the hedge at the entrance to The Misbourne School £120.00
 - Sweep and glue the Astro turf at Prestwood Common £185.00
 - First cut of grass at Prestwood Recreation Ground (if not recently cut by Bucks Council) £280.00
- All the above were approved by majority resolution.
- Finance and General Purposes**
- 2023/270 Parish Warden – update** – the council discussed the parish warden role and proposed salary. The job description requires more detail, as does any proposed training and application of health and safety regulations. This will be progressed. Cllr Pusey will email the clerk directly with any outstanding concerns that he feels need addressing.
- 2023/271 Press & Media Policy** – the draft was discussed and amendments suggested on item 4.7 to ensure the policy is clear. Suggested wording requested to be emailed to the clerk.
- 2023/272 Request for grant – Plan-it Prestwood** - the request for a grant of up to £2,800 to install the lights on the tree on the corner of Honor End Lane/High Street, Prestwood was resolved by unanimous vote. This was after an initial proposal by Cllr Lovegrove to provide an alternative quote was withdrawn.

2023/273 Payment of accounts for August 2023 – numbers **83 – 103** for a sum of **£19,949.26 (inc VAT)** were all agreed for payment and petty cash items for August of **£43.75** were ratified.

Editorial Working Party

2023/274 'The Source'- the next meeting with the editor of The Source was confirmed as 5th September @ 5.30pm in the parish office.

2023/275 Reports from Representatives to outside Groups – none.

2023/276 Clerk's Report - was noted.

2023/277 Matters for information

- A reminder of the Bucks Council new Planning Surgeries was given. Please contact the clerk if a slot is required.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm

Future Meetings

a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 4th September 2023 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre

b) Parish Council – 7.30pm Monday 11th September 2023 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre