



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 12th August 2024
Prestwood Village Hall,
Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 9AE**

Public Forum: Residents regarding hawthorn tree on Tetherdown
Representative from Great Missenden Village Association regarding bus route 41
Representative from Prestwood Village Association regarding bus route 41
Representative from Prestwood Community Association announcing their formation and purpose.

Present: Cllr K Pither – vice chair (chaired the meeting)
Cllrs: C Bains, C Bunting, L Cook, J Gladwin, S Humphreys, M Johnstone, M Lee, I Lovegrove, V Marshall, V Martin, C Ormesher, R Pusey, S Rhodes, T Stevenson

2024/254 Apologies – Cllrs: A Hewett

2024/255 Declarations of Interest – none.

2024/256 Minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2024 were signed and approved as a true record.

2024/257 Matters arising

- HS2 Road Safety Fund application forms have been submitted by the parish council for London Road, Great Missenden road safety improvements.
- HS2 Road Safety Fund application form has been submitted by South Heath Road Safety Action Group.
- £400 donation has generously been received from GMVA towards the new noticeboard on Station Approach.
- Broombarne Lane Community Board double yellow line project is still awaiting a start date. An update is awaited from Highways regarding this – a credit note has been received for the full value of the initial Broombarne Lane & Honor Road project and this is being pursued as a payment has already been made towards the Broombarne Lane project as the Honor Road parking scheme has been paused.
- Buryfield play area fencing has been noted as rotten in places. A quote for £450 + VAT by Sextons was approved by Cllr Pither on the ground of safety.
- Prestwood Community Centre - the emergency lights in the men's and ladies' toilets need replacing. The quote from Marsh Electrics for £160 was approved by Cllr Pither on the grounds of safety.
- The gully repairs in the Memorial Centre car park are now completed.

2024/258 Memorial Centre

1. Replacement Cupboard doors – the quote from Ballinger Workshop for £940 inc VAT to provide new cupboard doors was approved under clerks delegated powers. The works are now completed.

2. Quote for annual water testing – the quote for £568 + VAT was approved for the annual water hygiene programme. The clerk will confirm the recommended quantity of checks that need to be carried out before placing the order.

2024/259 Speeding – Wycombe Road, Prestwood – update – it was noted that county Cllr Peter Martin is progressing this with Highways and it is hoped that the previous agreement in 2009 from Bucks to reduce the speed will be useful in progressing this.

2024/260 Prestwood Community Centre

1. Vandalism – update – it was noted that the £200 insurance excess has been paid to the contractors, Harcross, and that a pre-start meeting is arranged for 14th August at 2.00pm, Cllrs Pither and Humphreys will attend.

2. Pump Service & Soak away – the quote for £450 from All Clear Effluent Services to service and clean the macerator pump at the Community Centre and also to dig and clear out the soak away on the corner of the building was resolved by majority vote.

2024/261

Parking – Prestwood High Street – EV chargers & broken ticket machine – it was reported that the ticket machine was repaired a few weeks ago. It was also reported that the lining for half the EV charging spaces has been incorrectly marked and they should be available for any type of vehicle. County Cllr Peter Martin is progressing this.

2024/263

Bucks Council Library Flex – Consultation – Cllr Bunting will draft a letter against these changes to send on behalf of the parish council and will circulate to all.

2024/264

Defibrillator South Heath – request for maintenance costs by parish council – the council approved the request to undertake the ongoing maintenance costs for a proposed new defibrillator to be sited at South Heath, this includes the replacement batteries and pads, and is subject to a secure location being found.

2024/265

Bus Service Changes – no. 41 – following the news that this bus route is being changed and will no longer travel through Great Missenden High Street and will terminate in Amersham on the Hill, it was agreed to write to Bucks Council to ask for more information as to why the route is to be changed and to stress the importance of the bus route including Amersham Hospital and Tesco's. Cllr Bunting will draft a letter for circulation.

COMMITTEES - Planning

2024/266

Minutes of the planning committee meeting held on 5th August 2024 were approved and will be signed at the next planning meeting.

2024/267

Licensing – pavement fees – the update on the increased pavement licensing fees for businesses who use a pavement on the highway was discussed. It was noted that the increase of fees had already been approved by Bucks Council and this was permissible due to a change in the law.

2024/268

HS2- Update

1. South Heath Cutting - construction of 3 bridges, footpaths GM1/2, GM1/12 and Leather Lane overbridge will continue until summer 2027.

2. Footpaths – GM1/12 & 13 are closed whilst GM1/2 is open to allow access from Potter Row to Great Missenden.

3. Footbridge Design – GM1/12 footpath – the bridge will have an open design to bring into view the tunnel portal.

GM1/2 footpath – to be diverted north crossing the railway line alongside the farm track from Potter Row towards Havenfield. The track is not open to the public, has gated access used primarily by two farmers to access the fields they manage.

Detailed drawings of the diverted footpath have been requested.

GM1/13 – this footpath does not require a bridge as it will be diverted around the back of the north portal. However detailed drawings have been requested as a link to Frith Hill is part of no. 1964 Undertaking & Assurance.

Leather Lane – the confidential revised designs are being discussed with HS2 and Bucks Council with the hope that they will be disclosed in September.

4. HS2 supporting the community – ALIGN & EKFB, the main works contractors are happy to carry out Community Investment. Align have been working with residents in South Heath to discuss road safety measures, green spaces, gateway signs, noticeboard, bus shelter, defib & footpaths. Align are also demobilising the South Portal site and materials are becoming available for donation including fencing, aggregate, office supplies, cement, sand, trees, etc. Anyone interested should contact Align directly.

Open Spaces and Lighting

2024/269 Minutes of Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 29th July 2024 were approved and will be signed at the next Open Spaces Committee meeting.

2024/270 Allotments:-

1. Greenlands Lane – proposal to request permission from landowners to create a hedge – it was agreed by council to investigate further the suggestion to change the fencing along the centre of the Greenlands Lane/Kiln Common site. It was agreed that Stoke Mandeville & Other Parishes Charity will need to be contacted for permission as the landowners. In the meantime, quotes were requested for the following; hedge planting, repairs to the fencing or to remove the fencing entirely to open up the space, allowing the council to consider the options and consult with the bordering residents.

2. Kiln Common – proposal to request permission from landowners to contact residents – it was noted that perhaps some adjacent residents may be accessing Kiln Common directly through gaps in the fencing. It was resolved to contact all residents to remind them that this was not a right of access. A quote was requested for repair of the post and wire fencing to close any gaps.

3. Prestwood Nature – request for open date – the request from Prestwood Nature to hold an open day at Kiln Common on 12th October was resolved by the council. Copies of public liability insurance will be requested, as well as any appropriate licences. Permission was also granted to park on the hard-standing area. The request for the use of electricity will need to be passed to the tenant who holds the agreement for the storage area.

4. Ballinger – Ragwort – the council noted the presence of ragwort on the vacant allotments at Ballinger and resolved to accept the quote from Sextons for £320 + VAT to remove this. It was agreed that this should be carried out in the next few days to avoid the plants going to seed.

2024/271 Quote for annual playground inspection 2025 – the quote for £504.00 + VAT for the 2025 annual playground inspection by The Play Inspection Company was resolved by majority vote.

2024/272 Buryfield Zip Wire Replacement – proposal to extend the distance to 30m – it was agreed to extend the zip wire to 30m and the additional cost for the extended area of TigerMulch of £1,736.00 was resolved.

2024/273 Greenside, Prestwood – request for work to tree – it was agreed to review the condition of the tree at the next survey due in the winter, before deciding how to manage this tree.

2024/274 Quote for tree work on Buryfield – the council discussed the additional itemised quote and resolved to accept the quote from The Tree Man for £3,750. It was agreed not to fell the purple plum (T133) but just to have the hanging bough removed.

2024/275 Tetherdown – Hawthorn – the council discussed the results of the recent survey regarding the hawthorn, ivy & brambles on Tetherdown, Prestwood from adjacent

residents, and representation in the public forum. The council resolved by majority vote to leave the hawthorn and vegetation in place and review in a years' time. This is in order to retain the biodiversity of this area.

- 2024/276 Prestwood Recreation Ground - Chain link fence repair** – the existing gap in the boundary chain link fencing at the rear of the Wrights Lane houses that back onto Prestwood Rec was discussed. It was agreed to obtain a quote to repair the fencing and to write to the householders to advise of this.
- 2024/277 Open Spaces Contract Renewal – April 25 – 28 – update & proposal for advert** – the council agreed the timetable for the Open Spaces Contract renewal and the aim to advertise the contract on Contract Finder in September, review tenders in November with a recommendation on the December agenda. Cllr Bunting agreed to draft an advert to accompany the tender. All councillors were asked to let the clerk know of any suggested amendments to the tender documents.
- 2024/278 Weed Killer – proposal to write to Martin Tett, Bucks Council** – it was resolved by majority vote to write to Martin Tett, Bucks Council following his recent email to all residents regarding glyphosate and its safety for use. Cllr Bunting will draft a response questioning the correspondence for all to approve.
- 2024/279 Dog Waste Bin – proposal for replacement Honor Road/Sixty Acres Road** – the replacement dog waste bin for Honor Road near the junction of Sixty Acres Road was resolved. As was the cost of £355 + VAT for Bucks Council to carry out the replacement.
- 2024/280 Streetlight – Electricity Contract** – the council discussed the quotes for electricity supply for the streetlights. Unmetered supply contracts are usually the most cost effective contracts for streetlights, however electricity suppliers are increasingly more reluctant to offer these contracts. The council resolved to approve the contract from SSE for 2 years at a cost of £8,184.20 per year.
- 2024/281 Ballinger – Requests from resident for path & car park improvements** – the request for the car park surface at Ballinger to be repaired and for a path from Ballinger Memorial Hall to the car park, across the Common was deferred until further information can be obtain regarding the path request.
- 2024/282 Circus – proposal to reduce charge for use of Buryfield** – the council agreed, under clerks delegated powers, to reduce the charge for the circus to £350, as the hire period was for one less day.
- 2024/283 Land at London Road** – Cllr Bunting advised that there was a proposal being discussed for a joint community project between the school and the Community Fridge. This would be presented to the council in the coming months. It was agreed to defer any working party meetings until this proposal was presented to the council and will then be discussed alongside the other options. It was also noted that Misbourne School are still keen to discuss the future of this land with the parish council.
- Finance and General Purposes**
- 2024/284 Financial Regulations** – the latest version proposed, based on the updated NALC model template April 2024, was adopted by resolution.
- 2024/285 Standing Orders – proposal for amendment** – an amendment to clerks delegated powers, no. 28, was approved by resolution, enabling deferring an item proposed under this power to either an EGM or the next ordinary council meeting.
- 2024/286 Insurance Renewal** – the council's insurance quote provided by Zurich for a 3 year term for a cost, in the first year, of £5,359.33 was resolved.

- 2024/287 Request for Grant – The Source** – the grant request of £798 towards printing of the previous edition of The Source was approved by resolution, in line with the budget.
- 2024/288 Legal Notices – LTN23 Health & Safety, LTN79 Staff Pensions & Planning** – noted.
- 2024/289 Payment of accounts for August 2024** - numbers **96-118** for the sum of **£22,042.37** inc VAT were all agreed and **petty cash** items of **£170.62** were ratified.
- Editorial Working Party**
- 2024/290 ‘The Source’** – the next edition is due in October and any suggested articles are welcomed.
- 2024/291 Reports from Representatives to outside Groups** – none.
- 2024/292 Clerk’s Report** – noted, as were the upcoming holiday dates and reduced office hours.
- 2024/293 Matters for information** – an informal meeting has been arranged with Greg Smith the new MP for the area on Wednesday 21st August @ 6.30pm.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm

Future Meetings

- a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. 2nd September 2024 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre**
- b) Parish Council – 7.30pm Monday 9th September 2024 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre**