

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January @ 7.30pm  
Great Missenden Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden HP16 9AE**

**Public Forum:** None.

**Present:** Cllr A Hewett - chair

Cllrs: M Lee, M Johnstone, V Marshall, C Ormesher, R Pusey

2025/001 **Apologies:** Cllrs Bains, Bunting, Cook, Gladwin, Humphreys, Lovegrove, Martin, Pither, Stevenson.

2025/002 **Declarations of Interest**

Item 28 – Cllr Hewett

2025/003 **Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – were approved and signed as a true record.

2025/004 **Matters arising**

- The tap in the disabled toilet at Prestwood Community Centre (PCC) was leaking and was replaced by B Tomlin for a cost of £204.35 + VAT, approved by Cllr Pither.
- A nut, bolt and tool from Wickstead was ordered in order to make a repair to the junior multiplay on Prestwood Common. The cost of £25.55 + VAT was approved by Cllrs Hewett & Pither.
- A repair is required to the wooden entrance gate at Buryfield Adventure play area. The cost of £75 + VAT by Jake Bowden was approved by Cllr Hewett.
- Two further faulty streetlights have been reported, one in Abbey Walk and one in Rook Wood Way – quotes are awaited, along with a quote for the light in Walnut Close.

2025/005 **Councillor Vacancy** – the intention is to co-opt at the February council meeting. There have been enquiries from three residents so far.

2025/006 **Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) – update** – The clerk advised that Bucks Council specify a maximum of two MVAS units per parish council and upon enquiry confirmed that these two signs should all be mobile. The parish council currently have four units and have requested quotes for two additional permanent solar powered MVAS units. The parish council resolved by majority approval to continue with the purchase of the additional two solar powered units and requested quotes were provided for a future meeting.

2025/007 **Speeding**

**1. Nags Head Lane, Prestwood** – email from resident – the request from a resident for a reduction in speed limit to 20mph on Nags Head Lane, or traffic calming measures was discussed. The clerk was asked to draft a response including the restricted powers that the parish council have on Highways, cost of speed reduction projects and to encourage more volunteers to join Community Speedwatch and MVAS initiative.

**2. Wycombe Road, Prestwood** – email from resident – the draft response to the request for a permanent MVAS at the Sixty Acres junction was approved. The response advised that there is an approved location for an MVAS at the Sixty Acres junction, although due to Covid and battery thefts it has not been used for some time. The parish council plan to use this site in the coming months, although this will not be a permanent location as the four units are moved around the parish.

2025/008 **Free parking dates – 2025** – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December were approved as additional dates to be submitted to the Community Board for approval by 31<sup>st</sup> January. The dates of Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December have already been nominated by Bucks Council.

- 2025/009 **Parish Cup** – nominations for the parish cup recipients, those residents who have gone the extra mile for the community in the last year, were requested. It is intended to vote on these at the February meeting.
- 2025/010 **Prestwood Community Centre** – vandalism – the door is now installed as well as all security measures now in place. The Scutum invoices (security alarm) will be passed to the insurers to be reclaimed.
- 2025/011 **South Heath Defibrillator** – the quote of £1,399.20 from Wel Medical for a defibrillator and cabinet that can be attached to a post was approved by resolution. There is a BT pole and two electricity poles at the suggested location. There will be other costs and the challenge is still to find an electrical supply for the cabinet. The council approved the proposal to investigate if the owners of any of the poles will give approval for the defib to be attached to their pole and clerk will progress this. The council acknowledged that there will be further costs for this project including the brackets, installation cost, ongoing electricity cost. An update will be provided at the next meeting.
- 2025/012 **Red Lion/Station Road/SANG – Abbey Park, Great Missenden** – there is still no further update on the approval of the SANG application. Peker Holdings have approached the parish council to see if they would be interested in managing the land, once it is set up. The commitment would be for at least 80 years and will be funded by the developer. Following subsequent information from Bucks Council, as the land owners of this proposed SANG, the expression of interest to be considered to manage the land would need to be to Bucks Council as the decision lies with them. The council resolved to send an expression of interest on managing this land, but would need to have site of the financial arrangements ahead of any agreement.

#### **COMMITTEES - Planning**

- 2025/013 **Minutes** of the meeting held on **6<sup>th</sup> January 2025** were approved and will be signed at the next planning meeting.
- 2025/014 **HS2- Update**
- 1. General HS2 project** – the government have now agreed that HS2 will terminate at Euston Station in London and not Old Oak Common. The works at Euston will be completed after the station at Old Oak Common and completion of the project is still scheduled for between 2029-2033.
  - 2. Sub Projects – completed to date:-**
    - Colne Valley Viaduct is now completed and is the longest rail bridge in Britain at 3.4km long.
    - Wendover Dean Viaduct – the assembled viaduct deck was slid into place in three stages with the final stage completed in August 2024.
    - Small Dean Viaduct – this will carry HS2 across the A413, Chiltern Railway and Small Dean Lane. A shared foot and cycle path will run alongside the main A413 road as it passes under the viaduct. The steel and concrete composite structure will be pushed across the A413 likely to be starting Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.
    - North Portal & South Heath Cutting – piling works and the creation of abutments for the overbridges at Liberty Lane, GMI/2 accommodation bridge and Park Hill GMI/12 are being progressed. There have been further complaints regarding excessive lighting. The parish council passed the complaint direct to the site team and the floodlight was directed downwards shortly afterwards.

**3. Contractors Meeting** - the frequency of these meetings has been changed to monthly, the second Tuesday in the month, online. Drop in events continue and are planned for 15<sup>th</sup> January and 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**Open Spaces and Lighting**

2025/015 **Pressure washing of play equipment & benches** – the council approved by resolution the quote from SSC for one days work at £375 + VAT.

2025/016 **Parish Office – moss clearance from roof** – the council approved by resolution the quote from SSC for £300 + VAT.

2025/017 **Request to use Ballinger Common – Scouts** – the council approved this request from Greater London North Scouts to use a small area on Ballinger Common on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2025 as a checkpoint for an endurance walk. There will be a medium sized tent from 10am – 7pm.

2025/018 **Request to use Prestwood Community Centre car park – Scouts** – the request from Prestwood Scouts to use part of the PCC car park for a large aerial on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> March as part of an endurance walk was approved.

2025/019 **Request to use Prestwood Common – Running group** – the request to use the PCC toilets and car park for a monthly running group was discussed. It was agreed that in order to use the toilets then PCC would need to be hired. The running group will be offered this arrangement..

2025/020 **Greenland’s Lane – replacement posts** – the council resolved to accept the quote from Jake Bowden to replace six posts in the central fence at Greenlands Lane for £240.

2025/021 **Buryfield Toddler Play Area – Roundabout surfacing** – the quote to clear the weeds in the wet pour surfacing around the roundabout was resolved by majority vote. The quote is for £35 + VAT from Sexton Fencing.

2025/022 **Tree Policy** – was reviewed with no changes. It was resolved to only review this policy when amendments were requested.

2025/023 **Ballinger Common – quotes for car park, path & surfacing** – the following was resolved:-

1. **Car park surfacing** – the specification proposed was agreed and due to the cost two comparative quotes were requested.
2. **New path** - Southern Landscape’s quote for £4,095.00 + VAT for a short path on Ballinger Common from the gate by the Memorial Hall to the car park, following the edge of the play area was resolved. A certificate of lawfulness will be submitted to the planning authority. Ballinger Waggoners Cricket club will be notified.
3. **Surfacing** - Southern Landscape’s quote to install Tiger Mulch under the basket swing, junior swing & toddler swing (approx. 66m<sup>2</sup>) of £4,620.00 + VAT was resolved. The current grass matting is in poor condition and in need of replacement.

**Finance and General Purposes**

2025/024 **Budget & reserves 2025-26** – Cllr Johnstone presented the budget, which contained amendments following the December council meeting and is recommended by the Finance Committee. All the details of the proposed earmarked reserves were also presented. The parish council resolved the budget and reserves by a unanimous vote, giving a precept request for 2025/26 of £330,168, equating to a 7.68% increase from this year, which corresponds to a 6.8% band D council tax increase (equivalent

to £4.21 increase p.a per household.). Cllr Johnstone asked that thanks are recorded to the Finance Committee and clerk for their assistance with the budget.

- 2025/025 **Parish Office – telephones** – the request to upgrade the parish office telephone system to a voice over IP system, in readiness for the removal of the copper telephone network was discussed. The quote from Ikon was approved unanimously. The one off set up costs are £500 (+VAT) and include new handsets, router, number migration and installation costs & training. The monthly rental costs for broadband, hosted by Ikon will be £74.36 + VAT, which is slightly cheaper than the current TalkTalk broadband monthly charge.
- 2025/026 **Grant Policy** – this was reviewed and adopted with no changes and it was requested to review again when amendments are required only.
- 2025/027 Payment of accounts for **January 2025** numbers **216 – 242** for the sum of **£17,578.07** (inc VAT) were all agreed and sundry items of **£65.82** were ratified.
- Editorial Working Party**
- 2025/028 **‘The Source’** – Cllr Hewett advised that The Source was hoping that the next issue would be a February edition. The organisation is staying as a CIC.
- 2025/029 **Reports from Representatives to outside Groups** – none.
- 2025/030 **Clerk’s Report** - noted.
- 2025/031 **Matters for information** – none.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

#### **Future Meetings**

- a) **Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre**
- b) **Parish Council – 7.30pm Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – Prestwood Village Hall**