

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 10th March 2025 @ 7.30pm
Great Missenden Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden HP16 9AE

Public Forum: None.

- Present:** Cllr K Pither - chair
 Cllrs: Bunting, Bains, Cook, Everitt, Johnstone, Lee, Lovegrove, Marshall, Martin, Ormesher, Pusey, Stevenson
 Also present: Tracy Georgiades, Deputy Clerk
- 2024/070 **Apologies:** Cllrs: Hewett, Gladwin, Humphreys
- 2024/071 **Declarations of Interest:**
 Item 075 2. and 3. - Cllr Pither and Cllr Cook
- 2025/072 **Minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2025** – were approved and signed as a true record.
- 2025/073 **Matters arising –**
- GMMC - reports of blocked sink external drain. A call out was made to All Clear Effluent and a drain check could not find a blockage. However, All Clear did clean out the drains. Cllr Hewett approved the £150 + vat. Thames Water were called out but then closed the call. The hall sink drain will be monitored.
 - The Missendens Community Board have confirmed the South Heath defib grant application was successful and parish council will receive £1,166 toward the cost.
 - Christmas free parking dates have been approved, although Link Road has not been included (only Prestwood High Street and Buryfield). This has been queried with Bucks Council and a reply is pending.
 - Prestwood Recreation Ground – wire fence damage report was received. Graham has inspected and made safe.
 - Gryms Dyke multiplay – a damage report was received. This has been made safe and parts awaited.
 - Ballinger path – Cllr Pither approved a certificate of lawfulness application from planning and the cost £214.50
- 2025/074 **Membership of Committees** – Cllr Everitt proposed committee membership of Planning and Open Spaces Committees. This was agreed and resolved by council.
- 2025/075 **Prestwood Community Centre**
1. Water Sampling - the council approved the once annual Chiltern Water Ltd quote, £263.50 + vat
 2. Request to use for community event – 21st June 2025 – from 2pm onwards. Cllr Bunting proposed and Cllr Cook seconded the request to offer to Prestwood Community Association free use of the centre and this was resolved by majority vote.
 3. Request for use of storage cupboard – by Repair Café – as the cupboard had not been in use for 3 years the proposal was agreed resolved by majority vote for non-hazardous storage with one month's notice required if the cupboard is needed.
- 2025/076 **Parish Cup - nominations** for resident who walked the extra mile for the parish last year. The nominations were discussed and voted on and the overall winner for the 2025 Parish Cup is Jen King - Age Concern Tuesday Coffee Morning volunteer. Given the higher number of nominations for the Parish Cup this year, the council felt it would be worth considering additional ways to recognise nominees in the future. Certificates for all nominees and an invite to the presentation in April was agreed by

council. And a budget was discussed, and council resolved a £60 limit and the presentation would be held at 7pm on 7th April before the meeting.

2025/077 **South Heath Defibrillator** – The council approved a non-electric Zoll defib which does not require to be powered (solar or electric) as the glue used for the pads is not water based. The cost for the Zoll defib, cabinet & post is £2,695 + VAT. (This is a change to last month's council approval of a solar powered defibrillator and is less than has previously been approved for the solar cabinet.)
There will be a cost for the installation of a post and the cost of installing the post and Zoll defib, £3,000 + VAT, was approved by council and resolved by majority vote. A Street Licence fee of £193 is already approved.

2025/078 **Red Lion/Station Road/SANG** - Abbey Park, Great Missenden– as requested by Bucks Council the parish council submitted an expression of interest to Buckinghamshire Council to manage this Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG). However, no response has been received. A draft follow-up letter to Steve Bambrick, Corporate Director of Planning, and Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council, was approved, urging a prompt decision due to the potential impact on the village if the application is not approved or delayed further.

2025/079 **HS2 Road Safety Fund Update** - South Heath Road stakeholders met regarding the Road Safety Fund Application (not the parish council's application in conjunction with The Misbourne School with proposals for London Road, Great Missenden) on 2nd February 2025. At that meeting it was agreed that Cllr Martin would speak to Dave Roberts, Highways, to see if the council can purchase 2 more MVAS to base in South Heath, given the current limitation to two units per parish council. Cllr Martin would also contact Department of Transport to find the right person to write to and then the parish council and residents association would draft a joint letter to claim the land that Weights & Measures had been on for the community. Cllr Johnstone is requesting a footpath or greenway connection from Frith Hill SHL to GM via GMI/13 to be built by HS2 which GMVA is interested in supporting.

2025/080 **Guide Hut – lease terminates in January 2026.** A viewing meeting has been arranged with the guide leader for 28th March 2025.

2025/081 **Photographic Exhibition** – parish council voted to go ahead with the photographic exhibition at Great Missenden Memorial Centre. Cllr Lee was asked to book the hall and agree the cost with the Memorial Committee as the parish council cannot make that decision. The parish council agreed £100 toward the cost of the exhibition.

COMMITTEES - Planning

2025/082 Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2025 – were approved as a true record and will be signed at a later date.

2025/083 The draft email to Thames Water was approved with a cc. Bucks Council's P. Martin.

2025/084 **HS2- Update**

1. Overview – concerns in the hilltop villages over the impact of road closures.

- Closure of Rocky Lane up to Monday 18th August 2025. There are two diversions, an official one and an unofficial one. The official one follows the advice of Bucks Council for major roads and the unofficial one uses the narrow lanes in particular Kings Lane as well as Leather Lane and it is just not suitable for traffic. EKB is trying its hardest to keep traffic flowing but there are problems in rush hour. There are plenty of road closure notices warning of Rocky Lane and signs have now been changed to show Rocky Lane is the road closed

2. Small Dean Viaduct (SDV) – the 345-metre-long viaduct has now been pushed across the A413 road, Small Dean Lane and the Chiltern railway line at an angle just south of Wendover. After crossing the viaduct, northbound trains will pass Wendover town in a short green tunnel designed to reduce environmental impact. The pre-cast concrete parapet and top slab are now to be installed. The viaduct uses an innovative ‘double composite’ approach, like the nearby Wendover Dean Viaduct.

Over the next couple of months, the viaduct is now being lowered by removing packing bricks from each of the five piers. HS2 are closing the A413 road as the bridge is lowered and work will be carried out overnight see next

3. A413 Roadworks for the construction of the SDV

Overnight only closures (8.30pm to 5.30 am)

- Tuesday 11 March – Wednesday 12 March
- Friday 21 March – Saturday 22 March
- Monday 24 – Tuesday 25 March
- Wednesday 26 March – Saturday 29 March

Off-peak daytime 2-way traffic lights (9.00am to 3.00pm)

- Wednesday 5 March – Saturday 8 March
- Tuesday 25 March – Friday 28 March

These dates are liable to change, and we should expect more in April.

4. The South Heath Cutting and North Portal

Align are building concrete abutments to the overbridge for GMI/2 accommodating Havenfields track and GMI/12 footpath near Park Hill.

The Leather Lane overbridge is still under discussion ahead of a Schedule 17 submission.

In addition, Align have continued to work on creating the two porous portals at the North Portal to the HS2 Chiltern Tunnel.

5. Further topics for discussion with the Main Civil Works Contractor

We anticipate discussing announcements on the following: -

- The progress and acceptance by HS2 Ltd of the box tunnel design for the Leather Lane overbridge
- The impact of the closure of Rocky Lane from February 2025 for six months and probably followed later by closure of Leather Lane for a further six months subject to agreement on the new design.
- The impact of the Rail Systems Alliance becoming involved.

6. Community Events – Drop-in

In the GM Memorial Hall on 12th March from 5 to 7 pm.

Open Spaces and Lighting

2025/085 Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2025 – as only two members were present, the meeting was not quorate and therefore adjourned due to lack of quorum. 9th April 2025 at 3pm – 5pm was proposed and approved.

2025/086 Greenlands Lane – Interpretation Board – Ownership

Prestwood Nature formally handed over ownership of the new interpretation board at Greenlands Lane pollinator friendly garden to the parish council.

2025/087 **Buryfield Replacement Trim Trail** – following the advert on Contracts Finder, the working party met to consider the tenders and score them against a matrix. The result of which the working party recommend that the council approve the tender

from Southern Landscapes for £35,900 + VAT. The council approved this by resolution.

2025/088 **Buryfield Skate Park repairs** – council approved by resolution Southern Landscapes for the repairs at the skate park at a cost £792.00 + vat.

2025/089 **Request from an allotment holder**

1. **Greenhouse and shed requests** -all requests were approved by council.
2. **Chequers Lane – request to keep chickens** – the request for chickens on Chequers Lane was discussed. The council have some reservations about keeping chickens on this site and feel that chickens in this instance are not appropriate. The legal position needs to be confirmed, but if legally permitted to do so, the council resolved to refuse this request for chickens. The deputy clerk will confirm the legal position.

2025/90 **Nairdwood Lane Allotments**

1. **Removal of boundary vegetation at rear of site** - The council approved by resolution the quote submitted from Charlie Fox for £150.00 + vat.
2. **Replacement fencing** – the council decided to defer until there were more quotes available.
3. **Plot 14 – non cultivation – for discussion** – it was agreed to send a letter to the plot holder to see if there were mitigating factors and to seek improvement and to defer until next month.

2025/91 **Allotment Water Taps – date to turn water back on** – parish council agreed to turn allotment water on at the end of March weather permitting.

2025/92 **Use of Buryfield – Gateway mini marathon** – The council noted the details for school's mini marathon on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 on Buryfield.

2025/93 **Request to use Buryfield – Greens** – approval was given for the fun fair to use Buryfield from 19th May to 2nd June and to open both weekends. Permission was also granted to run the Missenden Festival on Saturday 24th May and to use the whole of Buryfield for this date.

2025/094 **Request for dog bin – Peterley Manor Farm** - the parish council approved the request for a dog bin at the footpath to the right of the entrance of Peterley Manor Farm on Peterley Lane but would prefer it to be a litter bin. The associated costs of the new bin at £355.00 + VAT and the annual cost of emptying the bin of £133.00 + VAT were resolved.

2025/095 **Request to use Buryfield – Circus** – the council approved James Town Circus on Buryfield from 5th August to 9th August 2026 and to not have football at the weekend 8th/9th August 2026.

Finance and General Purposes

2025/096 **Review of the effectiveness of Internal Control** – the council approved by resolution the Internal Controls and associated documentation.

2025/097 **Grievance & Disciplinary policy** – the Grievance & Disciplinary Policy was approved by resolution.

2025/098 **Grant Request – Chiltern Arts** – the grant request for £600 for a workshop to create a piece of music at Great Missenden CoE school which will be premiered at the Chiltern Arts Festival at Great Missenden Parish Church on 16th May was approved by resolution.

2025/099 Payment of accounts for **March 2025** numbers **267-282** for the sum of **£14,346.11** (inc VAT) were all agreed and sundry items of **£89.74** were ratified.

Editorial Working Party

- 2025/100 'The Source'
2025/101 **Reports from Representatives to outside Groups – None.**
2025/102 **Clerk's Report** - this was noted.
2025/103 **Matters for information – none.**

Meeting closed : 8.36 pm

Future Meetings

- a) **Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 1stth April 2025 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre**
b) **Parish Council – 7.30pm Monday 7th April 2025 – Great Missenden Memorial Centre**