



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 9th June 2025 @ 7.30pm
Prestwood Village Hall, Wycombe Road
Prestwood HP16 0NZ

Public Forum: Representative of Prestwood Community Association

Two county councillors

Present: Cllr A Hewett - Chair

Cllrs: C Bunting, C Bains, L Cook, M Everitt, M Johnstone, K Pither, M Lee, I Lovegrove, V Marshall, V Martin, R Pusey, T Stevenson

Also present: Jane Hennessy, clerk

2025/186 **Apologies:** None.

2025/187 **Declarations of Interest**

2025/188 **Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2025** were approved and signed as a true record.

2025/189 **Matters arising**

- Email received from resident regarding trees on Westrick Walk – Cllr Pither & the clerk have arranged to meet the resident.
- The website accessibility work has been completed by Orbit Carrot.
- The pride flags have been put up following approval of the planning application. Complaints about the flags have been received, in person and via email, and will be added to the agenda at the July meeting.
- There have been reports of thefts of fruit and veg at Nairdwood Lane allotment site
- An email has been received regarding the use of weed killer at Prestwood Common, this has been checked and has only been used as per the parish council's agreed contract.
- The Buryfield skate park rivet replacements have not been successful in a large percentage of those required. Southern Landscapes are looking into alternative fastenings.
- The council's grounds contractor was not able to attend the agreed play inspection training course, as it was full. He will be booked onto a further course, or the council may consider running a course themselves.
- A complaint about the replacement surfacing by the sports wall has been received by the bootcamp instructor who feels that the new surface is too hard for her to run her classes on during the winter when the ground is wet.
- Email received from Bucks Council Highways with the final design of the road markings on Aylesbury Road, Great Missenden for the new greenway. Comments from the parish council are required by end of day 11th June.
- Winslow Fields streetlight repair – Lamps & Tubes are unable to repair this as it falls under UKPN remit. It is the main cut out fuse holder. Lamps & Tubes have charged £95 + VAT for the call out. This was approved by Cllr Pither.

2025/190 **To receive applications and to co-opt two candidates to fill the Prestwood & Heath End Vacancies** - Following the recent election, two vacancies remained on the Parish Council due to insufficient nominations. As no further election process was required in these circumstances, the Council was able to fill the two vacancies for Prestwood & Heath End ward by co-option.

Applications had been invited and three applicants had put themselves forward.

Following a vote, the Council resolved to co-opt Kay Allan and Jonathan Hewitson to

fill the two vacant seats. Both will sign their declarations of acceptance of office before the July meeting in the presence of the clerk.

2025/191 **Prestwood Community Centre – Car Park** – the re-surfacing is now completed on the car park. It was advised that a further roll might be required as the rubbish collection lorry had scraped the surface.

2025/192 **MVAS Speed Sign – ground screw** – update & quote for installing – the council considered the two quotes and resolved to approve the quote from Amersham Town Council for £126 + VAT to install the replacement groundscrew on Ballinger Road. The £193 for the streetworks licence has been previously approved.

2025/193 **To consider a proposal to change the Chair of the Finance Committee** – Cllr Hewett proposed Cllr John Gladwin as the new chair of the Finance Committee. Cllr Pither seconded the motion. Cllr Gladwin was elected by majority vote. Thanks are recorded to the outgoing chair, Cllr Johnstone, for his years of good work as the chair of this committee.

2025/194 **Guide Hut – update** – Cllr Everitt advised that the Chiltern North District Scouts are interested in taking the lease over of the guide hut from January 2026. It was discussed that the parish council would consider a similar rent and terms for a new lease but this will be confirmed at a later meeting. The clerk recommended that a solicitor should be engaged to draw up a new lease. The North District Scouts have requested a visit to the guide hut and Cllr Everitt will arrange this with the guides and Cllr Pither will also attend the visit.

2025/195 **South Heath Projects – Update & quotes** – the quote from Amersham Town Council for £1,440 + VAT to install 3 benches and 6 planters at South Heath crossroads and £148 + VAT to install the defibrillator post at the same location was approved by resolution. These works will be included on the same 171 Streetworks licence as item 192 above.

2025/196 **Red Lion/Station Road/SANG – Abbey Park, Great Missenden – update** – the meeting due on 22nd May was cancelled by Bucks Council. It was rescheduled to Tuesday 10th June and Cllr Bunting will attend on behalf of the parish council.

COMMITTEES - Planning

2025/197 **Minutes** of the meeting held on 2nd June 2025 were approved and will be signed at a later date.

2025/198 **Little Missenden PC – Neighbourhood Plan** – comments – all councillors were requested to review the neighbourhood plan and send through any comments, which will be combined into a response. The closing date of the consultation is 25th June.

2025/199 **Motocross – Honor End Lane, Prestwood** – complaints from local residents on the noise of the motocross behind Sprinters Gym in Prestwood were discussed. It was advised that an enforcement case had been logged with Bucks Council, by a resident last year, but that no further action had been taken as the activity had ceased. Email complaints have also been received by the parish council. It was noted that Cllr Peter Martin was following this up and that the parish council would contact Enforcement to advise that complaints have been received and that the council's main concern is that the correct licences, insurance and permissions are in place to safeguard from harm.

2025/200 **Land Adjacent to Jewsons Road, Hyde End – Appeal** – the council noted the in-person appeal information and declined to attend.

- 2025/201 **HS2- Update**
- 1. Small Dean Viaduct** – the deck of the viaduct has now been lowered into its final position on the piers.
 - 2. Wendover cutting** – excavations under the old Ellesborough Road will continue to the end of August.
 - 3. Wendover Green Tunnel** – earthworks are ongoing until mid-August and further work will commence in the summer following the completion of the earthworks. It is a 1.2km long tunnel, 22m wide and 9m high. Excavation of the northern section of the tunnel and the north cutting up to Nash Lee Lane is still on hold until the Environment Agency is happy with the impact on the ground water from the Coombe Hill aquifer.
 - 4. Chesham Road Intervention Shaft** – demobilisation of this site is likely at the end of this autumn. The footpath GMI33/4 at the rear of the site will be closed and rerouted further away from the site.
 - 5. North Portal** – the two porous portals are progressing and should be finished by October 2025. Agreed hours of work have been reduced from 24/7.
 - 6. Community Event & Leather Lane** - the recent community event regarding Leather Lane overbridge was well attended. The application for the green box overbridge has been submitted – PL/25/1383/HS2. There are still strong concerns over the impact of the 14 month closure on local rural traffic.
- Open Spaces and Lighting**
- 2025/202 **Minutes** of the meeting held on **22nd May 2025** were approved and will be signed at a later date.
- 2025/203 **Allotments** – the request for sheds were approved at Ballinger plot 8 and Chequers Lane 6B.
- 2025/204 **Ballinger Common – football posts** – update – Ballinger Waggoners have confirmed that they have now removed the southerly football goal at Ballinger Common. This is as agreed in Sept 2022 as part of the licence negotiations. The council discussed the quote for a full size combination rugby and football post and possible positioning but felt that it was not economic or feasible as it would need to be along the hedge adjacent to Blackthorne Lane which properties border. Gateway School have requested a meeting on 30th June to discuss their requirements for mobile goals as regular users of Ballinger Common during autumn and winter terms for football. Further consideration will be given to the football posts after that meeting.
- 2025/205 **Annual Play Equipment Inspection** – the annual play inspection reports were noted. There is only one moderate risk item, the trim trail, which the council were already aware of and have placed an order for a replacement. Given the type and height of the equipment it was agreed that it was not necessary to close this equipment before the replacement is installed.
- 2025/206 **Benches – consider refurbishment options** – the council resolved the quote for £880 from Amersham Mens Sheds to sand and oil 8 benches in the parish (3 on Buryfield, 2 on Prestwood Common, 2 on Prestwood Rec and 1 on Clare Road). The benches will need to be removed for this work.
- 2025/207 **Buryfield Adventure Play Area – benches & installation** – the quote from Southern Landscapes of £2,760 + VAT to remove 3 picnic benches from Buryfield adventure play area and install 3 new picnic benches, plus install on further bench was resolved by majority.

- 2025/208 **Request to use Buryfield – GM Football Club** – the request to use Buryfield for the 25/26 season was approved by majority resolution. However, complaints have recently been received regarding home and away teams taking all the parking spaces, which the council would like mentioned in writing to Great Missenden Football Club.
- 2025/209 **Request to use Buryfield – FC Lions x Masters** – this request for regular use of Buryfield was not approved due to the poor drainage on Buryfield. The current football club generally try and arrange away matches during the very wet weather and it was agreed that additional usage would damage the surface.
- 2025/210 **Annual Tree work – Update** – although the planned annual tree work is due for July, during bird nesting season, the parish council are reassured by comments from the tree surgeon that every check for nests will be made before work carried out. It was also noted that seven of the trees required work as high priority.
- 2025/211 **Request for tree planting** – a request for tree planting on Rignall Road - following the successful replacement tree planting on Kiln Road has been received. A list of requests will be kept by the clerk for future opportunities.
- 2025/212 **Buryfield Tennis Court – maintenance options** – the maintenance options from ETC Sports surfaces was noted. The courts do need relining and some of the surfacing will be in need of repair shortly. Approximate costs of £44,000 + VAT were noted for full resurfacing of two courts. The following plan was agreed:-
25/26 – minimum maintenance including surface repairs and line markings - £2,450 + VAT. This was resolved.
26/27 – Binding & colouring – approximately £7,000 + VAT which should extend the life of the courts by 5 years, giving the council time to seek funding opportunities for the full resurfacing costs. This was also resolved.
- 2025/213 **Planter – Great Missenden High Street** – it was noted that Great Missenden Walled Garden will look after this planter and local residents are helping with watering. Should this change, the Walled Garden will notify the council.
- Finance and General Purposes**
- 2025/214 **To receive the internal auditors report** - this was reviewed and accepted by the council, with no matters of concern.
- 2025/215 **Approval of the Annual Governance Statement & Accounting Statement** - Copies of the accounts and the Annual Return, along with the suggested distribution of funds into earmarked reserves and total \$137 spending for the year, had been circulated to all Councillors and were all approved by resolution. The council read the annual governance statement 2024-25 and approved this by resolution. This was signed by the chair of the meeting and the clerk. The Accounting Statements for 2024-25 were then duly read, approved by resolution and signed by the chair of the meeting. All documents were adopted unanimously.
- 2025/216 **Request for grant – The Source** – the request for a grant of £870 towards printing costs was approved by resolution.
- 2025/217 **IT Policy** – this was discussed and reviewed and adopted by resolution.
- 2025/218 **Parish Office – Cleaning** – the quotes were discussed but were felt to be expensive. Further quotes will be sought.
- 2025/219 Payment of accounts for **June 2025 numbers 53-79** for the sum of **£36,511.41** (inc VAT) were agreed and sundry items of **£141.40** ratified.
- Editorial Working Party**
- 2025/220 ‘The Source’ – Cllr Hewett advised that the next edition was being prepared and that a meeting was arranged for Wednesday evening at 5.30pm to discuss articles.

- 2025/221 **Reports from Representatives to outside Groups** – none.
2025/222 **Clerk's Report** - noted.
2025/223 **Matters for information** – none.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Future Meetings

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