

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 9th March 2015
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum: Mike Kitching, Barbara Rowett and Martin Everitt regarding Prestwood Common car park surface and lighting.

James Stacpoole regarding The George in Great Missenden.

Mark Cunnane regarding The Kings Head in Prestwood.

Present: Councillor B.Gover - Chair

Councillors: B.Barker: M.Bennett: R.Hougham: S.Humphreys: M.Johnstone: M.Lee:

G.Maher: C.Plested: J.Sole: L.Swayne: C.Ward

1. Apologies: Councillors: A.Hewett: V.Martin: D.Tavernor

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs B.Barker: M.Bennett: L.Swayne – item 5 b iii)

Cllr B.Barker – item 5 c iii)

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 9th February were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising - None

5. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2015 were **agreed** and **confirmed**. Cllr M.Johnstone reported that GMPC's response to CDC's Local Plan consultation had been submitted.

ii) Community Right to Bid/Community Assets

Cllr M.Johnstone reported that CDC has got three pubs listed as Community Assets. There was some discussion about whether the Parish Council should submit a community asset application for The George in Great Missenden and The Kings Head in Prestwood. It was agreed to discuss this further at the April Planning Committee meeting and then to propose a course of action.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Parking Consultation – Great Missenden – update

Cllr B.Gover reported that she and Cllr M.Bennett had attended BCC's meeting on February 25th where the consultation responses were discussed. There had been a good response to the consultation although the meeting attendees were not given much time to consider all the responses. The request to extend the parking area along the London Road with passing places and to remove the 'no waiting at any time' restriction outside the Oldham Hall had not been taken into account and any alterations at this stage would have to go back out to consultation at further cost. The proposals would be finalised after May and funding is available.

ii) MVAS update – review meeting, schedule, volunteer recruitment

The MVAS review meeting on February 16th had been productive, especially because PC Lee Turnham and PC Mike Painter had attended. The notes of the meeting had been circulated. After some discussion the Parish Council agreed that the four weekly schedule should remain, incorporating a week of 'blind' data collection in each direction. In order to try and recruit more volunteers in Great Missenden, the Parish Council agreed to write to households near the MVAS locations. The Council agreed that the Clerk should wait until hearing back from CDC about whether the letters could be addressed to named residents. If this was not possible the letters

would be addressed to 'The Occupier' but with a clear indication that the letter was from the Parish Council. It was also agreed to write an article for 'The Source' explaining more about the methods and process of speed control in the Parish.

iii) Request from Prestwood Events Group to use Prestwood Common

The Council approved the request from PEG to use Prestwood Common for the Big Lunch community picnic event on June 7th 2015.

iv) Request from Great Missenden Traders to use Buryfield

The Council approved the request from Great Missenden Traders to use a small area of the Buryfield between the Memorial Centre and Origins for their summer event on Saturday 13th June.

v) Request to keep chickens on allotment – Spurlands End Road, plot 4B

The Council approved this request to keep chickens, subject to the same conditions as agreed at the February meeting.

vi) 2015 Best Kept Village Competition - noted.

vii) Buryfields path - email

The Parish Council has already done some work on this path to allow water to drain away. The Council agreed that the situation with the path should be monitored.

viii) Donate-a-Gate (Gates for Stiles) – alternative sites

The location of alternative sites for the two gates for stiles already funded by the Parish Council was discussed, following the refusal by the landowner of the original two sites to allow these gates on their land. One alternative site at Ballinger opposite Mortimer House was agreed and Cllr M.Bennett would ask Prestwood Nature if they had any suggestions for the second site.

ix) Lighting at Prestwood Common Car Park

The situation of lighting at the car park on Prestwood Common was discussed and a possible solution would be a light fitted fairly high up with a switch to control it within the PYCAG building. Cllr S.Humphreys would liaise with the Clerk to obtain alternative quotes.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Appointment of internal auditor

It was agreed to appoint Lucy Coppin as Internal Auditor for the 2014-15 accounts.

ii) Quote for tree work – Wycombe Road

It was agreed to accept the quote from Pat Kernan for additional tree work that had been identified subsequent to the annual tree survey.

iii) Prestwood Common Car Park – proposal and quotes

The quotes obtained to repair the potholes in the car park were considered but the Council agreed that the repair work should be more comprehensive. The Clerk would obtain further quotes to resurface the whole car park to form a fall using a suitable material. The request not to leave any piles of unused material was noted.

iv) Staff contracts – salary increases from 1st April 2015

It was noted that the contracts of employments provided for a salary increase from 1st April.

v) Memorial Centre toilets – information from 4G Architects

The situation with the damp in the toilets was discussed, together with the detailed information supplied by Bernard Faulkner. The Council gave special thanks to Bernard for everything he had done which was above and beyond his original brief. Cllr G.Maher reported that the Management Committee were obtaining quotes to rectify the pump issue. It was agreed that the Council would ask 4G Architects to obtain a quote from ITS Projects to reroute the water supplies to the toilets and abandon the old pipework in the floor in order to solve the problem with the leak in the floor behind the central ladies cubicle.

vi) LAF – submission of non-transportation proposals

It was agreed to submit the following applications to LAF:

- Funding for an additional piece of play equipment, possibly a rocker, and a bench at Sibleys Rise in South Heath.
- Dropped kerbs outside Ballinger Memorial Hall and at the junction of Honor End Lane and Clarendon Road in Prestwood (provided these qualify as non-transportation proposals).
- A new picnic table on Prestwood Recreation Ground to replace the current damaged one.

vii) Village Defibrillator for Great Missenden

The request concerning the village defibrillator was discussed and the Council agreed it is fully in support of this initiative. However, the Council agreed that the application to BHF should come from the group in question, who have already organised the fundraising.

viii) Payment of accounts for March

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **193-206** in the sum of **£7,763.77** for **March** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for **£148.62** be ratified.

d) Editorial Working Party

The Council was pleased with the two articles in the recent issue of 'The Source'. Cllr M.Bennett would provide the expanded information about devolution for the website. An article about the MVAS and speeding would be prepared for the next issue of 'The Source'.

e)HS2

i) General update – including additional land requirements and Tourism Survey

Cllr M.Johnstone reported that a second Additional Provision is expected for our area and it is thought HS2 will request more land for drainage and realignment of two footpaths. Via contacts in Cheryl Gillan's office it is also understood that HS2 also want additional land in Little Missenden for tunnel infrastructure and additional land for temporary reconfiguration of access in Wendover and The Lee.

The Tourism Survey has been dedicated to Shirley Judges: 'Shirley's wish was to petition to the Select Committee. Through this report she will'. The Parish is acknowledged as providing financial support to this survey co-ordinated by the Chilterns Conservation Board. The study does not estimate the impact of HS2 but shows that tourism at risk in the 'HS2 Corridor' amounts to about £80m per annum comprising 2.3 million tourists and 2.800 jobs with a further £25m from local residents within the AONB. The report provides a base line and shows the value of tourism to the area. Interesting facts quoted are that one third of visitor attractions are in the Great Missenden area e.g. Roald Dahl Museum and the largest number of cafes are found in Amersham closely followed by Great Missenden. The next step will be to determine the best way of estimating the value of tourism that may be affected by HS2.

ii) Location of petitioners

Of the list of petitioners in Bucks produced by BCC, 544 are in the Central Chilterns Area (CF9) and 332 of these are in Great Missenden Parish. Cllr M.Johnstone has divided them into CRAG, GM Parish and REPA areas and is seeking co-ordinators to act for groups of petitioners. Several suggestions were put forward for Great Missenden and Cllr M.Bennett and Barbara Rowett were suggested as co-ordinators for Prestwood.

The Select Committee was expected to finish sitting at the end of March and it was unlikely that petitioners in our area would be heard before September / October as the site visit needs to take place first and this would possibly take place in June.

6. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

i) Liaison meeting with Cllr Alan Stevens and Transport for Bucks

Cllr R.Hougham reported that TfB are doing as much as they can within their financial limitations, so reports of problems should still be sent. Cllr A.Stevens was asked to include footway improvement works on the Lodge Lane estate in the BCC capital maintenance programme.

ii) Parish Councils Delivering More – BCC Conference

Cllr C.Plested attended this conference with the Clerk and reported that the speakers and break out groups were interesting. She reported that it was good to network and understand the diversity of other parishes and hear examples of imaginative projects such as Stewkley PC. BCC warned that there will be further financial constraints in the future.

iii) Stoke Mandeville and Other Parishes Charity

Cllr L.Swayne reported that this charity does have money available for grants to young people and this facility needs to be publicised, perhaps by promoting it at local schools and in 'The Source'.

iv) Bucks Community Funding Fair

Cllrs L.Swayne and M.Johnstone attended this event which was very busy. Representatives spoke for a few minutes and then were available for more in-depth individual discussions.

v) Library update

Cllr M.Bennett reported that the latest round of cuts at BCC would not affect the opening hours of the Library in Great Missenden. He has a further meeting later on this week.

7. Clerks Report

i) Holy Trinity Church – letter and response – for information - noted.

ii) Prestwood Play area – email

The incident was noted and the Clerk is waiting for the resident to reply to the most recent email.

iii) Invitation from Great Missenden Fire Station

Several Councillors were interested in this invitation – the Clerk to obtain some dates.

8.Any other business.

- Cllr M.Johnstone reported that Cycling Chilterns is developing a website and Great Missenden is listed as one of the seven gateway towns. He and Tony Pennell had provided input into the Local Plan consultation about cycling and safety.
- Cllr M.Lee reported that there were still no 'unsuitable for commercial vehicles' signs in Hotley Bottom.
- Cllr M.Bennett reported that the keep fit class were still using the Buryfield.

The meeting closed at 21.55

9. Future meetings

a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 7th April 2015 in the Parish Office

b) Parish Council – 7.30 p.m. Monday 13th April 2015 in the Memorial Centre