

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 10th August 2015
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum: Jennifer Allott, District Manager of Chiltern Citizens Advice Bureau, regarding CAB services in the area.

Adrian Peeler regarding the possibility of a shared space scheme in Great Missenden High Street.

Present: Councillor A.Hewett - Chair

Councillors: B.Barker: C.Baxter: L.Cook: R.Hougham: S.Humphreys: M.Johnstone: M.Lee:
G.Maher: V.Marshall: V.Martin: K.Pither: C.Plested: T.Stevenson.

1. Apologies: Councillors: K.Allan: H.Eaton.

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 13th July were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising

The Clerk confirmed that she had written to the police about enforcing the double yellow lines outside Crossroads Garage in Prestwood.

The same article about parking on Clare Road would go to all three local papers.

5. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd August 2015 were **agreed** and **confirmed**.

Cllr B.Barker reported that Abbey Gym Club had decided to proceed with their planning application CH/2015/0966/FA and she would attend CDC's Planning Committee meeting on 20th August to speak in support of the application.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Feedback following the judging of the allotment competition

Cllr K.Pither reported that many of the allotments looked good and lots of hard work had been done in some areas. It was hard in some cases to identify the individual plots. Cllr S.Humphreys advised that marker posts were put in place a few years ago but many of them have been removed by the tenants. Fern Britton was unfortunately unable to attend to present the allotment prizes so Cllr A.Hewett agreed to do so instead.

ii) Allotment rent review

The Council agreed to increase the allotment rents in order to help cover the increasing maintenance costs. The new rents from September would be £30 for a full plot (currently £25), £25 for a half plot (currently £20) and £20 for a garden plot (currently £18).

iii) Allotments – size of fruit trees

Following comments from several allotment holders about the maximum size for fruit trees of 2m by 2m, the Council agreed that on reflection a maximum size of 3m by 3m would be more appropriate. This would be the size measured after pruning. For allotment holders who currently have much larger trees they would be allowed two years to achieve this size. Any new trees planted must be a dwarf variety and never allowed to get larger than 3m by 3m.

iv) Prestwood Infant School on Moat Lane

Cllr C.Plested summarised the comments from the school and the issues at Prestwood Infant School were discussed further. Cllr T.Stevenson suggested that parents could use the footpath which runs from Kiln Lane and approach the school from another direction. There was some discussion about whether some of this land was private. It seemed unlikely that any of the three houses would give up their frontages to increase the width of the pavement in Moat Lane. The suggestion of the school making their frontage more open, introducing a 15 mph speed limit and making Moat Lane one way were also discussed. The problem has arisen over time and the school has been there for a long time. Some parents were currently driving from High Wycombe. With a view to what suggestions could attract LAF funding, the Council agreed to pursue the following ideas:

- Increase the double yellow lines in the vicinity of the school to improve visibility for drivers.
- Improve signage so that approaching drivers are more aware that they are nearing a school.
- The paths that do exist badly require resurfacing.

v) Parking on Upper Hollis – letter from TfB

The letter from TfB was noted. Cllr C.Baxter reported that she regularly looks at parking situation whenever she drives past and usually only sees five cars maximum. It was agreed that the Council may consider requesting funding from LAF for a formal review on Upper Hollis but only after the impact of any changes following the introduction of the waiting restrictions on Chiltern Manor Park.

vi) LAF – applications for transport schemes

The Council agreed to make the following applications to LAF:

- Chequers Lane/Moat Lane, Prestwood - increase the double yellow lines in the vicinity of Prestwood Infant School to improve visibility for drivers.
- Chequers Lane/Moat Lane, Prestwood - improve signage so that approaching drivers are more aware that they are nearing Prestwood Infant School.
- Chequers Lane/Moat Lane, Prestwood – pavements in the vicinity of Prestwood Infant School badly require resurfacing, especially the very narrow path near the school.
- Junction of Clare Road and Blacksmiths Lane, Prestwood – introduce double yellow lines to improve visibility and introduce signs to warn drivers of emerging pedestrians.

vii) Requests from Chilterns MS Centre

The Council agreed to the requests from the MS Centre to set up a gazebo on the Buryfield on 8th September and on Prestwood Common on 18th September for their Walk the MS Mile events.

viii) Trees to rear of Peters Close

Since the trees in question are not on Parish Council land, the Council agreed that they were unable to do anything. Cllr V.Martin suggested that the resident could contact the Treasury Solicitor since the resident had advised that the land does not appear to be registered.

ix) Football posts on Ballinger Common

Cllr A.Hewett agreed to meet with the resident to discuss their concerns and the Clerk would invite representatives of Ballinger Bombers to the next Council meeting. The topic would be deferred to the September meeting.

x) Short term parking at Station – response from Chiltern Railways

The response from Chiltern Railways was noted.

xi) Tfb Open evenings

The Clerk would recirculate the dates of the open evenings at the Tfb depots.

xii) Celebration of Queen's 90th Birthday – 11th June 2016

The Council agreed in principle that an event should be organised. Cllr A.Hewett would discuss it further with Great Missenden Traders. Cllr G.Maher would book the Memorial Centre.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Budget 2016-17

Work on the budget for 2016-17 will start in September with the intention of finalising the budget at the November meeting. Ideas for items to include in the budget should be sent to Cllr M.Johnstone or the Clerk.

ii) Quotes for electricity supply for street lighting

The Council agreed to accept the quote from E-On for a 12 month fixed contract. As our existing supplier they agreed to backdate the quote to 1st June. It was noted that the prices quoted do vary on a daily basis.

iii) Quotes for additional equipment for Ballinger play area

The Council discussed the provision of play equipment at some length and agreed in principle to purchase a nest swing for the Ballinger play area. This type of equipment, similar to the swing at Buryfield, is suitable for both able bodied and disabled children thus allowing inclusive play. The next stage is to ascertain the exact size of the item, find a suitable site and then approach the cricket club. It will also be necessary to ascertain where the funding will come from.

iv) Tfb - Transportation Devolution for 2016

It was noted that this meeting related to grass cutting, hedge cutting and the other services that were being discussed in 2014 and not additional services or transportation services. It was likely that original date of 26th August for this meeting would change. Cllrs A.Hewett, M.Johnstone and G.Maher volunteered to attend this meeting.

v) NALC topic notes

Noted.

vi) Councillor surgeries

The rota for councillors to attend surgeries was agreed. Any swapping of dates between councillors to be notified to the parish office. Cllr V.Martin would write an article for 'The Source' and the surgeries would also be publicised on the website and notice boards.

vii) The future of Bucks Libraries

The information from Mike Bennett was noted. Cllr K.Pither agreed to represent the parish council on the library working group and Cllr L.Cook agreed to be the reserve representative.

viii) Payment of accounts for August

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **64-81** in the sum of **£12,811.10** for **August** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for **£88.78** be ratified.

It was noted that the invoice from CDC for parking in Prestwood had not been received.

d) Editorial Working Party

A meeting of the editorial working party has been arranged for the end of August to discuss the articles to be submitted for the next issue of 'The Source'.

e)HS2

i) Outcome of Select Committee hearings

Cllr M.Johnstone reported on the Select Committees statement of 21st July on the outcome of the hearings on tunnels in the Chilterns. The case for the long tunnel through the AONB had not been made but that the case for a short tunnel extension had been made and they were asking HS2 to work up their C6 proposal to extend the bored tunnel to the northern end of the South Heath green tunnel. The effects of a deeper cutting and the noise impact needed to be evaluated. Provided the review was satisfactory there will be an additional provision and a new ES. The suggested southwards extension of the green tunnel at Wendover has already been superseded by further mitigation proposals from HS2. There is concern about the haul route from the Link Road roundabout and the haul route parallel to Potter Row.

ii) AP-2 and SES

Cllr M.Johnstone had circulated information about AP-2 and SES as they apply to CFA9, the central Chilterns area. Since the first two parts refer to land at Mantle's Wood and Hyde Lane and the third to a small amount of land near the Link Road roundabout, the council agreed that it would write to Neil Caulfield to advise that it did not propose to petition against AP-2 on the proviso that the C6 proposal would go ahead and that if C6 did not go ahead the council reserved the right to petition.

iii) General update including update on GMPC petition

The site visit for the three MP's new to the Select Committee had taken place. The visit included a stop at Mulberry Park where noise demonstrations at three different distances from the line had taken place. However the visit was running late and running short of time and the planned stop at Bury Farm had been missed as had stops at Kings Lane and Chapel Farm.

The date of the hearing at the Select Committee for GMPC was set for 21st September, which was also the same date as Little Missenden PC. A pre-meeting with James Burton and Bucks lawyers was set for 18th August, which members of the council's working party would attend. Cllr M.Johnstone had circulated a draft list of concerns and remedies that the working party had proposed and requested that all councillors send any feedback to him as soon as possible. Any anecdotes or personal evidence would be particularly helpful. Cllr M.Lee suggested a roundabout rather than traffic lights at the Chiltern Hospital junction with the A413.

There was support for petitioners from Bucks CC and CRAG in the form of drop in sessions. There was a list of all petitioners in the parish office and it was important that all petitioners respond to David Walker by 21st August with their intention to either represent themselves or associate with another petition or be represented by a group.

6. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

None.

7. Clerks Report

i) Parking at the Parish Office – police volunteer

The council agreed that the police volunteer could use a parish office car parking space outside of office hours and on Fridays and at weekends.

ii) Training for new Councillors

The 'get to know your parish' training notes had been sent out and the clerk asked the councillors who were interested in being involved to let her know. A formal training session to follow up this fact finding exercise would be organised in the latter half of September.

iii) Colts Presentation weekend 2016

The council had agreed that the Colts could use Prestwood Common on Friday 20th, Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May 2016 for their annual presentation weekend.

iv) Vandalism in Prestwood – common and allotments

There have been reports of vandalism on Nairdwood Lane allotments and on Prestwood Common at the PYCAG building and to the fence at the play area. The incidents have been reported to the police. One of the tennis courts nets has also been vandalised but the council deferred getting it repaired until next year.

v) Memorial Centre toilets

The clerk was chasing up the architects who were tasked with obtaining quotes to re-instate the floor in the gents toilets and to do the work to the plumbing in the hall.

vi) Open Spaces contract working party – update

The working party had met on 3rd August to discuss the open spaces contract. There are now new regulations about contracts and procurement and all contracts have to be advertised on a government website and for transparency in the local press in order to seek interested parties. The suggestion would be for a three year contract and the contract would need to be checked. The clerk was confirming the detailed specification of the contract with the current contractor. It was also suggested that all playground inspections should take place weekly.

8. Any other business.

- Cllr A.Hewett asked if anyone had any knowledge of the history of the ownership of the land now occupied by the car park in Prestwood.
- Cllr K.Pither advised that she was planning to schedule an open spaces meeting.
- The clerk confirmed to Cllr B.Barker that issues with pavements should be reported to TfB.
- Cllr C.Plested asked about the situation with the memorial tree for the Queen.
- Cllr L.Cook commented on the litter bins on the Buryfield – this topic would go on the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 21.40

9. Future meetings

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

b) Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 p.m. Monday 14th September 2015 in Great Missenden Memorial Centre