

# GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council  
held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015  
at the Village Hall, Prestwood, Great Missenden  
at 7.30 p.m.

**Public Forum:** Katie Watts, Bank Manager, and two colleagues from TSB Bank in Great Missenden regarding the services on offer.  
Chris Russell from Ballinger Bombers FC regarding the history and background of the football club and the use of Ballinger Common.

**Present:** Councillor - A.Hewett - Chair  
Councillors: K.Allan: B.Barker: C.Baxter: H.Eaton: R.Hougham: S.Humphreys:  
M.Johnstone: G.Maher: V.Martin: K.Pither: C.Plested: T.Stevenson.

**1. Apologies:** Councillors: L.Cook: M.Lee: V.Marshall.

**2. Declarations of Interest:**

Cllrs B.Barker and C.Plested – item 5 c ii)

**3. Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 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 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were **agreed** and **confirmed**.

Cllr B.Barker reported that she would speak on applications CH/2015/0478/FA and 0966/FA at CDC's planning committee meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

**b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee**

**i) Gates for stiles**

The council agreed that the two suggested sites at the underpass on the A413 were not the most suitable sites. Instead the council agreed that two sites between the back of the Gateway School and the Blackhorse pub would be more beneficial to the village. These two sites were already kissing gates but proper gates would improve disabled access. Cllr A.Hewett reported that the landowner had given verbal permission.

**ii) Dog waste bins**

CDC have advised that the offer of free installation of two dog waste was intended to be limited to the area near Prestwood Infant School. The council agreed that a good location for a bin along Moat Lane would be at the junction with Pankridge Drive where there was more verge space to install the bin. CDC had offered to install the second bin at the junction of Trafford Road/Whitefield Lane.

**iii) Devolution of services from BCC**

Cllr T.Stevenson reported on the devolution meeting which had taken place on 18<sup>th</sup> September attended by himself, Cllrs G.Maher and V.Marshall and the clerk. Services provided by BCC are likely to dwindle in the future and although it is not a trivial matter for the parish council to review or take up these services with a view to maintaining or improving the current standards, the parish council should seriously consider the situation. It was agreed to form a working party to consider this issue consisting of Cllrs A.Hewett, R.Hougham, M.Johnstone, G.Maher, V.Marshall, K.Pither,

C.Plested and T.Stevenson. The council also agreed that this matter should be publicised to residents by writing an article for the next issue of 'The Source'.

#### **iv) Football posts on Ballinger Common**

Cllr A.Hewett reported on her meeting with the resident of Blackthorne Lane who had complained about footballers on Ballinger Common. It was likely that the bad language complaint applied to casual users of the common and not the football club who have strict disciplinary rules amongst their players, as advised to the council by Chris Russell during the public forum. Chris also advised the council that both goal posts are used during their practice sessions so removing one set of posts was not an option and that the ground at the further end of the common was not suitable as a pitch. The pitch and goals have been on the common for many years. After further discussion the council agreed to leave both goalposts in their current positions, not to install netting to catch errant footballs but take up the football clubs offer of instructing their players to practise goal kicking at the goal furthest away from Blackthorne Lane.

#### **v) Situation with litter bins on Buryfield**

After much discussion it was agreed to increase the emptying frequency of the parish council owned bins on Buryfield to twice per week (from once per week) and wait for CDC to install the replacement bin by the pay and display machine to see if this resolves the situation. A further review could take place if necessary.

#### **vi) Celebration of Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday – 11<sup>th</sup> June 2016 – village event**

The council agreed to set up a working party to work with the Traders to organise this event. Cllrs C.Baxter, H.Eaton, A.Hewett and K.Pither volunteered for the working party. Cllr G.Maher would check that the Memorial Centre had been booked for the whole day.

#### **vii) Speed devices – report from Simon Rubin – for feedback**

It was noted that Hughenden Parish Council were more active in this area but that they did not have the issue of HS2 to deal with which was taking up a lot of time. Since the original speed initiative involved NAG it was agreed that a discussion between Simon Rubin and Barbara Rowett would be a useful first step.

### **c) Finance & General Purposes Committee**

#### **i) Budget 2016-17**

Cllr S.Humphreys had made a suggestion about repairs to the Cage roof and Cllr B.Barker advised that improvements to the emergency exit at the PYCAG building were required which she would propose in writing. Cllr K.Pither also suggested that funds may be needed for the village event in June 2016. Cllr M. Johnstone requested any further ideas should be put forward as soon as possible. He proposed that a meeting of the F & GP Committee should take place at the end of October to discuss the budget and he would organise a date.

#### **ii) Request for grant – Prestwood Events Group**

The council agreed to grant PEG a grant of £1449.60 for their Christmas lights.

#### **iii) Invitation to BMKALC AGM – 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

Cllrs K.Allan and C.Plested volunteered to attend this meeting.

#### **iv) Payment of accounts for October**

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **103-121** in the sum of **£21,537.63** for **October** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for **£190.82** be ratified.

#### **d) Editorial Working Party**

##### **i) 'The Source'**

It was agreed that the working party on devolution would prepare an article for 'The Source'. A suggestion was made that someone of note should be invited to plant the Chequers Tree and this could be included in this article.

#### **e) HS2**

##### **i) Report on parish council presentation to HS2 Select Committee**

Cllr M. Johnstone thanked everyone involved with the presentation including Cllrs A. Hewett, K. Pither and C. Plested, the clerk, all the witnesses and Marilyn Fletcher. The parish council had successfully represented the parishioners, got its points across to the Select Committee and ensured little overlap with the other local petitions. James Burton had summed up the case very well and plenty of feeling had gone into each part of the presentation. It was noted that the senior counsel from HS2 was present during the parish council's presentation. The parish council had done the best that it could with good witnesses even if it did not change HS2's ideas.

##### **ii) Additional provision AP4 – publication 12<sup>th</sup> October – working party**

AP4 was published today as an additional provision to the Hybrid Bill and involved more detail on the C6 proposal. It is believed the council has until 13<sup>th</sup> November to petition. Cllr M. Johnstone offered to review the documents with members of the working party – Cllrs A. Hewett and K. Pither – to propose whether the council should petition and / or engage James Burton again, which would involve further cost.

##### **iii) General update**

HS2 were holding two community engagement events – the one in our area is planned for 16<sup>th</sup> October in Ballinger.

Petitioners are still being heard by the Select Committee with dates going into early November. The Select Committee would have to hear all petitioners before making a final decision on the Chilterns.

Suggestions are being put forward for a tunnel to be bored in one direction only all through the Chilterns. This would not create a timing issue but is a cost issue.

It was reported that HS2 had got issues with hydrology in Wendover and a further £20 m needed to be spent on pumping stations.

#### **6. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.**

##### **i) TfB's 'Your Roads' event – 7<sup>th</sup> October**

Cllr C. Plested reported that this was an interesting and informative conference. TfB have 7 divisions and a budget of £20m has been divided between them. Each division had to justify their budget requirements and then conference delegates re-allocated the budget according to the priorities that they felt were important and a new budget was produced. It was noted that no provision had been made for HS2. A question and answer session at the end of the conference was curtailed after discussion about the single road marking crew.

##### **ii) Missendens LAF – 7<sup>th</sup> October meeting**

Cllr A. Hewett reported that prior to the LAF meeting, herself, Cllr K. Pither and the clerk had met with representatives of the Misbourne Estate to clarify the history and understand the issues involved. The residents parking for this area is 24/7 unlike other areas in the village and this was not clear from the consultation maps provided. At the LAF meeting the views of the Misbourne residents were listened to and many of the residents were in support of the fact that changes are needed. Verbally BCC agreed that they would reduce the monitoring of the parking and restrict it

to 9 am to 4 pm until any appropriate changes can be confirmed. Parking on the verge on Hobbshill Road would be reviewed again. Residents of Upper Hollis are concerned about parking and other displaced vehicles are now going to the Rignall Road. Parking is needed in Great Missenden and the knock on effect of restrictions in one area needs to be considered. The situation at Prestwood Infant School is still ongoing and it was suggested that a meeting should be organised of the interested parties in order to get a consensus of views. Cllr A.Hewett to provide a list of potential invitees.

## **7. Clerks Report**

### **i) Highways issues – meeting 5<sup>th</sup> October - update**

A meeting had taken place in the parish office between our LAT and Cllrs J.Gladwin and P.Martin of CDC. The aim was to combine the separate meetings held between BCC and CDC and our LAT but Cllr A.Stevens was unable to attend. Outstanding highways issues in the parish were discussed.

### **ii) LAF applications – footpath improvements Prestwood Infant School**

The clerk confirmed that the transport applications to LAF had included one for the footpath behind Prestwood Infant School to be improved thereby potentially facilitating a second entrance into the school from the footpath and taking the pressure off the front entrance.

### **iii) Open Spaces contract working party – update**

The final detailed tender document had been prepared and sent out to 15 interested contractors. The due date for return is 4<sup>th</sup> November and the tenders will be opened the following day at a working party meeting. It is hoped that information will then be available for the November Parish Council meeting.

## **8. Any other business.**

- Cllr K.Allan thought the open forum presentation by TSB was a positive contribution.
- The situation with the car parking charges on the Buryfield was clarified for Cllr S.Humphreys
- Cllr S.Humphreys reported that the Blue Door Cinema wanted to install some permanent fixtures in the Memorial Centre and he would provide details for the next meeting
- Cllr S.Humphreys reported on the leak in the toilets in the Memorial Centre and offered to carry out the repairs free of charge with the council paying for parts. This offer is because the council through its architect has been unable to get anyone to quote for the work and it is now becoming urgent.
- Cllr K.Pither raised the issue of graffiti on the skate park panels and Cllr S.Humphreys agreed to pursue this with the Misbourne School.
- A 'Save the George' campaign meeting has been advertised for the end of October.
- Cllr V.Martin reported that she had resigned as the parish representative for BMKALC.
- Cllr H.Eaton advised the name of the owner of the hedge opposite the Black Horse.

The meeting closed at 21.43

## **9. Future meetings**

- a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 in the Parish Office
- b) Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 p.m. Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in Great Missenden Memorial Centre