

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 8th February 2016
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum: Malcolm Appleby from Lighthouse Great Missenden providing details about their event request for July 2016.

Present: Councillor - A.Hewett - Chair

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

1. Apologies: Councillors: B.Barker: R.Hougham:

2. Declarations of Interest: Cllrs A.Hewett & K.Pither – item 5 c xi)

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2016 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 1st February 2016 were **agreed** and **confirmed**.

Regarding evidence for the Kings Head tribunal, the council is still awaiting a statement from Leaside Nursery.

Cllr K.Pither asked to join the Local Plan Working Party and this was agreed.

There was a good attendance from local groups at the Local Plan meeting on 4th February but there were comments that it was difficult to hear the video presentation and that it was very fast and hard to understand and follow.

ii) The Pheasant, Ballinger – tribunal – GMPC response for approval

The parish council draft response for the tribunal had been circulated by email and the council approved the content.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Request to use Buryfield – Greens Funfair

The council agreed to the request from Greens Funfair to use the Buryfield and agreed to maintain the rent at the same level as last year.

ii) Request to use Buryfield - Lighthouse

The council agreed to the request from Lighthouse to use the Buryfield under the same terms as in previous years, provided that the parking situation is satisfactory. Lighthouse has withdrawn its request for the council to consider the parking of vehicles on the Buryfield. It was agreed that an update would be provided by Lighthouse each month to inform the council about the planned parking provision for the event. The standard contract would be put in place for the event.

iii) Request to use Buryfield – Great Missenden Football Club

The council agreed to the request from GMFC.

iv) Prestwood Revitalisation Group Brief re Prestwood – comments sought from GMPC

There was a lot of information to digest in this document and it was agreed that the Open Spaces Committee plus Cllrs K.Allan and A.Hewett would meet separately as soon as possible to discuss the report. The group would submit their comments for approval at the March council meeting.

v) Speeding on Aylesbury Road – letters

The council agreed that copies of the letters should be sent to Cllr Patricia Birchley at BCC. The clerk would acknowledge the receipt of the letters and advise the writers that their letters were being forwarded.

vi) Free parking days – dates required

It was agreed to request the following free parking days in 2016 from Chiltern District Council:

- Saturday 11th June – Link Road and Buryfield car parks (2)

The selection of the remaining three free parking days would be deferred until the dates of the Christmas events were known.

vii) Buryfield car park lease – decision on length of lease

The council decided to request a lease period of 3 plus 4 years, which would enable the lease to be reviewed near to the expiry of the three year period and renewed for a further four years if all parties were happy to proceed.

viii) Youth Offending Team – reparation work

Cllr.A.Hewett suggested that this offer for community work could be investigated further for works such as tidying footpaths. The council agreed that the clerk should ask for further information about how the workers were supervised and they were to be invited to speak at the next meeting.

ix) New Footpath to Link Prestwood with Great Kingshill - email

This has been suggested before and although the council would love to do this there are no funds, especially with the LAF budget freezes and potential reductions.

x) Celebration of Queen's 90th Birthday 11th June 2016 village event - update

Cllr C.Plested reported that there were some issues with PEG in relation to timing of this event and the Prestwood Big Lunch. PEG was having a meeting next Monday to discuss the situation. Cllr C.Plested reported that she had resigned from PEG. PEG has been invited to join the parish event on 11th June.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Quote from Sexton Fencing – litter collection & bollards

The quote to clear litter from the ditches on the Link Road and in front of the Skate Park, together with a quote for two replacement bollards was accepted. GMVA were organising a litter pick in Great Missenden as part of the 'Clean for the Queen' campaign.

ii) Quotes for street lighting inventory

The council considered the three quotes for the provision of a complete street lighting inventory and agreed to proceed with the quote from Sparkx. The clerk to clarify that Sparkx would physically visit and inspect each street light.

iii) Appointment of internal auditor

It was agreed to appoint Lucy Coppin as Internal Auditor for the 2015-16 accounts.

iv) Quotes – street light repair – Rignall Road PB011 – third quote obtained

The council discussed the three quotes and agreed to proceed with the quote from Lamps and Tubes.

v) Request for grant – PYCAG

The council agreed to give a grant of £3000 for the PYCAG project to improve the ladies toilets.

vi) Request for grant – First Responders

After some discussion, the council agreed to give a grant of £1000 to Prestwood and Great Missenden Community First Responders.

vii) Request for grant – The Source

After some discussion and a vote, the council agreed by a majority to give a grant of £2000 to ‘The Source’.

viii) Maintenance contract – tennis courts - approval

The council agreed to continue with the Gold Elite Service tennis court maintenance contract with AM Tennis Courts, who had carried out the maintenance this year. Competitive quotes had been obtained last year. It was agreed that the cost could come from the grass cutting top-up money in the budget which had not been used.

ix) Maintenance contract – MVAS units

The council approved the payment of £400 for the maintenance contract for the MVAS signs.

x) Additional play equipment – Ballinger – approval for ordering

After consideration of the response from the cricket club, the quotes obtained for the basket swing and its specification and the possible locations of the equipment, the council agreed to accept the quotation from Playground Facilities for the basket swing with a 15 year timber guarantee and site the equipment in location 1 on the plan. This location was in the corner between the multi-play and the electricity sub-station and furthest away from the cricket boundary. The council agreed to transfer the money from the election costs category of the budget as this money had not been spent this year.

xi) Councillor expenses for HS2 Select Committee attendance

The council agreed to pay the travelling expenses for Cllrs A.Hewett and K.Pither to attend the HS2 Select Committee on 20th January.

xii) Email from resident of Little Kingshill

The council considered the email from the resident and after a review, agreed that it did not want to change the decisions made at the June 2015 meeting at agenda points 6 c x) and 6 d i).

xiii) The Chequers – CDC Licence application and name change - 16/00056/LAPRE

The above application was reviewed and discussed. The council agreed to object to the hours proposed in the application and agreed that the closing time on any day of the week should be 1am latest for any of the activities. The council also object to the suggested name change to ‘The Prestwood’ and agreed that the name of the pub should stay as ‘The Chequers’.

xiv) Councillor surgeries – discussion

It was felt that the surgeries were successful and the council agreed to continue with them on the last Saturday of each month. It was agreed that three councillors rather than four would attend each surgery and a new rota would be drawn up. As before, it was the responsibility of any councillor unable to attend their session to arrange a swop with someone else. It was suggested that some of the surgeries should take place in Prestwood, so a suitable location would be investigated.

xv) Updates on LTN 87- Procurement and Legal Briefing - Public Contract Regulations 2015

These documents were noted. The clerk would check if there were any changes needed to the standing orders or financial regulations.

xvi) Community Policing Awards – nomination ideas

The council agreed to nominate Nicky Upton for the Community Police Officer award and Chris Ging for the PCSO award.

xvii) Proposal to split Finance and General Purposes into two agenda sections

It was decided not to proceed with this suggestion.

xviii) Payment of accounts for February

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **173-186** in the sum of **£13,301.78** for **February** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for **£135.50** be ratified.

d) Editorial Working Party

i) 'The Source'

The editorial working party had submitted an article about the Local Plan for the next issue of 'The Source'.

ii) Painting competition

Cllrs L.Cook, A.Hewett and K.Pither had judged the painting competition and chosen winners for the two age groups together with two other highly commended drawings. Most of the entries had come from Prestwood Junior School. They noted that it had been a difficult competition to judge and appreciated all the efforts of the entrants. A piece would be written for 'The Source' once the names of the winners could be obtained and the intention was to display the winning entries in the library. Cllr A.Hewett offered to prepare some certificates for the winners and the council asked the clerk to see if it were possible to buy some small prizes with an artistic theme such as art boxes.

e)HS2

i) Presentation to HS2 Select Committee - feedback

The parish council presented to the Select Committee on 20th January. Cllrs A.Hewett, M.Johnstone, K.Pither and C.Plested finalised the presentation and Cllr A.Hewett was the main spokesperson. Marilyn Fletcher also helped with preparing the information and the parish council was joined in its presentation by Jim Conboy and Rozalyn Thomson, Head of the Church of England Combined School, under the guidance of James Burton its counsel. The first ask was to extend the bored tunnel or failing that, to move the temporary haul road further north due to traffic congestion and the health and safety hazards of having the haul road entrance opposite the skate park, tennis courts, play areas and school pick up area. The parish council had provided risk assessments to the Select Committee. It was felt that the Select Committee were trying to speed things along but HS2 did call an expert witness, who suggested putting armoured barriers at the

Link Road roundabout. James Burton's summary emphasized that people, especially children, and safety were more important than engineering considerations.

Although BCC were due to present to the Select Committee in the afternoon, following discussions with HS2 and after having gained assurances from HS2 about other mitigation in the county, including moving the haul road further north, BCC did not end up presenting.

ii) Assurances and moving the haul road

The assurance that the haul road will be moved further north is dependent on BCC securing the land and that any alternative will not increase the cost. This will involve a study between HS2 and BCC to determine the best place for the alternative haul road and at a recent BCMP meeting, Martin Tett, leader of BCC advised Cllr M. Johnstone that GMPC and other local organisations would be involved in these discussions. A new costing exercise will need to include the cost of a new roundabout. Arguments have been put forward against HS2's assertion that if the haul road is moved that the fit out construction traffic will need to use Frith Hill to access the portal in South Heath.

Each possible alternative location for the haul road has both positives and negatives and a proposal has been circulated by email today. The council agreed unanimously to support the proposal to move the HS2 haul road from the Link Road roundabout to being adjacent to Leather Lane. The council expressed its thanks to Cllr M. Johnstone for all his hard work and especially for the idea about the risk assessments.

iii) Next steps

Cheryl Gillan covered all the outstanding issues during her presentation to the Select Committee on 28th January including an extension to the tunnel, the creation of a Chiltern AONB panel to review the design within the AONB and an independent regulatory body accessible to her constituents.

The Select Committee is likely to be publishing its closing report towards the end of February. HS2 are pushing to have the third reading of the Bill in the House of Lords before Easter with the target for Royal Assent by October 2016 which will not leave the House of Lords much time to review the bill.

BCC are hosting another HS2 summit meeting on 24th March to make preparations for presenting to the House of Lords. HS2 are holding a community event on 13th February in Chalfont St Peter.

iv) HS2 Early Access Agreement for Survey Purposes

The council has received a request from HS2 to allow surveys including drilling on part of the Potter Row allotments. This is within the area of archaeological notification and so BCC would need to be notified. The council did not agree to give permission to HS2 and instead suggested that an alternative site where the water tower is located should be suggested to them.

6. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

i) Report from LAF meeting – 27th January 2016

Cllr A. Hewett reported that a new vice chair had been appointed for LAF. The meeting discussed the parking problems on Upper Hollis, London Road and Rignall Road. It was suggested that 50% of the costs of any future traffic alterations would have to be funded by the parish council. A meeting to discuss the LAF budget was due and it was noted that there was a lack of resources for gully emptying and white lining.

7. Clerks Report

i) MVAS schedule – amendment to Prestwood schedule

The clerk reported that the MVAS schedule for Prestwood had to be varied as it has not been possible to remove the covers of the plates for the two new sites. The supplier has agreed to send a special tool to remove the security screws.

8. Any other business.

- A question was raised about whether the MVAS units could be fixed to standard street furniture
- Cllr C.Baxter raised the issue of the state of the grass on Prestwood Common as the ground was very wet and muddy
- Cllr K.Pither raised the question of potholes on the Link Road
- Cllr K.Pither raised the question of the poor state of the HS2 banner on the tennis court fence
- Cllr C.Plested raised the issue of parking and obstructing the pavements outside Cross Roads garage in Prestwood
- Cllr C.Plested advised that Prestwood Infant School had in fact installed a gate at the back of the school accessing the footpath which runs from Chequers Lane to Kiln Close. However residents had complained about parking and had blocked access to the footpath.

The meeting closed at 21.55

9. Future meetings

- a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 7th March 2016 in the Parish Office
- b) Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 p.m. Monday 14th March 2016 in Great Missenden Memorial Centre