

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 11th April 2016
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum: Brenda Barker from PYCAG regarding the letter from PYCAG (item 6 b vii)

Present: Councillor - A.Hewett - Chair

Councillors: K.Allan: C.Baxter: R.Hougham: S.Humphreys: M.Johnstone: G.Maher:
V.Marshall: V.Martin: K.Pither: T.Stevenson.

1. Apologies: Councillor: L.Cook: M.Lee C.Plested.

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2016 were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising: None.

5. Councillor vacancies

Following completion of the legal notification process, it is now possible to look for candidates to be co-opted for both the Ballinger and South Heath and the Prestwood and Heath End councillor vacancies. No applications have been received so far. It may be hard to attract candidates from Ballinger and South Heath owing to people moving out of the area because of HS2.

6. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2016 were **agreed** and **confirmed**, with one change in item 4 i) line 4 – ‘private school’ changed to ‘academy’.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Request for poly tunnel – Nairdwood Lane, plot 3a

The council agreed to the request for a poly tunnel subject to the usual conditions.

ii) Request for shed – Chequers Lane, plot 10b

The council agreed to the request for a shed subject to the usual conditions and requesting that the shed is put onto removable slabs rather than shingle.

iii) Request to use the Buryfield – Active Bucks Delivery

The council agreed in principle to Active Bucks using the Buryfield subject to agreement with certain conditions. These were information about exactly where on the Buryfield the class would be taking place, how many people were attending and confirmation from them that if the grass was in poor condition the class would be cancelled. There were already some dates where the Buryfield was already in use by other organisations. The council agreed that a temporary banner could be put up whilst the class was taking place but no permanent banner could be installed on the Buryfield. If the numbers attending the class were excessive the clerk would refer the matter back to council.

iv) Prestwood car park

CDC were considering the disposal of part of the High Street car park in Prestwood for affordable housing. Parking in Prestwood is actually getting busier although apparently a survey carried out

has shown that the car park is not fully utilised. It was proposed that a letter should be sent to Cllr Isobel Darby expressing concern about losing part of the car park. The car park is used as a drop off point for schools, footballers and dance classes as well as parking for the shops and doctors. The recycling area is also used extensively. It would be a good idea to wait for the outcome of the Local Plan discussions rather than dealing with this issue in isolation as there may be other areas which could be used for affordable housing or redevelopment of existing areas such as Hazel Road. The council asked the clerk to make the PVA aware of the situation so that Prestwood residents could be informed.

v) Devolution Working Party – update

Cllr T.Stevenson provided an update on the situation with devolved services. BCC has advised that the question of working on the highway verges has been referred to their legal team as GMPC has not taken on devolved services. BCC had offered to carry out the first grass cut of the season and then pass the work to the parish council but GMPC has already decided not to take on devolved services for 2016-17. The BCC grass cutting maps have been allocated to members of the working party who have verbally reported on their findings. A clear definition of how to annotate the maps is being agreed. Although the focus has been on grass cutting devolved services include lots of other tasks. It is a good time of year to pick up on areas of grass that residents are cutting before BCC starts their programme. Cllr T.Stevenson has agreed to provide the marked up maps on receipt of the information from the working party and these maps will be needed to obtain quotes from contractors. The working party will be able to take into account the duty to conserve biodiversity as specified in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 but will have to take vision splay issues into account. Feedback has been obtained from parish councils in Ellesborough and Stewkley. Insurance issues still need to be addressed. It may be possible to involve the youth offenders' team in some of the work. With regards to consultation it has been agreed to wait until price costings have been obtained.

vi) Youth Offending Team – meeting 6th April 2016

A report following the meeting had been circulated to the councillors. This group could do some projects within the parish such as trimming shrubs although they cannot work alongside roads and cannot climb. They work on a 2:1 supervision basis with contingency backup and learn different skills. The work could be done on a regular or one-off basis and a list of ideas for work on parish owned land would be put forward by the Open Spaces Committee. The parish council agreed to proceed on this basis.

vii) Letter from PYCAG

The council reviewed the letter and agreed to set up a working party to meet with representatives from PYCAG to discuss the issues raised and then report back to the parish council. The members of the working party would be Cllrs A.Hewett, S.Humphreys, V.Marshall, K.Pither and C.Plested.

viii) Parish event 11th June 2016 - update

The plans for the 'Party in the Park' were coming together and included a dog show, fairground rides and races for children. Cllr A.Hewett has been in touch with PEG. It was hoped that as many parish councillors as possible would be able to attend.

ix) Parking on Rignall Road – email

The council considered the email about the parking on the Rignall Road. The new residents parking area on the Mobwell has now appeared to cause this displacement parking. Since this parking seems to be worse during term times the parish council agreed to write a letter to the Gateway School. Cllr K.Allan agreed to draft a letter and forward it to the clerk.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Quotes for gutter replacement - rear of Memorial Centre

The council considered the quotes from the three different companies and agreed to proceed with the quote from Bryan Tomes for the deep flow gutters.

ii) Stone for commemorative tree on Buryfield - quote

Creative Memorials were having trouble sourcing an appropriate stone but were due to come out to view a stone with Cllr A.Hewett. It may be necessary to install a temporary wooden plaque with a stone installed later. The council agreed that the decision may have to be taken via email agreement due to the timescales involved.

iii) Quotes – various small works – Sexton Fencing

The council approved the quotes for various small works.

iv) Buryfield car park lease and charges – approval to pay charges

Discussions about the lease are still ongoing but the council agreed to start making the monthly payments having now received the first invoice in April.

v) Warden schemes – email from BCC

Cllrs C.Baxter and A.Hewett expressed an interest in attending this event.

vi) Chiltern and South Bucks Joint Strategic Partnership meeting

Cllr R.Hougham and possibly Cllr M.Johnstone agreed to attend this event.

vii) National Citizenship Service – 2016 - email

Cllr C.Baxter agreed to attend this meeting as it may be relevant for the 11th June event.

viii) Revised NALC Legal Topic Notes - LTN 31, LTN 39, EO1-16

All the above topic notes were noted.

ix) Payment of accounts for March (final) & April

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **211-228** in the sum of **£20,409.42 – March (final)** and accounts numbers **1-8** in the sum of **£4,404.09 - April** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for March (final) **£53.46** and March/April **£45.26** be ratified.

d) Editorial Working Party

i) 'The Source'

The articles had been sent off to 'The Source' and Cllr A.Hewett thanked the contributors. Ideas for articles for the next issue should be sent to the editorial working party.

e)HS2

i) Working party for HS2 – confirmation and authority

The parish council formally unanimously approved the members of the HS2 Working Party – namely Cllrs A.Hewett, M.Johnstone, K.Pither and C.Plested. The council also agreed unanimously that the HS2 Working Party had the authority from the parish council to make changes to the draft petition and make any decisions necessary on behalf of the council when negotiating with HS2.

ii) Authority to petition and appointment of parliamentary agent

Bucks Law Plus has confirmed that the notice to petition published previously in February/March 2014 is sufficient to cover a Petition in the House of Lords. The parish council's authority to petition however needs to be amended to show that its parliamentary agent would be Cllr M.Johnstone.

Further to the resolution passed by Council at their meeting on 14 April 2014, it is resolved that Council authorises Councillor Thomas Michael Johnstone of Woodleigh, 12 Lappetts Lane, South Heath, Great Missenden be appointed as parliamentary Roll B agent against the Bill.

This resolution was passed unanimously by the council. Proof of his confirmation as a Roll B agent has been circulated.

Cllr M.Johnstone has confirmed that James Burton is available and there is money in the budget to cover the quotation that has been received. The council unanimously approved in principle the quote to appoint James Burton to represent the council.

iii) House of Lords petition – draft for approval

The draft petition has already been circulated which asks for the tunnel to be extended to Leather Lane as a minimum and for the haul road to be moved further north. Following receipt of comments a few changes, tweaks only and no fundamental changes need to be made and the amended copy will be sent to the councillors. The deadline for submission of petitions is 18th April.

iv) General update

The county, district and parish councils, CCB and REPA have agreed on a 'common voice' to ask for one tunnel which would be longer and come out north of Wendover, although all groups would petition separately.

HS2 and BCC have been discussing the relocation of the haul road and there is a meeting next week with elected representatives to give a progress update.

Petitioners presentations to the House of Lords Select Committee could start as early as mid May but no dates have been confirmed yet. To date the committee members have not been selected.

The petitions will be heard starting in the north with all the local authorities being heard first. It would seem there will be fewer petitions this time but as much help and encouragement as possible is being given to get as many petitions in as possible.

7. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

i) Councillor surgery 26th March 2016

Cllr C.Baxter reported that this surgery was quiet with only one attendee. This resident had spoken to the councillors present about the lack of pavement between Perks Lane and Great Kingshill. This would however be the responsibility of Highways.

It was suggested that the surgeries needed to be advertised more widely and all dates of all future surgeries publicised.

ii) Report from Library meeting 15th March 2016

Cllr K.Pither reported that the library was under threat due to government cuts. Options were being discussed and a decision would be taken by BCC at the end of June. The parish council cannot influence anything at this stage.

iii) Report from PRG meeting - Concept for a Revitalised Village Centre in Prestwood – 22nd March

Cllr V.Marshall reported that this event was well attended and well presented. The proposal was now limited to the A4128 at Chequers corner. The consultant has had lots of experience with similar traffic situations in other areas of the country and was confident about the scheme which involves changing road surfaces to slow traffic down as well as space sharing which has the same effect. Changes were suggested to the area in front of the Chequers to make it look better. The van parked outside the shops hides the shop displays. Most of the shop workers come from outside Prestwood so they need to find all day parking.

8. Clerks Report

i) New nest swing at Ballinger Common

The new nest swing has been installed at Ballinger Common.

9. Any other business.

- Cllr K.Allan advised that Holy Trinity Church in Prestwood had offered the council use of its premises free of charge for council meetings
- Cllr K.Pither remarked on the new street signs in Little Missenden which had been installed with LAF funding
- Cllr K.Pither reported that the Post Office counter service is moving to Samways
- Cllr A.Hewett requested that Cllr G.Maher provide an update from the Memorial Centre Management Committee to the parish council at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 21.45

10. Future meetings

- a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 3rd May 2016 in the Parish Office
- b) Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 p.m Monday 9th May 2016 in Great Missenden Memorial Centre