

GREAT MISSENDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 14th November 2016
at the Memorial Centre, Link Road, Great Missenden
at 7.30 p.m.

Public Forum: Mike Bennett from PYCAG regarding the state of the ground outside the main entrance and the emergency exit of the PYCAG building and support for PYCAG's application for LAF funding.
Ivan Lovegrove regarding his application to be co-opted onto the parish council.

Present: Councillor - A.Hewett - Chair

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

Cllr R.Hougham arrived at 7.50 pm (at the end of the public forum)

1. Apologies: Councillor: M.Lee.

2. Declarations of Interest:

Cllrs A.Hewett, M.Johnstone and K.Pither – item 6 c viii)

Cllr R.Hougham – item 5.

3. Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2016 were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising:

None.

Cllr A.Hewett reported that John Skrimshire had sadly passed away and a Memorial Service was planned for Wednesday. John was a past member of the parish council and had given a lot to the local community. He was a font of local knowledge and he will be sorely missed.

5. Councillor vacancies

The council discussed the application for the parish council vacancy, as under the co-option process, the parish council must still consider whether or not to co-opt any person that applies. Cllr C.Plested had recommended Ivan and she proposed his application for co-option with Cllr S. Humphreys seconding the proposal. The council felt he would make a good contribution to the council and knows the parish and area well. The council agreed unanimously to co-opt Ivan Lovegrove to the parish council.

6. Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee

i) The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2016 were **agreed** and **confirmed**.

CDC Local Plan - Cllr C.Baxter reported that since it is possible to comment on the items in the evidence base as part of this consultation, the planning committee felt that the parish council should review selected documents, especially the Green Belt Assessment part two document, at this point. The parish council agreed and Cllr C.Baxter would set up a separate meeting in the next couple of weeks.

CDC/SBDC Joint Local Plan - Potential Introduction of CIL - the parish council unanimously ratified the comments that the planning committee had proposed as a response to CDC.

It was noted that the comments on the application for tree work (CH/2016/1975/KA) provided clarity of measurements rather than an arbitrary % reduction.

b) Open Spaces and Lighting Committee

i) Request from Prestwood Colts to use Prestwood Common

The council approved the request from Prestwood Colts to use Prestwood Common for their Presentation Weekend on 19th, 20th and 21st May 2017 subject to the following conditions:

- Due to complaints about noise going on until 1 am in 2016, all noise must stop at midnight on each day of the event.
- All attendees to be asked to be considerate of neighbours when leaving the event.
- All properties bordering the Common to receive a letter prior to the event with information about the event and a contact number to use in case of complaints.

ii) Street Lighting maintenance – letter from BCC

The council asked the clerk to find out if BCC could come and speak to the parish council and to find out how long they would need to make a presentation, with a view to them coming prior to the January parish council meeting.

iii) Letter from PYCAG - PYCAG fire exit

As had been discussed previously (March 2016) the council felt that the fire exit was used more regularly than just for emergency exit. The access ramp at the front of the building did lead directly onto the car park surface without the need to cross any grass area.

It was suggested that the drainage on the ground adjacent to these areas – at the bottom of the exit and the bottom of the slope – could be improved by digging out, installing a membrane and/or plastic gravel pavers and finishing off with shingle. Cllr S.Humphreys would produce a specification which could be used to obtain quotes.

iv) GM Combined School – set down area plans

The notes from the meeting on 11th October had been circulated and Cllr A.Hewett updated the council with the current situation. The area on the Buryfield being put forward to provide new parking had covenants on it restricting its use to recreation or allotments. The parish council wished to take traffic away from the Link Road and did not want to lose the coach parking due to the many visitors to Roald Dahl. The preference would be for access to and from the set down area to be directly onto the A413.

The parish council agreed unanimously that the following information should be sent to BCC and copied to Great Missenden Combined School:

- The parish council does not want the main school access in and out of the proposed set down area to be through the Buryfield.
- The parish council does support the access in and out of the proposed set down area to be from the A413.

v) BCC (Parish of Great Missenden) Definitive Map Modification Order 2016

The modification order for the public right of way which runs south-east from Widmere Field was noted.

c) Finance & General Purposes Committee

i) Budget 2017-18

Cllr M.Johnstone reported that the budget proposals were not yet complete. A start would be made populating the budget column with some of the more known expenditure amounts and a meeting would then be called of the finance committee to discuss the proposals further. Any additional ideas for next year's budget should be sent to himself and the clerk.

ii) Completion of audit year ending 31 March 2016

IT was noted that the audit had been completed with no matters giving cause for concern. A technical issue concerning the dates that the signatories sign the statements can be rectified next year.

iii) Insurance and building reinstatement cost assessments

The council agreed to the additional premium to incorporate the newly declared sums insured with immediate effect following the report on the building reinstatement cost assessments which showed that the cost of reinstatement was higher than previously quoted. The council also approved the replies from the insurance company with regards to the exclusion of VAT, the loss of rent or cost of alternative accommodation being picked up under the Business Interruption sum insured and ground contamination not being perceived as an issue.

iv) Church Street Light quotes

Since the request to increase the brightness of the streetlight outside number 19 had only come from one resident, the council decided to consult with the residents of Church Street in the vicinity of the light. A letter would be delivered to the relevant properties asking them to respond in two weeks. The council would then review the situation again following the receipt of any comments.

v) Litter bin quotes

The council approved the purchase of an anti-vandal bin from Wybone for Prestwood Recreation Ground, which would be concreted in using the extended legs.

vi) 'The Cage' roof – additional work

The council approved the payment for the additional unforeseen work which had been carried out by Abacus Roofing during the repair of 'The Cage' roof. Cllr K.Pither commented that GMCG had not been advised that the work was taking place.

vii) Play area inspections and repair quotations

Since the cost of the repairs was greater than the amount in the budget the council agreed to review all the repairs and proceed with the more urgent items, taking into account the impact of HS2. The review would be carried out by the Finance Committee and Cllr S.Humphreys.

viii) Councillor expenses for HS2 Select Committee attendance House of Lords

The parish council agreed to pay the travel expenses of the parish councillors who attended the House of Lords Select Committee on 24th October and 8th November 2016.

ix) Replacement parish representative for GMMC

Cllr K.Pither volunteered to be the parish representative on the Memorial Centre Management Committee and this was approved by the parish council.

x) Proposal to federate Prestwood Infant and Junior School – consultation

The parish council discussed the proposal and agreed to respond. A majority voted to agree with the proposal to federate.

xi) Letter from PYCAG – support for LAF funding

With regards to the PYCAG application to LAF, that whilst the parish council is in favour of supporting PYCAG in general, the parish council would like to see the LAF application details before giving its support to the application. The clerk would circulate the PYCAG annual report and accounts 2015-16 to all the parish councillors.

xii) Applications for non-TfB LAF funding – submission deadline – proposals

The council did not propose any applications for non-TfB funding projects.

xiii) Payment of accounts for November

It was **resolved** that accounts numbers **110-140** in the sum of **£14,614.11** for **November** be agreed for payment and petty cash items for **£193.51** be ratified.

d) Editorial Working Party

i) 'The Source'

Cllr A.Hewett thanked everyone for their contributions to the articles for 'The Source'. The articles agreed for submission were the allotment competition prize giving, the cheque presentation to Scannappeal, Local Plan information, fire station volunteer recruitment and proposed removal of payphones.

e) HS2

i) HS2 Review of presentations to the House of Lords Select Committee

Cllr M.Johnstone reported that the House of Lords Select Committee had visited the area on Wednesday 19th October. Banners had been put up at the Link Road roundabout.

Bucks CC presented to the Select Committee on 24th October and GMPC had been requested to attend as the haul road and mitigation were due to be discussed. Martin Tett presented the asks from BCC concerning costs and compensation. Fragmentation of habitats caused by HS2 was raised. Martin Tett covered local issues in Iver, Hillingdon, Chalfont St Peter, Wendover, Calvert, Steeple Claydon and Great Missenden. GMPC has asked HS2 to spend £3.49m on relocating the haul road and raising a TWAO. Mr Mould explained the different designs for the haul road that featured in the sift report and went on to say that HS2 were working on a package of mitigation measures for Great Missenden.

Wendover Society and Wendover and Halton parish councils presented on 2nd November. They pushed for a mined tunnel and discussed visual blight and hydrology issues. HS2 then responded with the view that more land would be required, a road to a vent shaft and larger portals. Noise issues were also raised. Wendover and Halton parish councils suggested an independent review on a mined tunnel but HS2 responded that this had already been done for Colne Valley so in effect HS2 were saying no. The parish councils also spoke about mitigation including the impact of a workers compound. David Liddington spoke about the 2000 constituents who have contacted him but HS2 responded that a tunnel was not value for money.

HS2AA presented on 8th November covering noise and compensation issues. Mr Mould tried to talk the noise subject out but did not succeed. Lord Walker wants the Need to Sell scheme in the Hybrid Bill and mentioned Human Rights.

The next presenter, Baroness Von Oppenheim insisted on standing up for her presentation so she was filmed from the waist down.

CDC presented next on 8th November with John Gladwin discussing the impact of HS2 on Prestwood. He also included parts of what GMPC were planning to include in their presentation and some of the impact of these points was lost.

Sue Holden of CCB covered the uniqueness of the Chilterns AONB and asked for the AONB review board to have its funding increased.

GMPC presented to the Select Committee next – the slides from the presentation were circulated to the parish council prior to their submission to the HoL. James Burton introduced the parish presentation with Cllr A.Hewett explaining the impact of HS2 on Great Missenden villagers, businesses and tourists and listing the events surrounding the haul road from the assurance of having it moved in January 2016 only to have HS2 delay producing the sift report which meant that there was not enough time to implement a TWAO.

Cllr M.Johnstone then followed with the impact of HS2 on the hilltop villages covering noise, dust and blight. GMPC asked that for one kilometre after exiting the portal, the height of the line will not be raised at all. If the appointed contractor does raise the height of the line after the design stage and the noise levels in the ES are exceeded then additional mitigation is provided. The detailed mitigation list, as previously circulated, was then presented.

ii) Letter of support for Chiltern Tunnel Extension

The parish council have already supported the extension of the Chiltern Tunnel by 1 km to Liberty Lane by approving a grant and the council agreed to write a formal letter of support.

iii) Proposed meeting with Cheryl Gillan

A meeting had been proposed with Cheryl Gillan on 18th November and Cllrs A.Hewett and M.Johnstone had been invited to attend to represent the parish council.

iv) Review of petitioning procedures on Hybrid Bills

A letter from Luke Hussey has been circulated. The parish council agreed that it would respond and Cllrs A.Hewett and M.Johnstone would draft a response for circulation and agreement. The deadline for submissions is 9th December.

v) Next steps

The last petitioners from the Chilterns will be appearing before the Select Committee arguing amongst other things for the 1 km tunnel extension. Cllr M.Johnstone reported that we are now at the end of the Committee stage. The Lords Select Committee will issue a report - the report stage of the Bill can be lengthy. It is anticipated that the third reading in the House of Lords will take place in the New Year with Royal Assent being given in February / March 2017. Drilling and bore holes are already being dug now.

The parish council have received a letter from Roger Hargreaves dated 3rd November listing the assurances that were discussed without prejudice at meetings with Bucks CC and HS2.

These included:

- Noise, dust and light pollution control
- Link Road roundabout safety measures including a safety barrier
- Great Missenden Combined School pick up and drop off area
- Haul road landscaping scheme
- Loss of on-street parking places

There are some issues with each of these assurances and therefore a reply to Roger Hargreaves will be prepared and circulated for approval.

Owing to the amount of time and effort that Cllr M.Johnstone has spent working on HS2 the council thanked him again and agreed to send flowers to Mrs Johnstone for her understanding and patience.

7. Reports from Representatives to outside Groups.

None

8. Clerks Report

i) Devolution Working Party – update

The clerk had sent out all the requests for pricing to the selected contractors. The quotes were due to be received back on 5th December and the clerk would organise a meeting of the working party for that day.

ii) Agenda item – ‘Any other business’

The parish council agreed by majority vote that instead of a heading called ‘Any other business’, it is renamed as ‘Matters for information’.

This enables things that are urgent and recently arisen to be brought up and the definition for this section on the agenda is the following:

‘Notify the Chair prior to the meeting start of any item to be brought up under this section.

Only urgent items of information, referral to another authority, or matters offered for consideration at a future meeting can be raised. No legal decisions can be taken.’

iii) Amended start time for December parish council meeting – 7 pm

Noted.

9. Any other business.

None.

The meeting closed at 22.08

10. Future meetings

a) Planning Committee – 7.30 p.m. Monday 5th December 2016 in the Parish Office

b) Parish Council Meeting – 7.00 p.m Monday 12th December 2016 in Great Missenden Memorial Centre