

Minutes of the Prees Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
at 7.00 pm in Prees Village Hall.

Present were: Cllrs R Hirons; Mrs B Finch; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs L Baer; Mrs S Jones; M Lanham; R List; Also present were Mr Peter Richards; Mr Allen Jackson; five members of the public; PCSO Jamie Robinson and the clerk Mrs K Sieloff. Cllr J Allen joined the meeting as soon as he was able, at 7.25pm.

023/19. Public Session. Peter Richards spoke in support of his clients' Planning Application 19/00788/OUT. He explained that the new application proposed only two dwellings and the reduction of the existing frontage of Ballacraine by three metres to allow full view of the new builds from the road thus remedying the crowded and 'backland' feel of the previous (refused) application.

On a different matter, Mr Richards also indicated that he would be circulating details of an Amendment to Planning Application 19/00883/FUL, concerning the proposed erection of an equipment store at Prees Cricket and Recreation Club.

024/19. Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs D Foster; Mrs S Short; J Whelan; D Ladd and P Wynn.

025/19. Disclosure of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interest: there were none.

026/19. The Minutes of the full Parish Council meeting held on 19.2.19. (previously circulated) were agreed to be a true record and it was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Finch that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs L Baer. All were in favour and the Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

027/19. Actions arising from the Minutes. There were none that were not on the Agenda.

028/19 Mr Allen Jackson, Managing Director of AAT Recycling which is on Prees Industrial Estate, attended to explain the measures being taken to ensure the business did not cause a nuisance to local residents. He explained that his company has been trading on the industrial estate for three years and is now one of five recycling businesses there. AAT Recycling at first reduced the hours in which the diesel shredder was operating, to reduce the noise, and then stopped it altogether when residents were still complaining. He advised that a new large shredder was due to be delivered in five weeks time, and this would be electric and housed indoors, and extremely quiet in operation. He also assured the meeting that the large piles of carpet/textile waste currently stored outside is due to backlog caused by other companies shutting down operations over Christmas while AAT carried on. When the backlog is cleared there will not be external piles of textile waste: a perimeter fence will be erected and only metal will be stored outside. Mr Jackson told the Parish Council that he employed thirty local people and that he would gladly escort any councillors who wished to visit to see the workings of the business for themselves. Cllr R Hirons thanked Mr Jackson for his attendance and reassurances.

029/19: Shropshire Council report. Cllr P Wynn had sent his apologies, due to ongoing family circumstances, and had given Cllr Hirons a brief report to deliver. Firstly he reported that the Machinery Auction on 17/18 April is definitely planned for the A49 site, not the A41 one. Secondly he reported that he had spoken to Frank Whitley at Shropshire Council who regretted that he felt there was nothing more he could do to hasten the resolution of the situation of the unfinished development at The Square in the centre of Prees. Cllr Hirons suggested that from now on, when problems erupt concerning this site they should be passed directly to SC. At this point Cllr Mrs B Rainford said that she understood that part of the remit of Professor Mark Barrow, Executive Director of Place at SC, is direct intervention in such matters and she is hoping to have the chance to mention The Square to him at a forthcoming meeting that they are both due to attend.

030/19 Community Policing report. New PCSO Jamie Robinson introduced himself to the meeting and reported that relatively speaking things are quiet on the burglary front locally. He spoke of "Operation Vulture" which employs the random stopping of vehicles and includes intelligence-gathering. PCSO Robinson explained that the fact that we are close to so many county borders can be an advantage to would-be criminals and this new operation helps to send a powerful dissuading message to those considering criminal activity.

031/19: Planning.

***Current Planning Applications***

**19/00788/OUT:** Outline application (access for consideration) for up to two residential dwellings; reorganisation (reduced frontage) of Ballacraine (Phased Development.)

Proposed Residential Development Land to the East of Ballacraigne, Heathwood Road, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Mr B and Mrs J Crump.

The Parish Council acknowledged that the new Application, which reduced the density to two dwellings and included the reduction of Ballacraigne's own frontage, successfully addressed the previous criticisms of the proposal being for an overcrowded, backland development, opposition to which has always been a firm principle of the Parish Council. Therefore it was resolved to support the Application. This was proposed by Cllr R List and seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.

**19/00708/FUL:** Modification to previously approved application 16/01047/REM to allow for addition of single storey flat-roofed rear extension – Plot 1 only. Hendon House, Longwood Park, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Shingler Homes Ltd.

It was resolved to support this Application. Proposed by Cllr Mrs L Baer and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.

**19/00870/FUL:** Erection of replacement general purpose agricultural building. Park Coppice, Lower Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Mr P Rodrigues.

It was resolved to support this Application. Proposed by Cllr M Lanham and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.

**19/00882/FUL:** Conversion and extension of existing building and lean-to to form offices (B1) (re-submission.) Brookdale, Station Road, Prees, Shropshire SY13 2DW. Applicant: Grocott Developments Ltd (c/o Peter Richards and Co.)

It was resolved to support this Application. Proposed by Cllr M Lanham and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.

**19/00902/TPO:**

1. Crown reduce by up to 2 m 2 no Scots Pine protected by the North Shropshire District Council (Prees Higher Heath No 6) TPO 1975 (Ref: NS/00051/75)
2. Birch (T3) Fell. Tree is in poor health and outgrown position very close to property. It is overshadowed by large mature tree and vulnerable to failure. Its amenity value is insignificant due to its proximity to large mature tree.
3. Beech (T4) Reduce over-extended branches by up to 2 m. Remove branch stubs.
4. Oak (T5) Tree is dead. Fell.
5. Birch (T6) Tree is dead.

Location: Trafford House, Sylvan Close, Higher Heath, Whitchurch SY13 2TB. Applicant: Hilton (Trafford House.)

The Parish Council was unanimous in its decision to defer to the Tree Officer at SC concerning this Application.

**19/00883/FUL** (and Amendments): Erection of equipment store. Prees Cricket and Recreation Club, Brades Road, Prees, Shropshire SY13 2DX. Applicant: Prees Cricket and Recreation Club.

Consideration of this Application was postponed, pending the receipt of up to date information about the latest Amendment.

**19/00938/TPO:** End reduction to all protruding limbs of up to 2 m of 2 no Wellingtonia trees protected by the North Shropshire District Council (Prees Hall) TPO 1980 (Ref: NS/00052/80)

Location: Prees Hall, Flat 1, Church Street, Prees SY13 2EE. The Parish Council was unanimous in its decision to leave this matter in the hands of the Tree Officer at SC.

**19/00975/FUL:** Proposed conversion and extension to existing outbuilding into living accommodation ancillary to the existing dwelling. 2 Hightrees, Moreton Say, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 3SE. Applicant: Mr and Mrs R Handley. The Parish Council resolved to support this Application. Proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.

**Amendments to 19/00008/FUL:** Change of use of former barn to dwelling to include erection of extension, extension to existing drive. Proposed barn conversion at Holly Bank, Shrewsbury Street, Prees, Shropshire. Applicant: Mr D Rees and Miss G Rees.

The Parish Council resolved to support the Amendments to this Application. Proposed by Cllr R Hiron and seconded by Cllr J Allen. All were in favour.

**Appeal ref: 19/02713/REF. Application ref: 18/05083/PMBPA.** Planning inspector ref: APPL/L3245/W/19/3220888 Application for prior approval under Part 3 Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for the change of use from agricultural to residential use.

Agricultural Building A at Rose Cottage, Prees Green, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Mr Don Carissimo.

The Parish Council noted the notification of the Appeal, and had no further response to make.

**19/01225/TCA:** Dismantle to ground level 1 no Ash within Prees Conservation Area. Church Cottages, Cross End, Prees SY13 2ER. Applicant : Atkins.

The Parish Council resolved to object to this Application **unless** the tree is unsafe. Proposed by Cllr J Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour.

***Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council.***

**19/00167/FUL:** Erection of replacement package storage building. Highbury Poultry Farm, Manor House Lane, Higher Heath, Shropshire SY13 2HJ. Decision: grant permission.

**18/03722/FUL:** Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the partial change of use farmstead to storage and distribution of garden paving slabs. Decision: grant permission.

**032/19 Parish and Parish Council Matters**

- **Parking at Prees Primary School and Lower Heath Primary School.**  
The Parish Council was very disappointed to hear Shropshire Council's decision that it would not currently be possible to consider the imposition of 20 mph zones outside the Primary schools at Prees and Lower Heath, as swingeing reductions in the Highways and Transport Capital Budget both for the current year (2018/19) and the next mean that SC has to give priority to its statutory function in relation to introducing measures that reduce the risk of road traffic accidents at defined high-priority sites. These are identified annually by using recorded personal injury accident data to highlight locations where clusters of accidents take place.  
With regard to the Parish Council's request that the yellow zigzag lines outside both schools should be made enforceable, instead of merely advisory as they currently are (although Police can take action if they believe a car is parked dangerously or is causing an obstruction of the highway) SC explained that this would entail a legal consultative process before the making of a Traffic Regulation Order in each case and the erection of upright signage on site. The request that this process should be undergone for both schools has been added to the current list of Traffic Regulation Order requests, but its progress is of course dependent on funding.
- **Smartwater update: public signs to be erected.** The Parish Councillors were reminded that all able-bodied volunteers would be welcome on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, meeting at the clerk's house at 2 pm, to put up the Smartwater signs advertising the fact that our Parish is under the protection of the Smartwater property protection system. It was agreed that once the signs were up a further opportunity to collect a kit should be offered on a Saturday afternoon at Fauls Church Hall. Clerk to organise.
- **Community-led building: meeting at St Martins attended.**  
Cllr Hiron reported on the meeting at St Martins that he, Cllr Mrs B Rainford and the clerk had attended. All three had been impressed by the quality and 'feel' of the development achieved. They had also been encouraged to hear that representatives from the community had been involved throughout and a good relationship with the architects and builder involved had allowed modifications of design to be undertaken as the development evolved. Tim Shrobbree from SC had recommended additional visits to Much Wenlock and Kinlet, to view their community-led builds. The Parish Council was happy for interested representatives to attend and report back. Clerk to arrange visits.
- **Concerns about report of asbestos being disturbed on Industrial Estate.** The clerk reported that Public Protection at SC had agreed to investigate these concerns, but so far no further response had been received. Clerk to pursue.
- **Land and buildings at the Square, Prees village centre.** Cllrs R Hiron suggested that all complaints received from local residents about this unfinished site should from now on be passed to Shropshire Council. Cllr Mrs B Rainford reiterated her hope of having an opportunity to speak to Professor Mark Barrow concerning this very vexing matter. Clerk was asked to research Minutes of 8-10 years ago to see what action SC had promised at that time.

- Heathgates Crossroads. Clerk reported that Highways had confirmed that the promised safety-enhancing works had been ordered some months ago but that contractual issues between Kier and SC were unfortunately causing delays in the execution of these and other similar works.
- Road-sweeping in the Parish. Following the response from SC detailing the schedule of road-sweeping and gully-emptying in the Parish, the clerk was asked to enquire when the roads were last swept and if any cleaning of pavements is regularly undertaken by SC.
- Ensuring the safety of Parish-Council-owned trees. Clerk was asked to ask other clerks how they tackle this issue.
- Flooding on Mill Street by the new footpath. Cllr M Lanham reported that the developers are claiming that root damage to the drainage system is the cause of the flooding. Environmental Maintenance at SC has asked to see the CCTV survey and will update us when this is available.
- Rabbit problem at Higher Heath playground. Clerk to be advised of contact who will tackle rabbit problem.
- HH playground fitness equipment incorrectly installed Clerk reported that she had met with a representative from Streetscape, the manufacturers and installers of the equipment, who had agreed to foot the bill for the re-installation, which is to be done by John Walker.
- 1894-2019. Chairman and clerk reported that they have located original Minute books from the early days of the Parish Council, which could perhaps feature in some sort of display celebrating 125 years of Prees Parish Council. To be carried forward.
- Pavilion: still awaits demolition. Clerk reported that it is currently housing the piece of fitness equipment that is being reinstalled! This matter to be brought forward in a couple of months.
- CIL: notification received of Neighbourhood Fund amount that will be received in April 2019. Clerk reported that the amount to be received with the Precept will be, provisionally, £4,482.74.
- Concerns about the A49 T junction with B5065. Cllr Mrs B Rainford spoke of her concerns about the frequent incidents that occur at this junction when vehicles over-shoot it and go through the hedge into the farmers field. Clerk to write to Highways to ask if signage can be improved to give more emphatic warning of the need to give way. Councillors would be happy to meet with a representative from SC to discuss, if so desired.
- Facebook update. Clerk to locate the draft Policy for Social Media and pass to Cllrs R Hirons and D Ladd.
- Twemlows Wood footpaths: update. Cllrs R Hirons and M Lanham reported that the Northern part of Twemlows Wood, on the A41 at Higher Heath, has been divided and sold to nine different owners. This process is not enhancing the woods and access to long-used paths, which are not designated Public Rights of Way, is being made more problematic. The future of this part of the Wood seems uncertain. The Southern part of the Wood, owned largely by Mr William Haywood-Lonsdale, seems to have a more settled future: there are no plans to change the level of public access and efforts are being made in the pursuit of codifying this agreement. Footpaths have to be identified and registered by 2026 or will possibly be lost. The Chairman is attending training to help in this process.
- Chair needed for April meeting. Vice-Chairman Cllr J Whelan will take the Chair if he is available but the clerk will be very happy to hear from anyone who agrees to put their name on the reserves list!

033/19: Accounting matters.

- Accounts for Payment March 2019

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Rainford that the following invoices should be paid and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs L Baer. All were in favour.

	£
Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary March 2019	421.69
HMRC PAYE	3.80
Clerks expenses (detailed below)	85.52

Scottish Power streetlight energy 31.1.19 - 28.2.19	144.00
Jones Lighting streetlight maintenance for February 2019	132.19
SALC: 2x Audit/End of Year training 19.2.19 @ £27.00	54.00
Technochip Computers Ltd: security s/w; installation; service.	230.00
John Walker Garden Services: litter-picking/safety checks	620.00
John Walker Garden Services: Wrafton Terrace/tree removal Prees p/g	<u>410.00</u>

Total 2101.20

**Late-arriving invoice to be added:**

Technochip Computers Ltd: hard drive/external drive/installation etc 357.00

**Grand Total 2458.20**

*Clerks expenditure 14.2.19-12.3.19*

Delivery of February Agenda etc: 13 miles @ 45ppm = £5.85

Meeting at St Martins: 58 miles @ 45 ppm = £26.10

CIL training at Shirehall: 30 miles @ 45 ppm = £13.50

March 2019 BT line rental contribution = £12.50

Stamps: 4 x 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps = £2.32

Printer paper = £3.25

Printer cartridge= £20.00

Envelopes = £2.00

**Total = £85.52**

- Authorisation was given for Cllr Mrs S Short to attend Neighbourhood Planning training 26 June 2019 at the Parish Council's expense. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Finch and seconded by Cllr R Hirons.
- The clerk reported that quarterly bank reconciliations had been passed to Jonathan Smith for checking.

034/19 Correspondence

- Details of a consultation concerning the proposed changes, from September 2019, to the policy on travel assistance for SEND nursery and post-16 students, which closes 26 April 2019. Cllr R Hirons urged councillors to respond individually.
- Letter of appreciation received from Mrs Judy Gosling in response to the letter of thanks sent by the Parish Council for the sterling work of the local voluntary litter-picking group.

035/19 Items for next Agenda

- SALC news to be a regular item.

The meeting was closed at 9 pm. Next meeting: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019.

Signed.....

Date.....