

Minutes of the Prees Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19th February 2019
at 7.00 pm in Prees Village Hall.

Present were: Cllrs R Hirons; J Whelan; Mrs B Finch; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs S Short; Mrs D Foster; J Allen; R List; M Lanham; D Ladd and P Wynn. Also present were one member of the public and the clerk Mrs K Sieloff.

011/19. Public Session. There were no contributions from members of the public.

012/19. Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs L Baer and Mrs S Jones and also from PC Deb Wheeler.

013/19. Disclosure of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary Interest: there were none.

014/19. The Minutes of the full Parish Council meeting held on 15.1.19. (previously circulated) were agreed to be a true record and it was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Rainford that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs S Short. All were in favour and the Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

015/19. Actions arising from the Minutes. There were none that were not on the Agenda.

016/19 Shropshire Council Report. Cllr Wynn reported that the telecommunications mast in Mill Street, Prees has finally gone up. The lattice is green as promised but unexpectedly the antennae at the top are white. Ian Kilby of Shropshire Council has advised that the surface of the antennae cannot be painted as their operation would be affected. On the matter of recent concerns about operations at Prees Industrial Estate, Cllr Wynn reported that an illicit scrap-disposal business had proved to have no licence and had been ejected by Shropshire Council. The mattress-recycling business is still causing a nuisance to local residents: this situation has yet to be resolved. He also reported that the planning application for the installation of a wind-turbine at Sandy Lane Farm, Hillside, Prees, had been approved. Lastly Cllr Wynn assured the meeting that the expected resurfacing of Moreton Street should be done this year.

017/19: Community Policing report.

PC Deb Wheeler had supplied the following report to the Parish Council.

‘Over the last month there have been the following incidents reported within your area.

4 damage-only RTC's

1 loose dog causing injury

2 reports of suspicious persons walking in the area. Police attended and carried out area search: all was in order.

1 Small Commercial fire non suspicious: police attended to assist in traffic control.

Neighbourhood team continue to carry out regular patrols of your area.’

018/19: Planning.

Current Planning Applications

19/00167/FUL: Erection of replacement package storage building: Highbury Poultry Farm, Manor House Lane, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Highbury Poultry Farm Produce Ltd.

It was resolved to support this Application as long as it did not involve any increase in the external lighting on the site. Proposed by Cllr J Whelan and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.

19/00760/HHE: Erection of a single-storey side extension. The Grange, Darliston, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2AP. Applicant: Mr Alasdair Barne.

It was resolved to support this application. This was proposed by Cllr J Allen and seconded by Cllr R List. All were in favour.

Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council.

18/01871/FUL: Land Opposite Moreton Farm, Moreton Street, Prees, Shropshire

Proposal: Erection of two dwellings with associated access and visibility splays

Decision: Grant Permission

18/05422/OUT: 101 Twemlows Avenue, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2HD

Proposal: Outline Planning (All matters Reserved) for the creation of 2 No. dormer bungalows

Decision: Refuse

18/04646/OUT: Address: Shirlee Sajana, 40 Twemlows Avenue, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HE. Proposal: Outline application for the erection of one dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling (all matters reserved.) Decision: Grant Permission

18/04937/FUL: Address: Sandy Lane Farm, Hillside, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2EA. Proposal: Installation of a 23.8m wind turbine (31.6m to blade tip) and associated infrastructure. Decision: Grant Permission

Other planning matters:

Notification of Appeal against Shropshire Council's decision to refuse to grant planning permission (1)
Barns Adjacent Northwood House Farm, Faults, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

Description of development: Application for prior approval under Part 3, Class Q of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England)

Order 2015 for the change of use from agricultural to residential use

Application reference: 18/00258/PMBPA. Appellant's name: Mr Jason Scott

Planning Inspector ref: APP/L3245/W/18/321889. Appeal reference: 19/02694/REF

Appeal start date: 17 January 2019

Notification of Appeal against Shropshire Council's decision to refuse to grant planning permission (2)

Barns Adjacent Northwood House Farm, Faults, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

Description of development: Application for prior approval under Part 3, Class Q of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England)

Order 2015 for the change of use from agricultural to residential use

Application reference: 18/00259/PMBPA. Appellant's name: Mr Jason Scott

Planning Inspector ref: APP/L3245/W/18/321885. Appeal reference: 19/02693/REF

Appeal start date: 17 January 2019

The Parish Council noted the Appeals and had no further comment to make.

019/19 Parish and Parish Council Matters

- Parking at Prees Primary school. Cllr R Hirons reported that apparently roadside zigzags are not enforceable unless there is signage advising of their hours of operation. Clerk to write to Traffic Team to ask if the relevant signage can be erected, and also to request whether a 20 mph speed limit can be imposed outside Prees Primary School and Lower Heath Primary School.
- Smartwater update: clerk will take delivery of the signs at her house and will advise the Parish Council when they have arrived. A working party will be formed from the Parish Council, possibly supported by representatives from Smartwater, to erect the signs.
- Postbox and Prees village sign at Lacon Street/Armoury Lane were stolen last Summer. Clerk to write to Royal Mail about the postbox and to SC about the village sign.
- Concerns about Prees Industrial Estate: The Parish Council had received complaints about noise nuisance caused by the apparent re-location of the mattress recycling business to the front of the site and also, separately, concerns had been expressed by other residents about the alleged movement/disposal/burning of large amounts of waste, believed to include asbestos. The clerk reported that she had not yet received responses to letters and emails already sent to Public Protection at SC and also directly to AAT Recycling, the mattress-recycling company. She was asked to write again.
- Land and buildings at the Square, Prees village centre. SC has advised that the site is not suitable for the deployment of a Section 215 notice. Councillors expressed their frustration and exasperation about the site at The Square, which has been a thorn in the side of the Parish Council for nearly forty years. Cllr J Whelan suggested that if SC needs proof of the strength of feeling, locally, then plentiful evidence of this would be readily available. He also argued that the amenity of local residents *is* affected by the state of the site, as passers-by *can* see into it. The clerk was asked to write to Frank Whitley at SC again, to ask him to advise of any potential way forward. Cllr P Wynn to be copied in.
- Heathgates Crossroads: Cllr J Allen expressed his concern that the measures promised by SC's David Gradwell last Summer to make this crossroads safer have not been delivered. Clerk to write and enquire when they can be expected.

- Youth Shelter at Prees Cricket and Recreation Club. Cllr J Whelan explained that the Cricket Club wants to move the Youth Shelter as its current location affects the setting out of the pitch. The Parish Council resolved that it had no objection to it being moved. This was proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Foster. All were in favour.
- Domestic refuse bins: could SC provide wheelie bins for recyclable waste? Cllr J Allen suggested that a wheelie-bin for recyclable materials would stop materials from escaping and causing littering, and would be easy to instigate now that recyclable materials do not need to be sorted. Clerk asked to write to SC to make the suggestion. Clerk was also asked to write to SC to ask them to remove the fly-tipping at the Village Hall car park and to express concern about the proposed removal of public recycling facilities there which could only exacerbate the situation of irresponsible disposal of rubbish. Draft of this letter to be circulated to all the cllrs and then signed by the Chairman.
- Road-sweeping in the Parish. Cllr M Lanham expressed his concern about the recent apparent lack of road-sweeping, gully-emptying and pavement-cleansing provided by SC in the Parish and said that he was reflecting comments on social media about this matter. Narrow roadside pavements such as those in Church Street become even narrower if not regularly cleared. At this point mention was made of a local group of volunteers and also an individual who generously dedicate some of their own time and energy to contributing to the tidiness and cleanliness of the local environment, and the clerk was asked to write to them to express the Parish Council's appreciation and gratitude. Clerk was asked to write to SC to ask for details of the schedule of local road-sweeping/gully-emptying services provided by them.
- Ensuring the safety of Parish-Council-owned trees. Clerk has asked the Parish Council's insurers for advice on this matter and has been advised that it is necessary to implement a schedule of inspections, carried out by a qualified tree-surgeon. The necessary frequency of these inspections should be determined by the location/size/age of the trees and a qualified tree-surgeon could advise on this. The clerk was asked to collect quotes for an initial survey from local arboriculturalists. She reported that she had sought advice from the Trees Department at SC but had so far received no response.
- Concerns about flooding on Mill Street by the new footpath. The clerk reported that she had again contacted Environmental Maintenance at SC to enquire about the progress on sorting this issue. She had been told that it was likely that the developers had caused damage to the drainage system and that this was being followed up by SC.
- Community-led building development. Representatives from the Parish Council have been invited to meet Tim Shrosbree and members of Parish Councils who have been through the process of a Community-led Development at St Martin's near Oswestry on Thursday 28th February 2019. There will also be a chance to walk around and see what St Martin's has achieved.
- Rabbit problem at Higher Heath playground. The Parish Council has been approached by a resident who would tackle the rabbits with ferrets and nets and would not seek remuneration. Clerk was asked to furnish that person with an authorising letter from the Parish Council when she is given his details.
- Vehicle-speed monitors. Clerk reported that she had received some responses from other clerks to her enquiry about which VAS monitors they had purchased, or were considering purchasing. She will share those with Cllr D Ladd and they will report back to the Parish Council.

020/19: Accounting matters.

- Accounts for Payment February 2019

	£
Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary February 2019	421.69
HMRC PAYE	3.80
Clerks expenses (detailed below)	20.67
Scottish Power streetlight energy 31.12.18-31.1.19	159.38

Jones Lighting streetlight maintenance for January 2019	170.86
Annual charge from Prees Village Hall for electricity to car park lamp	<u>100.00</u>

Total £876.40

Clerks expenditure 9.1.19-13.2.19

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

February 2019 BT line rental contribution = £12.50

Stamps: 4 x 2nd class stamps = £2.32

Total = £20.67

Training authorisation (retrospective) for Cllrs Mrs S Short and Mrs D Foster to attend the Audit and Year-end training for Councillors on 19.2.19 @ a cost to the Parish Council of £27.00 each. Authorization proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour.

Receipts.

The clerk reported the receipt of £1713.70 from SP Energy Networks. This is reimbursement from SP Energy Networks for the amount that the Parish Council paid for the replacement of two streetlamps in Mill Street which had been removed and then inadvertently discarded by SP Energy Networks.

She also reported the receipt of £2,788.85 which is reclaimed VAT for the period from 1.4.17 to 31.12.18.

021/19 Correspondence

- Several residents had posted comments on the Parish Council Facebook page concerning changes they would like to see. The concerns covered a wide spectrum: road safety issues such as speeding and dangerous parking; roads in need of resurfacing; areas prone to repeated flooding such as by Prees Playground; concern about the proposed loss of the recycling facilities in the Village Hall car park; the unkempt state of some residential roads in Prees village and general littering. Some of the issues raised were ones over which the Parish Council has no jurisdiction and it is happy to pass those ones on to our Shropshire Council representative, but many of the issues are ones that exercise the Parish Council and are regularly discussed in their meetings. Residents are exhorted to read the Meeting Minutes each month to see what action is being taken and are encouraged to come along to Meetings to help the Parish Council to find workable solutions to these issues that affect all of us who live locally.
- An email from the newly-appointed Whitchurch Place Plan officer, Lucy Roberts, invites representatives of the Parish Council to a meeting to review the Whitchurch Place Plan documents. Date in late April or early May 2019 to be confirmed.
- An extensive collection of documents about CIL was received by email on the day of the meeting. Their consideration will be carried forward to the next meeting.

022/19 Items for next Agenda

- Facebook items
- CIL
- A49 junction with B5065
- 125 years of Prees Parish Council
- Pavilion at Higher Heath

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....