

Minutes of Prees Parish Council Meeting
held on 18th July 2017 at 7 pm in Prees Village Hall

Present were: Cllrs J Whelan (taking the chair in Cllr R Hirons absence); Mrs B Finch; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs S Short; Mrs D Foster; J Allen; M Lanham. Also present were Mrs K Sieloff clerk to the Council and three members of the public.

079/17 Public Session

The Agent handling Planning Application 17/02767/FUL spoke to the meeting concerning the proposed building on the land adjacent to the Dell, Shrewsbury Street, Prees. He explained that although the extant planning permission is for a two-bedroom bungalow, and the new plans are for a larger property and encroaching on land outside the development boundary, Shropshire Planning Department has intimated that the scale of the new building is fitting and that the application may be looked on favourably if substantial community benefit was offered. The Applicant has offered to contribute £13,500 Affordable Housing contribution.

Another member of the public expressed concerns about the dangers of speeding traffic on the A41, on which his house is situated. He suggested that a 40 mph speed limit, rather than the current 50 mph one, was necessary, and that the speed limit should be imposed 50 yards earlier on the road. He told the meeting that he could often not get out of his own gateway because of the dangers imposed by speeding motorbikes, cement wagons and aggregate and grain lorries. Cllr J Whelan assured the meeting that the matter would be raised with Shropshire County Highways and the West Mercia Police.

A member of the public raised a concern that 'keep clear' areas of Shrewsbury Street in the centre of Prees village are often parked on, causing problems for the bus coming through, which then has nowhere to pull in. Cllr M Lanham suggested that repeat offenders should be reported to the Police, with car registration numbers, as in his experience this has been effective.

080/17 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllrs R Hirons; Mrs S Jones; R List and P Wynn.

081/17 Co-opting of new Parish Councillors.

Mrs Lisa Baer, who will represent the Fauls Ward, and Mr David Ladd, representing Higher Heath, were both welcomed to the Council and each signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office in front of the clerk.

082/17 Disclosure of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary interests

Cllrs J Whelan; Mrs L Baer and J Allen signed disclosures.

083/17 Signing of Minutes (previously circulated.)

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 June 2017 were agreed to be a true record. Cllr M Lanham proposed that they be signed and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs D Foster. The Vice-Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

084/17 Matters Arising from the Minutes (not included in the Agenda)

There were none.

085/17 Shropshire Council Report.

Cllr P Wynn had forwarded to the clerk two emails from Ian Kilby of the Planning Dept, which Cllr J Whelan read aloud. In the emails Mr Kilby said that he had not known that some initial work had already taken place on-site, and that he understood the Applicant was still considering alternative sites. His contact for the Application was away until 24.7.18.

Cllr Wynn had also reported that he had been advised that the Community Infrastructure Levy may be discontinued and current advice was to spend any accrued funds. Cllr J Whelan asked the clerk to find out how much we currently have, for the next meeting.

086/17 Community Policing.

There was no policing report available.

087/17 Planning Matters

Current Applications:

- 17/02825/HHE: Erection of single-storey rear extension to a detached dwelling dimensions 7.6 m beyond the rear wall; 3.63m maximum height; 2.56m high to eaves. 16 Woodlands Grove, Prees Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shrops SY13 2JB. Mr and Mrs N Whitaker.

Cllr J Whelan advised that he knew this Application had already been approved, so there was no need to consider it.

- 17/02515/FUL: Erection of two-storey extension to side elevation and single-storey extension to rear elevation (amendments to previously approved 16/02075/FUL.) 3 Oakleigh, Lower Heath, Prees, Shrops.
Cllr Mrs L Baer left the room before the Council started their discussion, as she is the Applicant. On the basis that the amendments will not affect the street-scene and are not intrusive for neighbours it was decided there were no reasons to object to the Application. Cllr Mrs B Rainford proposed that the Council's support should be registered and Cllr Mrs S Short seconded this. All were in favour. *(Cllr Mrs L Baer returned to the meeting.)*
- 17/02780/OUT: Outline application for the demolition of existing dwelling and erection of three dwellings, one with attached garage, associated landscaping to include means of access. Proposed dwellings Silver Birch, Mill Lane, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shrops. Mr Carl Bell.
The Parish Council resolved to object to this Application on the grounds that it sits outside the development boundary. Cllr Mrs D Foster proposed that the Council's objection should be registered and this was seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.
- 17/02632/LBC: Demolition of the Piggery building by hand to maximise the re-use of listed materials, retaining and rebuilding the main outer wall and small outbuilding with stated reclaimed materials affecting a Grade 2 listed building. The Clock House, Sandford, Whitchurch Shropshire SY13 2AW.
It was resolved that as long as the Conservation bodies were satisfied, the Parish Council had no objection to this Application. Cllr J Whelan proposed that with this proviso support should be registered and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.
- 17/02767/FUL: Erection of a detached dwelling and single garage: formation of vehicular access and visibility splay (renewal of extant permission NS/05/00664/DET) (part retrospective.) Land adjacent to The Dell, Shrewsbury Street, Prees, Shropshire SY13 2DH.
After discussion, the Parish Council resolved to object to this Application on the grounds that the proposed building is outside the development boundary and is a large building very substantially different to the original, approved Application. It bears no relation to the original footings. Cllr Mrs D Foster proposed that the Council's objection should be registered and Cllr Mrs S Short seconded this. All were in favour.
- 17/03206/FUL : Erection of four horticultural polytunnels and associated landscaping. Holly Farm Garden Centre, Whitchurch Road, Prees SY13 2DD.
(Cllrs J Allen and J Whelan, both having an interest in this Application, left the room before it was discussed.)
Having looked at the plans the Council were of the opinion that as the polytunnels would be away from the road and out of the way, they would hardly be noticed and Mrs S Short proposed that the Council's support for the Application should be registered. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour. *(Cllrs J Allen and J Whelan returned to the meeting.)*
- 17/03146/FUL: Refurbishment of existing care home to provide enhanced care and living facilities together with extensions to provide office, kitchen, laundry and staff amenities, associated drainage and parking. Elmhurst Nursing Home, Armoury Lane, Prees.
The Parish Council could see no reason to object to this Application. Cllr J Whelan proposed that the Council's support be registered and Cllr J Allen seconded this. All were in favour.

Planning decisions received:

- 17/02102/FUL: Erection of agricultural building for hay storage and livestock. Coverside, Lower Heath, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2BT. **Permission granted.**
- 17/01649/OUT: Outline planning permission for erection of one dwelling (all matters reserved). Land adjacent to Rose Cottage, Primrose Lane, Prees, Shropshire. **Permission refused.**
- 17/01862/FUL: Erection of three-bay garage with games room/attic store above. Nutwood, Church Street, Prees, Shropshire SY13 2EE. **Permission granted.**

088/17 Parish Matters.

- Mobile phone tower, Mill St. The response to the Parish Council's formal complaint has been received and in it Planning at Shropshire Council admit their mistake, which they attribute to human error, and say that systems have been implemented to ensure this could not be repeated. They also list reasons for rejecting alternative sites in Prees. They do not uphold the Parish Council's complaint. The Parish Council was not satisfied with this decision and resolved that the clerk should write a response asking for clarification and asking that the complaint should be upheld. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs D Foster and seconded by Cllr D Ladd. All were in favour.
A letter has been sent to Clarke-Telecom, inviting the Applicants to a meeting with the Parish Council directly. We await a response.
- Diversion of footpath 46. Cllr M Lanham suggested that perhaps no more of Council's time should be spent on this matter, but that he would closely monitor how well-maintained the new route is. A member of the public indicated he had a contribution to make, and the Meeting was closed while he did so. He told the Council that he had been opposing this proposed diversion for two years and would be meeting with the Secretary of the Ramblers' Association to take the matter further. The Meeting was re-opened and the Council resolved to ask the clerk to contact Rob Purcell in Footpaths to say that it still feels aggrieved about this matter, and to suggest that further consultations are held with the Ramblers' Association and Shropshire Wildlife Trust. This was proposed by Cllr J Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford.
- Pavilion, Higher Heath. The clerk awaits the requested quotes for the associated groundworks. To be carried forward to the next meeting.
- Water spring outside Yew Tree Cottage, Fauls. Cllr J Allen reported that a spring of water is coming up through the road surface. It forms a lethal sheet of ice in Winter. Proposed by Cllr J Allen and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch that the clerk should alert Severn Trent and Highways to the problem. All were in favour.
- Village sign for Fauls. The clerk was asked to investigate costings.
- Installation of remaining Prees village sign. It was agreed that this should be sited about 20 metres North of Linford Farm on the wide verge of the A49. Clerk to liaise with Highways to sort.
- Photoshoot with Grocontinental by donated bench, Higher Heath playground. Council agreed potential dates of Wednesday 9th or Wednesday 16th August at 2.30 pm. Clerk to check with Grocontinental and Cllr R Hirons and then inform everyone of chosen date.
- Overgrown hedges on A49 by junction with B5065. Clerk to contact Highways and advise of diminished visibility at this point.
- Overgrown shrubs/hedging at Prees Village Hall car park. Clerk to contact Shropshire Council and ask to remedy.
- Additional dog-waste bin and signage is required at Higher Heath playground. Clerk to research pricing and also to ask who will empty bin?
- Mrs B Rainford reported that there is an opportunity for Prees Parish Council to head a project organised by Shropshire Wildlife Trust to celebrate the part that Prees Heath Common played in World War 1, by applying for Heritage Lottery Award funding. The area of land is actually under the auspices of Whitchurch Rural Parish Council. Initially, clerk is to research the legality of applying for funding in these circumstances. It was agreed that Whitchurch Rural would need to be consulted for their response.
- West Mercia Fire Service Consultation. Cllr J Whelan explained that it is claimed that huge savings can be made by one person overseeing the work of the Police and Fire services, and he suggested that anyone interested in the arguments for and against should consult the masses of information available on the internet. He suggested that he and Cllr Mrs L Baer (who is a part-time fire-fighter) would be able to carry this matter forward for the Parish Council.
- RoSPA report received. It was agreed that on Cllr R Hirons' return, the Playground Committee would meet to consider the report and advise the Council of required actions, if any. Clerk to liaise to find a mutually-suitable date.

089/17 Accounting matters.

- Payment of accounts. The clerk explained that she had been unable to write the cheque for Fauls PCC for £100.00 as the cheque book had unfortunately run out! This payment would have to be carried forward to the next meeting. It was proposed by Cllr M Lanham and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Short, that the remaining accounts should be paid. All were in favour.

Accounts for Payment: July 18th 2017.

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| Mrs K Sieloff Net Salary for July 2017 | £340.39 |
| HMRC July 2017 PAYE | £ 85.10 |
| Scottish Power : Electricity charges- street lighting 31.5.17-30.6.17 | £154.08 |
| Jones Lighting Ltd: monthly maintenance charge to 30.6.17 | £127.09 |
| Prees Village Hall: 3 x hirings 18/4;16/5; 20/6 2017 @ £19.00 | £58.00 |
| Chris Heath Roofing: roof works @ The Square, Prees. | £200.00 |
| Mr G Shipton: mole clearance at Higher Heath playing-field | £55.00 |
| Prees Village Hall: annual grant | £1000.00 |
| Higher Heath Village Hall: annual grant | £1000.00 |
| Fauls Village Hall : annual grant | £1000.00 |
| Prees PCC: church-yard grant | £300.00 |
| Fauls PCC:church-yard grant | £100.00 |
| North Salop Wheelers: grant | £200.00 |

total **£4619.66**

Late-arriving invoices:

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| Playsafety Ltd : RoSPA reports | £205.80 |
| Scottish Power: Pavilion, Higher Heath 29.3.17-27.6.17 | £25.83 |

GRAND TOTAL £4851.29

- The Quarterly Bank Reconciliation is ready for checking. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs D Foster and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch that these should be passed to Mr Jonathan Smith, who has kindly offered to continue this valuable service.
- Be A Better Councillor Training: September 7th 10-4 pm at The Lord Hill Hotel, Shrewsbury. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Rainford and seconded by Cllr M Lanham that the costs of Cllr Mrs D Foster attending this training should be met by the Parish Council. All were in favour.

090/17 Correspondence

- Cllr R Hirons had emailed saying he had received a letter from a resident expressing concerns about speeding traffic on Heathwood Road and would be happy to write letters to the relevant parties on his imminent return. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs D Foster and seconded by Cllr J Allen that Cllr Hirons should be asked to do so. All were in favour.

091/17 Future Agenda items:

- Houses formerly belonging to Mr Denzil Hollis at The Square, Prees.
- Fire Service Consultation.
- Possible employment of a handyman
- Concerns about traffic priorities.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Next meeting : August 15th 2017.

Signed

Date