

Minutes of the Meeting of Prees Parish Council held on Tuesday 22nd April 2021
at 7.00 pm via the video conferencing platform 'Zoom'.

Present were Cllrs R Hirons; Mrs S Short; Mrs B Finch; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs S Jones; M Lanham; and R List together with Mrs K Sieloff clerk to the Parish Council. Cllrs Mrs D Foster and D Ladd joined the meeting part-way through as indicated in the Minutes.

049/21 Public session. There were no members of the public present.

050/21 Apologies received from Cllrs Mrs L Baer; J Whelan and P Wynn. Cllr D Ladd had indicated that he would be late.

051/21 For members to disclose pecuniary or impecuniary interests. None were declared.

052/21 The Minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday March 16th 2021 had been previously circulated and were agreed to be a true record. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs S Short that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour and the Chairman signed them.

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Friday 9th April 2021 had also been previously circulated and were agreed to be a true record. Cllr Mrs B Rainford proposed that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs S Short. All were in favour. The Chairman duly signed.

053/21 Actions arising from the Minutes that are not on the Agenda. There were none.

054/21 Shropshire Council Report. Cllr P Wynn was not in attendance as he felt it would be inappropriate in this pre-Election period (known as 'purdah').

055/21 Community Policing. The following report was provided by PCSO Hannah Lister.

1 X covid breach reported in Prees- upon attendance, no breach was found.

Reports of lamping on Butterfly Conservation area – extensive foot search but no one located.

Reports of a SORN car driving around Prees, car located however was on the day being driven to scrap yard to be scrapped- advice given.

Dogs dangerously out of control incident- can we remind everyone to keep dogs on a lead and a dog is classed as dangerously out of control if it puts someone in fear for their safety (doesn't have to bite someone)

1 suspicious van reported however was reported 3 hours after the fact so was not there on our arrival, please report at the time of incident so we can deal effectively.

Reports of off-road bikes on the Butterfly Conservation- this isn't allowed, we have a great relationship with the warden and he hasn't given anyone permission to ride off road motorbikes there, please continue reporting this to us so we can educate the riders.

Parking issues at the Butterfly Conservation, drivers are blocking the path to the two houses down the bottom of the lane. We are currently working with the house owners and the warden to combat this issue.

An operation was held last Thursday at Prees Heath in regards to the motorbikes that visit. Several Bike cops from three forces attended for the operation due to community concerns and 20 Traffic Offence Reports were given out for various traffic violations. More operations will be held in the future and SNT are monitoring in the interim.

PCSO LISTER and PCSO ANDREW attended the school on Church Street on 20th April and handed out 5 parking warning tickets (4 of which moved at the time for us) we will continue to work with drivers and educate them. We are in talks with the school regarding some parent's behaviour towards us regarding the parking issues.

Still continuing patrols around the car park on Church Street and the Cricket club, no issues this month for us. I do note on the minutes about getting a light fitted in the youth pod at the Cricket Club- SNT would absolutely welcome this to try and deter any anti-social behaviour.

056/21 Planning:

Current planning applications for consultation:

21/01553/TPO: Works to 1No Beech Tree (A) 1No Scotch Pine (B) and 1No Beech Tree (C) protected by The North Shropshire District Council (Drumcote, Heathwood Road, Prees) TPO 1981.

The Maples, Heathwood Road, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2HG

Applicant: Mr Brian Caldwell.

The Parish Council resolved to support this Application. This was proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Short. All were in favour.

Amendments received to 20/05322/REM: Reserved matters pursuant to outline application ref 19/00788/OUT for the erection of 2no. detached dwellings to include appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. Land To The East Of Ballacraigne, Heathwood Road, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

Applicant: Messrs Crump

These plans were not accessible on-line. The clerk was asked to request an extension to the consultation period.

21/01215/FUL Erection of a general purpose agricultural building, three grain silos and associated access track and hardstanding. Proposed Agricultural Building, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

Applicant: T & H N Limited.

The Parish Council resolved to support this Application with the proviso that nothing was allowed to impede the Public Right of Way which runs 20 yards North of the application site. Proposed by Cllr M Lanham and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Short. All were in favour.

21/01442/FUL: Erection of extension and internal alterations. Thornleigh , Whitchurch Road, Prees, SY13 3JZ.

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Bennett.

It was resolved to support this Application. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Finch and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Short. All were in favour.

Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council:

18/05239/FUL: Address: Bridge Farm, Steel Heath, Prees Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 3LD

Proposal: Construction of an agricultural slurry lagoon, to include a cover over the lagoon in the form of a portal frame building. Decision: Refuse

21/00138/CPE: Address: Waverley , Nook Lane, Weston Under Redcastle, SY4 5LP

Proposal: Application for Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of domestic storage of an outbuilding previously classed as agricultural storage The application is made in relation to Section 191(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as the development was carried out more than 10 years ago and the use has been ongoing and uninterrupted by enforcement action.

Decision: Certificate - Lawful

21/01000/TPO: Address: 11 Birchwood Grove, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2EX

Proposal: To fell 1No. Scots Pine tree protected by The North Shropshire District Council (Prees Higher Heath No 6) TPO 1975. Decision: Withdrawn

21/00913/FUL: Address: 18 Woodlands Grove, Prees Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2JB

Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension and a porch extension to front.

Decision: Grant Permission

21/00943/FUL: Address: Caravan And Camping Site, Green Lane Farm, Green Lane, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2AH.

Proposal: Proposed use of existing camping area for both camping and siting of touring caravans and for the installation of a static caravan for use as holiday let accommodation

Decision: Grant Permission

Other planning matters

- Received for information only: 21/01804/AGR: Proposed erection of 2no containers for the drying of firewood, workshop and storage of forestry equipment. Land at Twemlows Big Wood, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Applicant: Mr Martyn Smith
- SC has confirmed that concerns about a car-breaking business operating in Twemlows Wood are being investigated and that the PC will be kept informed of progress.

057/21 Parish and Parish Council Matters.

Tree impeding footpath gateway at top of Turnpike Rise. Clerk has reported the situation to the Footpath officers at SC and has been told that someone will be out to review the situation shortly.

Playground Matters.

- Posts at HH playing-field: decision needed on replacement posts.
Various options had been considered over the last few meetings and quotations had been circulated to all cllrs. It was resolved to replace only the missing posts with similar timber ones from the most economical supplier, at a cost of £48.00 ex VAT each, including installation. This was proposed by Cllr M Lanham and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Finch. All were in favour.
- Rabbit cull at HH playing-field. Clerk reported that the gentleman conducting the rabbit cull had gained permission to hunt rabbits in the field adjacent to the playing-field and had culled a further 23. Hunting will now be postponed while there are young rabbits in the burrows.
- Prees playground: small fencing repair needed in the far corner, adjacent to the road. The clerk's offer to do this herself was accepted.
- Clerk reported that the insurance company had confirmed they would cover the cost of repairs to the damaged play equipment at Prees. This work has already been completed.

Community-led building development: Report from meeting held on 13.4.21. Members of the Project Board reported that planning permission is still awaited.

(Cllr D Ladd joined the meeting at this point.)

Noise nuisance from Industrial Estate. Cllr M Lanham reported that residents in Brades Road had reported distress caused by continual noise from a company recycling plastic windows and doors on the industrial estate. The Environment Agency had been alerted as the business is one of those monitored by that organisation. Clerk to ascertain if possible whether the Environment Agency investigated and if so, what the outcome was.

Manor House Lane: trip hazards from uneven pavement. Cllr Mrs S Jones reported that the tarmac surface of the pavement was badly broken up, just by the bus stop in Manor House Lane and she was concerned for the safety of people waiting for or alighting from the bus. Cllr Mrs Jones added that the pot-holes are very bad in Manor Place. Clerk was asked to report the two matters to Shropshire Council.

Wrafton Terrace. Update. To be carried forward.

Covid Community Heroes. Cllr Hirons reported that the PC had taken advice and found it was not permitted to award gifts to individuals and so the plans to do so had been abandoned. However, letters had been sent to all those nominated by the community, expressing the Parish Council's appreciation.

Buildings at The Square, Prees. Concern about potential hazards. Clerk reported that she had emailed Building Control, who had first promised an assessing visit in January, several times for an update, but to no avail. Clerk was asked to draft a letter of complaint, to be copied to Cllr P Wynn.

(Cllr Mrs D Foster joined the Meeting at this point.)

Housekeeping matters.

- Pot-holes at Sandford. Clerk to enquire about progress.
- Cllr M Lanham reported that the surface of Station Road is sinking badly in the area after the housing estate finishes, on the way to the Station. This has been reported to SC before. Clerk was asked to follow this up.

PC Facebook page. Cllr D Ladd reported that there had been some discussion of the traffic congestion outside Prees School at the start and end of the school day.

Traffic situation outside local schools: Cllr Mrs B Finch reported that she and the Headteacher of Prees School were meeting with Cllr Wynn at the end of the week. She mentioned that the staggered attendance currently operating is easing the situation somewhat.

Youth shelter at Prees Cricket and Recreation Club. The Club Committee is requesting the Shelter's removal as the level of littering, much of which is hazardous in nature, is unacceptable and unmanageable. Cllr Hirons suggested that the best way to consider the structure's future would be to consult local people and invite their views and this was supported by other cllrs. It was also agreed that there was the possibility of a public meeting about the matter, once the lifting of Covid restrictions allowed. Cllr Hirons suggested that items could be put in the local press to publicize the consultation, as well as posters around the village including in the shops. It could also be put on the website and on Facebook. Local organisations could be contacted and invited to respond. Cllrs Mrs S Short and Mrs B Finch offered to take on the task of organizing the consultation. The clerk was asked to circulate to all cllrs the report written previously by Cllr Mrs Short. She was also asked to organize for the Youth Shelter to be cleaned and then to have Heras fencing erected around it as a temporary measure to prevent further hazardous littering while the Youth Shelter's future was considered. She was asked to put a notice on the fencing, explaining the current action and inviting views.

Neighbourhood Fund: Clerk reported a notification received from SC of a payment of Neighbourhood Fund of £11,763.48 to be received in May. Cllr Hirons reminded the meeting that the PC needed to move forward with a productive spend of the Neighbourhood Fund monies accrued which were for the purpose of improving local infrastructure and which should benefit of much as the Parish as possible. Cllr M Lanham advised that the working group had identified three possible projects: a dedicated cycle route to Whitchurch; a facility for the young people of the village; a footpath from Prees village to the Railway Station. Cllr Lanham suggested that an initial approach to SC concerning the feasibility of the dedicated cycle route would be useful.

Cllr Hirons suggested that our Place Plan Officer, Lucy Roberts, could perhaps be invited to attend a meeting with the Working Group to help to move things forward. Clerk to action.

Local Policing Community Charter: Consultation. Parish Council to identify three local areas of concern and to state number of hours per month it would expect the SNT team to be visible in local area. (Closes 21.4.21) Clerk was asked to register the three areas of concern as being

- speeding on the A49, particularly at the weekends and by motorbikes on Thursday evenings;
- use of the Youth Shelter at the Cricket and Recreation Club from 8pm onwards;
- parking/safety of pedestrians at both primary schools at either end of the school day.

It included suggested times of most productive attendance in its response, above, as the question about how many hours per month it would expect the SNT team to be visible locally seemed a very problematic one to answer usefully.

Vehicle speed monitors. It was felt that the charges quoted by a private company for the supply and installation of the three posts to bear the vehicle speed monitors did not represent good value for money. The clerk was asked to explore whether any funding was available from the Police Commissioner.

Elections 2021. Cllr Hirons acknowledged that all those members of the Parish Council who had submitted nomination forms had been elected unopposed. Cllr Mrs Lisa Baer who had intended to stand for election but had unfortunately missed the submission date was willing to be co-opted at the May meeting. This would mean all seats on the Parish Council were filled. Polls for the election of a Councillor to represent the Electoral Division of Prees on Shropshire Council, and for a Police Commissioner, would take place on May 6th at Prees Village Hall.

A41 incident log:

- Vehicles ignoring prohibition against turning right into Twemlows Avenue. Clerk asked to report this matter to local Police.

- Emailed report received from Cllr J Whelan concerning tragic fatality of motor-cyclist on A41. To be logged.

Face to Face meetings necessary from early May. Cllr Hirons confirmed that a return to face-to-face meetings would be necessary from 7th May 2021, as a decision had been made in Parliament, despite much campaigning to the contrary, not to renew the expiring legislation allowing virtual meetings. Cllr Hirons reminded everybody to respond to the consultation which had been circulated, garnering opinion about Parish Councils' experience of meeting via conferencing platforms on-line.

The clerk reported that the subscription to Zoom had been renewed. A decision had been needed at short notice and the Chair and clerk after discussion had decided it was expedient to renew for a year as the facility can be used for any meeting that does not need to be open to the public and there is also of course the possibility of further lockdown.

Annual Parish Meeting: date to be set. The clerk reminded the Meeting that the Annual Parish Meeting usually takes place on the same evening as the Annual Parish Council Meeting. All agreed to adhering to this arrangement this year, so it was agreed the Annual Parish Meeting will follow the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 18th May 2021.

Report from the Helicopter Noise Liaison Group Meeting, attended by Cllr Mrs S Short.

The virtual meeting was held at 6.30pm. on the 16th March, 2021 Chaired by Councillor Simon Jones.

All attendees were given an update by the Station Commander. The two main subjects for note are as follows:

- RAF Shawbury had a slight increase in complaints over the last year, these had been addressed by the team at RAF Shawbury. It was felt that the increase was possibly down to individuals being "at home" more than usual. It is important to also note that it was reported to the meeting that no complaints had been received by Shropshire Council.
- The meeting was informed that the 2021 Training Programme would commence night flying on the 15th March 2021, but to balance that, we were informed that more training was now undertaken on the simulators on Base where possible.

Further information is posted regularly on the RAF Shawbury website weekly.

War Memorial Prees. Cleaning and repair is now completed and those who have passed the monument recently agree that a good job has been done so far. As had been anticipated, the cleaning process has shown up the need for repainting of the lettering at a quoted cost of £226.50. This works out at 50p per letter, which did not seem unreasonable to the Parish Council and so Cllr Hirons proposed that Masonry Renovation should be asked to complete the job it had started. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs S Short. All were in favour.

058/21 **SALC.**

- Confirmation needed of number of places on the following courses required:
 1. Planning from a Local Council Perspective: 2/16/30 June: 5-7 pm on Zoom (4 places booked provisionally)
 2. Code of Conduct: 6 September 5-7 pm on Zoom (3 places booked provisionally)

Clerk asked any cllr wishing to attend either course to send an email to her by the end of the week. Chair asked her to re-circulate the course information.

- Cllr Mrs B Rainford asked whether she should request that the A41, and the problems diversions from it caused, should be put on the Agenda for the next North Shropshire Area Committee meeting. She had that day driven through Mickley and noticed there was no signage advising the roads were not suitable for HGVs. She was asked to please do so.

059/21 Accounting Matters

Accounts for Payment April 2021

Mrs K Sieloff clerks salary April 2021	464.32
HMRC (PAYE)	3.80
Clerks expenditure 11.3.21-16.4.21 (detailed below)	27.50
Scottish Power (streetlight energy 28.2.21-31.3.21)	128.27
Groundforce Landscape Ltd (works March 2021)	168.60
Prees Village Hall	94.00
Masonry Renovation	875.00
Ray Parry Playgrounds	<u>900.00</u>
Total	2661.49

Clerk's expenditure 11.3.21-16.4.21:

April BT line rental contribution: £12.50

Stamps: 5 x 2nd class stamps @ 66p = £3.30

Mileage: 26 miles @ 45 ppm = £11.70

Total = £27.50

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Rainford that these accounts should be paid and this was seconded by Cllr R List. All were in favour.

060/21 Correspondence
None outstanding.

061/21 Items for next Agenda
• Late Summer Community Event

The meeting was closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed..... Date.....