

Minutes of Prees Parish Council Meeting  
held on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 7 pm in Prees Village Hall

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

**028/18 Public Session**

There were no contributions from members of the public.

**029/18 Apologies**

There were apologies from Cllrs Mrs S Jones; Mrs S Short; Mrs L Baer and M Lanham and also from PCSO C Hirons.

**030/18 Disclosure of Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary interests**

There were none.

**031/18 Signing of Minutes (previously circulated.)**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were agreed to be a true record. Cllr Mrs D Foster proposed that they should be signed and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Whelan. All were in favour and Cllr R Hirons duly signed the Minutes.

**032/18 Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes that were not on the Agenda.

**033/18 Shropshire Council Report.**

Cllr Wynn reported that the roadside Welcome to Prees Parish sign will not be installed until the new financial year. He agreed that there is a lamentable number of pot-holes in local roads and reported that there will be a change of contractor to tackle them in the new financial year, although massive savings in County Council spending are necessary. Shropshire County Council has £16m in funds from the Community Infrastructure Levy but it has not been decided how this will be spent. It was originally promised to local councils and Cllr Wynn said he would fight on the parish council's behalf at the forthcoming CIL meeting. He also offered to support the Parish Council's concerns about inadequate road repairs in Manor House Lane outside Highbury Poultry.

**034/18 Community Policing.**

There was no Policing report available.

**035/18 Planning Matters**

Current planning applications

- 18/01038/FUL : Erection of a replacement dwelling. Dunroamin, Wem Lane, Soulton, Wem, Shropshire. Applicant: Mr Henry Morgan.

The Parish Council resolved to support the application. This was proposed by Cllr J Whelan and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour.

Planning decisions received from Shropshire Council:

- 18/00443/TPO : To fell one Silver Birch and remove area of small trees (see plan) belonging to the North Shropshire District Council (Prees Higher Heath No 6) TPO 1975. Decision: grant permission.
- 17/05986/FUL : Erection of single storey rear extension. Marchwood, Mill Lane, Higher Heath, Whitchurch SY13 2HR. Decision: grant permission.
- 17/04806/FUL: Erection of building to house anaerobic digester. Sandy Lane Farm, Hillside, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2EA. Decision: grant permission.
- 18/00303/FUL :Erection of an agricultural silage clamp. Decision: grant permission.
- 18/00321/FUL : Erection of agricultural slurry tower/store. Fernyleas, Station Road, Prees, Shropshire SY13 2DW. Decision: grant permission.
- 17/06143/OUT: Outline application (access, layout and landscaping for consideration) for the erection of six dwellings following demolition of existing buildings; to include removal of trees. Silver Birch, Mill Lane, Higher Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire. Decision: refuse.

Other planning matters:

- With regard to the decision concerning application 18/00443/TPO the Parish Council asked Cllr Wynn to enquire whether the PCs plea that only the absolute minimum of trees should be removed had been taken into account .
- Emailed response from Peter Richards, the agent managing the planning application for the proposed residential development on Prees Industrial Estate (17/05815/FUL) to Parish Council's concerns about the ongoing maintenance of the proposed Public Open Space included in the designs. Mr Richards advised that the inclusion of Public Open Space is a policy requirement detailed in Shropshire Council's Housing Policy. He advised that the management and maintenance of the area in the Industrial Estate development design would be the responsibility of the home-owners as a collective. A management company would be set up, to which each homeowner would be party, and they would pay an annual fee to meet the costs of management and maintenance of the area.
- Extraordinary Meeting of Parish Council held on March 15th 2018 to consider the following applications:

1. 18/00258/PMBPA : 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. The Piggery, Northwood House Farm, Fauls, Shrops. Applicant : Mr Jason Scott.

2. 18/0259/PMBPA : 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. Barns adjacent to Northwood House Farm, Fauls, Shrops. Applicant: Mr Jason Scott.

The two Applications were considered together. Several members of the public spoke in opposition to the Application. There were no reports available from the Highways, Drainage or Ecology departments of Shropshire Council and there was unresolved controversy about whether or not the buildings had been used for solely agricultural purposes during the designated periods. In the circumstances the Parish Council felt unable to support the Application and it was resolved that the clerk should register its objection. This was proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr J Allen. All were in favour.

3. An Amendment to planning application 17/05815/FUL (the proposed development at the Industrial Estate) was also considered. This was for the erection of a soil bund topped with an acoustic fence, along the back perimeter of the site. This was greeted with approval from the Parish Council, as it was a modification that it had itself suggested. The clerk was asked to register the Parish Council's support for the Amendment. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Finch and seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.

### **036/18 Parish Matters**

#### **Continuing concerns about the use of local roads for cycle-races.**

Cllr R Hirons advised that responses had been received from Ms Victoria Doran Highways Manager and Mr Ian Connolly, Traffic Management Advisor and Highways Events Coordinator. Ms Doran advised that she has no jurisdiction over the cycling events and so is not in a position to comment on them, but suggested that cyclists seen behaving unlawfully should be reported to the Police. Mr Connolly advised that in the case of time trials there is no legislation in place where the Police can object to or stop an event from taking place, unless a specific safety issue is witnessed on the day. He reminded the Parish Council that the Liverpool District CTT Committee is planning to have earlier start times for weekend events to avoid the busier times of traffic.

#### **Concerns about safety at Heathgates Crossroads.**

The clerk reported that she had so far received no reply to her email to Highways asking for a meeting. Clerk asked to chase up her email.

#### **Continuing concerns about speeding traffic on B5065 and A49 at Prees Green.**

The clerk reported that she has so far only received an acknowledgement of her email to the Safer Roads partnership. She was asked to put the matter of the Five Road-Safety Priorities for the Parish on the next Agenda.

#### **Local Footpath 46.**

In an email Cllr M Lanham noted that the diversion of this footpath was now being formalised in accordance with the informal agreement made last year. He said that this diversion which is a full kilometre in length is exceptionally long and will hopefully set no precedent. He also commented that the fees paid by the

applicant were considerable so hopefully this will deter others. The route will be walked by the Prees Walking Group in April to check that it is properly sign-posted and accessible. Cllr R Hirons expressed gratitude on behalf of the parish council for Cllr Lanham's efforts on this matter.

### **Battles Over celebrations 2018.**

A letter had been received from Mrs Deborah Sadler, Head of Lower Heath Primary School, requesting that the school should be involved in the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War in November of this year. It is hoped that the Parish Council will be able to organise the lighting of a bonfire or beacon at a location as yet to be decided on. Cllr J Whelan offered to get the ball rolling by obtaining a quote for the manufacture of a suitable fire-basket. Cllrs Mrs D Foster, Mrs B Finch and R Hirons all offered to help in any way required. The idea is that the parish council will just organise the beacon and will not involve itself in the provision of any refreshment. Cllr P Wynn said he would update Lower Heath School on the plans and Cllr Mrs B Finch will do the same at Prees School.

### **Dilapidated building near corner of Turnpike Rise on Shrewsbury Street.**

Cllr Mrs B Finch reported that the dangerous window facing onto the footpath has been made safe, apparently by a member of the owner's family. Cllr Finch advised that the side of the building, which is open to access and has stairs in view, still forms a considerable hazard. Clerk to follow up with Building Control.

### **Dilapidated state of Croydon House, Shrewsbury Street.**

Cllr J Allen reported that the back wall supporting the roof is breaking down and will surely lead to a dangerous situation. Clerk to follow up with Building Control who had asked to be kept advised if the state of this building further deteriorated, after their investigation last year.

### **037/18 Parish Council Matters**

#### **Local Road Safety Competition.**

This item to be carried forward to the next Agenda. Cllr R Hirons reported that PCSO Chris Hirons was planning input with local schools.

#### **Boundary at the back of Press playground.**

Clerk reported that she had written to the residents of Nos 3 and 4 Harvern Gardens, as requested, but had so far received no response. She also reported that she had met with John Walker to discuss with him the job of tidying up the hedging and trees currently forming a boundary of sorts at the bottom of the garden of No 4, and this task is now completed.

#### **Pavilion demolition: update.**

The clerk reported that the Pavilion is now empty and ready for demolition. The keys have been handed to Hopwoods Builders.

#### **Influencing development through Community-led planning**

A reminder of the meeting to be held to discuss the way forward, on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7pm in Prees Village Hall.

Parish Website domain has been renewed for another year at a cost of just under £20.00. Clerk has paid this and requested reimbursement when hard-copy of the invoice and receipt is obtained. It was proposed by Cllr J Whelan that the clerk should be reimbursed on production of this paperwork and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour.

#### **Should Prees Parish Council have a Facebook page?**

Cllr D Ladd suggested that this might be an effective way of communicating with younger members of the parish. Clerk asked to contact other clerks whose councils are known to use Facebook to enquire about the benefits/draw-backs.

#### **Funding of Prees War Memorial maintenance.**

Cllr J Whelan reiterated that the maintenance of the War Memorial is the Parish Council's responsibility and he expressed the Parish Council's gratitude to the team of volunteers led by Mrs Sally Pearson who do such a wonderful job of maintaining the Memorial and its surrounding garden. He confirmed that there is an annual sum of £200.00 in the Parish Council budget for the War Memorial.

Training opportunities from SALC.

- Cllr Mrs D Foster seeks the Parish Council’s approval to attend Planning from a Local Perspective with Andrea Pellegram at Lord Hill Hotel, Shrewsbury, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018
- Cllr D Ladd expressed an interest in attending training about Social Media with Gordon Fong at Shirehall 18th June 2018 but will check his work diary before committing himself.  
It was resolved that both training sessions could be attended at the Parish Council’s expense.  
Proposed by Cllr Mrs B Rainford and seconded by Cllr J Allen. All were in favour.

**038/18 Accounting matters.**

Payment of accounts for March 2018

Cllr Mrs D Foster proposed and Cllr R List seconded that the following accounts should be paid. All were in favour.

Mrs K Sieloff: clerk’s salary March 2018	£340.39
HMRC PAYE payment March 2018	£85.10
Clerk’s expenses detailed below	£281.18
Scottish Power : Electricity charges- street lighting 31.1.18-28.2.18	£143.84
Jones Lighting streetlight maintenance (January 2018)	£127.09
Jones Lighting streetlight maintenance (February 2018)	£127.09
Caloo Ltd (repairs at Prees Playground)	£1515.00
SALC three training sessions @£22.00 + one @ £25.00	£91.00

**Total** £2710.69

Clerk’s expenses 15/2/18 – 14/3/18

Delivery of Feb mins/agenda= 13 miles @ 45p per mile=£5.85

47x 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps @ 56p = £2.24

2 x printer paper = £7.24

Additional mileage (emptying of Pav) 63 miles @ 45p per mile = £28.35

BT line rental contribution @ £12.50 per month back-dated to September 2016 (19 months)= £237.50

**Total = £281.18**

**039/18 Future Agenda items**

- Five priorities for local road safety
- Consider traffic speed-indicators
- Update on Mobile Phone mast in Mill Street
- Missing street lamps in Mill Street.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Next meeting April 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

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