

Minutes of Prees Parish Council Meeting  
held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 at 7 pm in Prees Village Hall

Present were: Cllrs R Hirons (Chairman); J Whelan (Vice-Chairman); Mrs B Finch; Mrs B Rainford; Mrs S Jones; M Lanham; J Smith; P Gill and P Wynn. Also present were Mrs K Sieloff clerk to the Council and two members of the Public.

Apologies: Cllrs R List; B Collins; J Allen; Mrs S Short.

Declarations: there were none.

**024/17 Public Session**

Concerning Planning Application 16/04040/REM, for which permission has been granted, a member of the public spoke of the grave reservations and concerns he has for pedestrian safety if the proposed development goes ahead.

**025/17 Minutes of the previous meeting (circulated previously.)**

The Minutes were agreed to be a true record. Cllr Mrs B Rainford proposed that they should be signed and Cllr Mrs B Finch seconded the proposal. All were in favour and the Chairman signed the Minutes.

**026/17 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- Lighteach Road Streetlamp nuisance. Cllr M Lanham reported that he had received a note from Mr and Mrs Wainwright of Lighteach Road expressing their gratitude to him for his efforts on their behalf and telling him that a satisfactory solution to their issues with the invasive streetlamp had at last been found: Jones Lighting engineers had been persuaded to reposition the lamp so that the glare of the light fell more towards the road.
- Manor Place streetlamps. The clerk reported that she had heard from Nicki Young that the request that Manor Place streetlamps be alight all night could unfortunately not be actioned until early April.

**027/17 Shropshire Council Report by Cllr P Wynn**

- Moreton Street: Cllr Wynn confirmed that there will be a delay before the road is resurfaced as Shropshire Council says the road must have time to 'settle' after the recent drainage works.
- B5605 Road Closure, Lower Heath: Cllr Wynn regretted the further extension to the work and reported that so far he had heard of no route for affected businesses to claim compensation. He said he would pursue the matter. (Clerk was asked by the Council to write and formally express its concerns to Cllr Wynn about the contractor's delays in completing the work and the way the road closure has been effected, leading to traffic-safety issues and lack of support for businesses, and also requesting details of a process of compensation. To be copied to Mr Andy Wilde and Ms Victoria Doran of Shropshire Council.)
- Cllr Wynn expressed his disappointment at the decision to permit the Manor Place development at Higher Heath.

**028/17 Community Policing.**

No officer available this evening, but PCSO Chris Hirons sent a report, which the clerk read aloud. The following is a precis.

- PCSO Hirons reported that since his last report there had been 5 recorded crimes - one assault; three thefts by deception and one vehicle crime.
- In Higher Heath there are regular reports of 'door knockers' aiming to make unsolicited sales of cleaning products, etc, and PCSO Hirons asks that all steps possible are taken to encourage neighbours to check on each other and open lines of communication in case support is needed at any time.
- There have been several incidents of fallen trees and it may be a timely reminder for residents to check any trees on their land for dead trees or branches that may be a particular risk during high winds.
- When reporting suspicious vehicles it is helpful if the make and model of the car is included, as well as the registration number, in case the registration is slightly inaccurate.

- National Arson Awareness week brought reminders to secure wheelie bins away from buildings; to ensure rubbish is not allowed to mount up inside buildings; and to keep flammable liquids stored in secure metal containers.

## 029/17 Planning

### Current Planning Applications.

- **Planning 17/00731/FUL:** Erection of first floor extension to form upper floor along with new external insulated brickwork leaf, new roof and alterations to door/window opening and chimney. Erection of sun room and porch. Charnwood, Lacon Street, Prees SY13 2EP. Mr A and Mrs D Baldock.  
The Council noted that although the extended bungalow would occupy the same footprint, the proposed plans make this a substantial house. The Council debated whether the existence of dormer bungalows opposite would mean that the proposed building would look more in place in the street scene which is comprised of bungalows than would otherwise have been the case. It was a close decision among the Councillors: the Chairman made use of his casting vote and the decision was to approve the Application, proposed by Cllr R Hirons and seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford.
- **17/00660/FUL:** Amendments received to proposed erection of two-storey office, storage, workshop and garage. 2 St Chads Cottages, Primrose Lane, Prees.  
Cllr R Hirons proposed that the Application be noted, but no further comments added, and this was seconded by Cllr J Whelan. All were in favour.
- **17/01021/FUL:** Conversion of existing outbuilding to provide accommodation for a disabled family-member. The Firs, Prees Green, SY13 2BP. Mrs G Cooper-Dykes.  
The Council could see no reason to object to this Application. Cllr P Gill proposed that the Council's support for it should be registered and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour.
- **17/01059/FUL:** Erection of single-storey rear extension. 8 Moreton Street, Prees, SY13 2EF. Mr M and Mrs K Arthur.  
The Council could see no reason to object to this Application. Cllr Mrs S Jones proposed that the Council's support for it should be registered and this was seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.
- **17/01295/HHE:** Erection of single-storey rear extension to provide dressing-room, extended bedroom, snug and extended kitchen/dining area. 30 Twemlows Avenue, Higher Heath, SY13 2HE.  
The Council could see no reason to object to this Application. Cllr M Lanham proposed that the Council's support for it should be registered. Cllr P Gill seconded this proposal. All were in favour.

Planning decisions received:

### 16/04040/REM:

- **16/03940:** Erection of industrial unit to be used as a training/teaching centre. New industrial building, Sandford Industrial Estate, Sandford, Shropshire. *Permission granted.*
- **17/00311/FUL:** Erection of conservatory to side elevation. Woodside, Lacon Street, Prees. *Permission granted.*
- **16/04040/REM:** Reserved Matters (Appearance, Landscape, Layout and Scale) pursuant to Outline Planning Permission 14/01877/OUT for the erection of thirteen dwellings and the formation of estate roads. Land to the North of Station Road, Prees. *Permission granted.*  
The Parish Council was dismayed that this Application was granted permission, because of serious concerns about the road safety issues involved. Whilst recognising that it had no ability to appeal the decision, the Parish Council felt that it had a responsibility to express its deep-rooted reservations about it. It was decided that the clerk should draft a letter to Mr Ian Kilby, head of Planning at Shropshire Council, putting on record the Council's concerns. This was proposed by Cllr P Gill and seconded by Cllr J Whelan. All were in favour.
- **16/05468/FUL :** Erection of single-storey extension to front elevation. Thornleigh, Whitchurch Road, Prees, SY13 3JZ. *Permission granted.*
- **17/00203/FUL:** Erection of single-storey rear extension to existing conservatory. Cape House, Painters Lane, Fauls SY13 2AT. *Permission granted.*
- **16/05551/FUL:** Covered collecting yard in association with new milking parlour. Millenheath, Sandford, SY13 2HX. *Permission granted.*

- **17/00176/FUL:** Erection of two-storey side extension following demolition of existing. 3 Mickley Cottages, Mickley, Tern Hill, Shropshire. *Permission granted.*
- **16/02528/FUL:** Erection of three dwellings with associated access, parking and garden areas following demolition of a garage building and shed. Garage at rear of The Old Constable House, Shrewsbury Street, Prees. *Permission granted.*

Cllr J Whelan told the Meeting that an important document from Heritage, opposing this Application, had been omitted from the planning officer's report. Cllr P Gill proposed that Cllr P Wynn should be asked to take this up with Planning at Shropshire Council, and Cllr Mrs B Rainford seconded this. All were in favour.

### 030/17 Parish Matters.

- Moreton Street update : this matter was dealt with in Cllr Wynn's report.
- Changes to waste collection arrangements. Cllr Mrs S Short was unable to attend the meeting, so this item to be carried forward.
- Congregational Church: concerns about upkeep of churchyard and gardens. Cllr Mrs S Jones proposed that the clerk should write to the owner of the church relaying concerns about the area's unkempt state. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford and all were in favour.

### 031/17 Parish Council Matters

- **Environmental Maintenance Grant.** After discussion Cllr M Lanham proposed that an application for a grant be made to cover the cost of the thrice-yearly mowing of the area at the end of Whitchurch Road and an annual tidy-up of the lime trees and the area in which they stand. Cllr P Gill seconded the proposal and all were in favour.
- **Expiry of Clerk's probationary period.** The clerk's probationary period has been completed. Cllr Mrs B Rainford proposed that the clerk should be asked to remain in post and Cllr M Lanham seconded this proposal. All were in favour. The clerk accepted the offer with pleasure.
- **Clerk's request to attend training:** Training for Clerks: The Knowledge Part 2, April 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 at Shirehall, Shrewsbury. Cllr R Hirons proposed that the clerk attend the training at the Parish Council's expense and this was seconded by Cllr P Gill. All were in favour.
- **Annual Parish Meeting.** It was decided that the date for the Annual Parish Meeting will be set at the Annual Parish Council Meeting which is to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017.
- **Review of Local Plan Consultation.** Cllrs R Hirons and J Whelan reported that they had waded through the huge wad of paper and completed the consultation document! As agreed they had indicated in it the Parish Council's preference for keeping major development near current centres and they had taken issue with Shropshire Council's desire to remove development boundaries, while supporting the idea of a *review* of the current boundaries.
- **CIL funding.** It was decided to carry this item forward to the May meeting.
- Clerk to book Taj Mahal Spice for Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7 pm for an end of term meal for all Councillors who wish to attend. Clerk will prompt when final total of those attending is required.

### 032/17 Playing field Higher Heath.

- Future of the Pavilion. The public meeting held to discuss the future of the Pavilion was extremely poorly-attended and despite sustained broadcasting of the matter no suggestions have been heard for a viable future for the building. Therefore Cllr R Hirons proposed that the Pavilion should be demolished and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs B Rainford. All were in favour. The clerk was asked to put arrangements in motion, first checking that Hopwoods, the building company who will do the demolition work, intend to remove the base of the building and also that they have a plan for dealing with the septic tank.
- A letter has been received advising the Council that dog waste is causing a problem to the users of Higher Heath playground: some owners are not cleaning up after their dogs. It was noted by the Cllrs that there is currently only one dog-waste bin on the playing-field and little signage to remind dog-owners of their obligations. Clerk to research bins and signage, and it was suggested that the cost of providing these items could be included in the Environmental Maintenance Grant application.

**033/17 Accounting matters.**

Cllr Mrs S Jones proposed that the following invoices should be paid and Cllr Mrs B Rainford seconded the proposal. All were in favour.

**Accounts for payment: March 21<sup>st</sup> 2017**

Mrs K Sieloff: clerk’s salary March 2017	£419.43
Scottish Power : Electricity charges- street lighting	£143.74
Jones Lighting Ltd: monthly maintenance charge and repairs	£627.60
SALC: Elections training for two delegates (RH/KS) 17.2.17	£44.00
Technochip Computers: new laptop	£1008.00

**Total £2242.77**

*Late-arriving invoices*

Garden Services litter-picking and safety checks ( Higher Heath = £360.00 Prees = £260.00)	£620.00
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Garden Services pruning of Lime trees and clearing £460.00 Pruning shrubs Wrafton Terrace and tidying £275.00	£735.00
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GRAND TOTAL **£3597.77**

Quarterly Bank Reconciliation: Cllr J Smith returned the documents and declared himself satisfied with the records he had checked. Cllr R Hirons thanked him for taking on this task again.

The clerk brought up the need for an internal audit and it was agreed that she should contact the internal auditor who has been used by the Council for the past few years and engage him for the task. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs B Rainford and seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.

**.034/17 Correspondence**

- A41 Sandford : Proposed Speed Limit Feasibility Report March 2017. The Parish Council wholeheartedly supports this proposal. In addition it is of the opinion that where the B5065 joins the A41, there should be no option for traffic to turn right. Similarly it feels that if there was no right turn into B5065 from A41, road safety would be greatly enhanced. Cllr R Hirons proposed that the clerk should write and invite Mr David Gradwell from Shropshire Council to come and discuss this matter on-site, after the elections are over in May. Cllr J Whelan seconded the proposal and all were in favour.
- The clerk had received information about the new non-discretionary NJC pay-scales (agreed by NALC and SLCC) to be implemented from April 2017 for Council employees including clerks. The clerk had yet to peruse the details. Cllr Mrs B Rainford proposed that the new pay-scale be implemented as necessary and this was seconded by Cllr M Lanham. All were in favour.

**035/17 Future Agenda items**

- Prees playground: steps up to slide to be replaced?

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Date of next meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Signed .....

Date .....