

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PRESTON CAPES PARISH COUNCIL  
held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

<b>Present:</b>	Dixie Hughes (DH)	Chairman & Highways Warden
	Bill Dearn (BD)	Vice Chairman & Finances Reviewer
	Sophia Maddison (SM)	Councillor
	David Cox (DC)	Councillor & Tree Warden
	Rosie Mansfield	Councillor
	Scilla Smith (CS)	Councillor
	Richard Shires	Councillor
	Gary Denby (GD)	Parish Clerk & RFO
<b>Public:</b>	Tom & Caroline Slay (TS)	

**Welcome and any announcements from the Chair**

DH welcomed members of the public and councillors to the meeting.

**1. Apologies received**

Cllr Rupert Frost (DDC)

**2. Receive minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

The meeting minutes were approved as an accurate record, proposed by SM, seconded by RS and approved by all present, signed by the Chairman; RM declared an interest in 10.1 (ponds) and 12.1 should read the reason as being not online, having no email.

**3. Public time – None.**

**4. Councillor declaration of interest in the following agenda items - None**

**5. Matters arising from the minutes**

- 5.1 Ref 5.1: DDC requires completion of their Register of Interests form. Received from RS, to be forwarded by **GD**.
- 5.2 Ref 5.2: Sign-off form drafted for BD to use upon use of council's litter picking equipment. This will benefit from inclusion of a contact phone number (to ease chasing) **GD**. BD reported that no equipment has been loaned out to date.
- 5.3 Ref 5.3: Citizens Advice Bureau 'Summer 19 Service' A4 posters have been distributed.
- 5.4 Ref 6.1: NCC consultation on their Rights of Way Improvement Plan (to 9<sup>th</sup> Sep): Roger Elkin has kindly reviewed this on behalf of the Parish Council, forwarded to councillors on 25 Sept. The following is an extract:-

*The scene is set by the opening sentence "...we are required to prepare, publish and review a ROW Improvement Plan every ten years"...*

*Parish Path Wardens are a valuable, locally based and cost effective asset. They are the 'eyes and ears' for all issues that affect the Rights of Way network in their area. The Parish Path Warden scheme remains active with 194 wardens in place and a dozen new inductions over the past year...*

*Whilst most members of the public consider the countryside and its services and facilities to be important, over and above the statutory requirement, Rights Of Way have seldom,*

*if ever been considered a high County priority. Since being absorbed into the Highways department, itself then outsourced to 'GWSP' now 'KierWSP', the service has been subjected to a reduction policy which has halved the number of customer support staff and negatively impacted the services provided...*

*The future structure of the new Northamptonshire Local Authorities and their associated delivery and support structures including Rights of Way has yet to be decided...*

*As stated in the introduction, in the current environment non-statutory service planning is little more than visionary aspiration. It is hoped that this report is only finalised and published when these great uncertainties have been resolved.*

## **6. Correspondence**

- 6.1 26 Jul: Opportunity for councillors to attend N-CALC's AGM on Sat 5<sup>th</sup> October. It was agreed that the Clerk shall represent the Parish Council and report back **GD**.
- 6.2 8 Aug: Zurich Insurance – Local Community Advisory Service (LCAS): interactive guide available: 'Making Risk Management Simple'. It was agreed that the Clerk shall review this on behalf of the Parish Council **GD**.
- 6.3 9 Aug: Issues Consultation by local planning depts to review and replace the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy 2019-2041 (ahead of Unitary changes!) - ref Item 8 below.
- 6.4 9 Aug: PFCC - a new structure for Northamptonshire Police
- 6.5 9 Aug: Invitation to CPRE 2019 Planning Roadshow on 10<sup>t</sup> Oct at Great Houghton
- 6.6 9 Aug: N-CALC e-Update
- 6.7 9 Aug: Advance notification Cobbler Classic cycle event through village on 19<sup>th</sup> October. Councillors commented that this appears to cross the Cherwelton bridge, presently out of action. The Clerk is to contact the event organisers, if so **GD**.
- 6.8 12 Aug: N-CALC mini e-Update – New Financial Regulations 2019 – internal controls. The Clerk is to review this and bring it back as an agenda item **GD**.
- 6.9 22 Aug: DDC – resignation of Cllrs Millar and Liz Griffin from Leader & Dep leader roles
- 6.10 22 Aug: DDC notices on Transport & Mobility solutions
- 6.11 22 Aug: N-CALC mini e-Update
- 6.12 22 Aug: KierWSP (Northamptonshire Highways) – their latest news
- 6.13 22 Aug: Increases to parking fees within Northampton town centre
- 6.14 22 Aug: DDC digest on local Codes of Conduct cases (as way of examples)
- 6.15 22 Aug: Funding available for a Good Neighbour scheme (who can run it locally?)
- 6.16 22 Aug: DDC Big Switch scheme (a collective with energy savings potential)
- 6.17 22 Aug: DDC waste bin changes have increased re-cycling
- 6.18 22 Aug: DDC 'Climate Emergency' task panel bandwagon
- 6.19 30 Aug: ACRE Good Neighbours 'survival guide '
- 6.20 30 Aug: Rural Bulletin – of little interest to councillors.

## **7 Review of Parish Council Banking Provision by Lloyds Bank in Daventry**

- 7.1 Response to July 2019 letter of complaint: a £250 credit, S Foster removed.
- 7.2 Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>: Closure of the Lloyds savings account: £3,660.54 transferred
- 7.3 A mysterious notification of zero charges for use of the account, which may be a pre-amble for future bank charges. It was agreed to wait-and-see.

- 7.4 A requirement to complete another bank mandate for the Parish Clerk (not provided!). It was agreed that there is no current requirement for further contact.
- 7.5 Options for other banking providers: Unity Trust Bank (online or cheque book) £60 pa.

## **8. Report back on Issues Consultation for the West Northants Strategic Plan**

DH reported that the present Joint Core Strategy is now five years old and due for review; that a review will see it accepted as part of planning considerations until the Unitary authority gets around to its own. Thus it can protect the interests of rural parishes a while longer. With an urban-led Unitary Authority, we rural parishes might have further housing thrust upon them, if not protected by a plan.

The consultation period is 5<sup>th</sup> August to 11<sup>th</sup> October, considering issues that respondents feel should be included. The review encompasses Northampton Borough, Daventry and South Northants. **DH** plans to attend the next meeting.

## **9. Planning for use of Community Infrastructure Levy**

- 9.1 A review of Parish Council noticeboard(s): DH proposed that a new noticeboard be placed upon The Square, with the current one donated to Village Hall use. Typically £250 to £900. Weedon's noticeboard is quite attractive and lockable. It was agreed the Clerk shall forward some email details of those being advertised to him **GD**. The noticeboard at Little Preston only has glass presently to one side, after its accident, used for ad-hoc pin-up notices (little used).
- 9.2 The Parish Council is awaiting installation of the Dog Waste bins. £300 allocated from CIL and then £6.40 pw for emptying +VAT. The Clerk will chase their progress **GD**.

## **10. Planning (latest items available at [www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living))**

- 10.1 DA/2019/0671: Land Off Eydon Lane, Preston Capes: Sighting of mobile home, construction of two agricultural buildings and formation of internal tracks, parking and turning areas. Associated with sheep and calf rearing.
- TS advised that he aims to eventually build something more permanent, once the required farm worker hours is established. It is for the rearing of calves and sheep (25 per livestock trailer, four trailers per batch), perhaps 400 per year on a quarterly basis. Thus vehicular access should not be an issue. The present open field will become permeable hard standing. Sewerage from the mobile home will be piped into a septic tank. Council approved this development **GD**.
- 10.2 DA/2109/0660: Tree works and removal at The Smythy, Old Forge Lane
- 10.3 DA/2019/0649: Tree works and removal at City Cottage, Church Way
- 10.4 DA/2019/0647: Tree removal within a conservation area at The Cedars, Church Way
- 10.5 DA/2019/0577: Demolition of existing garage, replace with double garage and room above at Holly House, Old Forge Lane. This was discussed about 3 years ago and approved with conditions. This appears to be a re-submission.
- 10.6 DA/2019/0105: Two ponds at The Old Rectory, Church Way – amended app. Refused. This may be re-submitted with the removal of the urban-style drains.
- 10.7 DA/2019/0442: Remove tree within conservation area: The Wilderness, Old Forge Lane

## 11. Finances and Accounts

11.1 Ref 14.4: VAT reclaim for £235.06 submitted on 26 Aug, using old-style UB reference

11.2 Reviewed bank account statements to 31 August 2019.

11.3 Councillors considered and approved the Parish Council payments listed below, with cheques signed on behalf of the Parish Council by BD and SM:-

Description / Power	Amount	VAT	Total
P.W. Warden Environmental Services – July & August 2019 mowing	£280.00	£56.00	£336.00
Village Hall refreshments (Merchant Navy Day)	£15.00		£15.00
Gary Denby Clerk gross remuneration for August + half September (7 weeks) + Home as office expenses + Accident Report book	£235.62 £42.00 £5.99		£283.61

## 12. Councillors' Comment

12.1 BD reported that he is now regrettably away on 20<sup>th</sup> October, as previously arranged for the Autumn litter-pick. He is able to collect the loan equipment on the Friday and deliver it to SM at the Village Hall; also to return the equipment the following week.

12.2 DH asked the Clerk for a letter to distribute to those on the High Street, reminding residents to prevent foliage encroaching the footpath **GD**.

## 13. Next Meeting: General Meeting on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Meeting ended 08:12pm.

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Chairman

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Date