

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PRESTON CAPES PARISH COUNCIL
held on Tuesday 16th April 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**

Present:	Dixie Hughes (DH)	Chairman & Highways Warden
	Bill Dearn (BD)	Vice Chairman & Finances Reviewer
	Sophia Maddison (SM)	Councillor
	Scilla Smith (SS)	Councillor
	David Cox (DC)	Councillor & Tree Warden
	Gary Denby (GD)	Parish Clerk & RFO

Public: None.

Welcome and any announcements from the Chair

DH welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

1. Apologies received

Cllr Graham Stanton Cllr Rosie Mansfield (busy lambing)

2. Receive minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 19th March 2019

The meeting minutes were approved as an accurate record, proposed by DH, seconded by SM and approved by all present, signed by the Chairman.

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: Update on the training record of Parish Councillors - ongoing **GD**

5.2 Ref 5.2: DH reported that the owners, at the point where it was intended to place the speed sign, have sadly withdrawn their consent. DH felt it would be a useful deterrent.

5.3 Ref 5.3: Asset register to be update by Clerk with regards grit bins – ongoing **GD**

5.4 Ref 5.4: DC reported that permission has been sought regards a working party to reduce wild plum tree in Little Preston; now waiting for the blossom to fall.

5.5 Ref 5.5: 10 Apr: BACS remittance advise note received for £417.51 received, presumed for verges. Unknown if in our account, since still lacking a March statement.

5.6 Ref 9.1: Revised meeting dates list for 2019 (inc adjustment to APM & Oct to 3rd Tue)

5.7 Ref 7: DH thanked BD and the fifteen villagers who participated in the village's Spring Litter-pick on 14th April – a marvellous effort! Earlier dates had been requested - this was the earliest that the DDC equipment was available to us; we will in future book earlier to achieve an earlier Spring date. BD will attempt to book Sun 20th Oct 2019 and 15 Mar 2020 (avoiding Easter Sunday & Mothering Sunday).



From experience, Sundays tends to achieve a higher villager response and also have less traffic on the roads (less hazardous to pickers). BD has collected three free litter picking kits from DDC. **GD** is to check the Parish Council insurance cover for their use.

6. Correspondence

- 6.1 22 Mar: N-CALC mini Update: Street Doctor becoming Fix My Street
- 6.2 28 Mar: Available N-CALC training courses: BD is interested in the *Finance for Councillors* course at 2pm on 2nd July. Cost is £36 per N-CALC member delegate. **GD** to arrange.
- 6.3 29 Mar: N-CALC eUpdate, includes Accessibility, Fix My Street and Audit

7. Consideration of a Demand Responsive Transport trial in our area

Some villagers might be appreciative of a rural transport scheme, particularly if they are no longer able to drive themselves. The Clerk is to review it and express an interest on the costs and possible availability **GD**.

8. Planning (latest items available at www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living)

- 8.1 DA/2019/0240: Works to and removal of trees in conservation area: Forge Cottage, Old Forge Lane. Saw Mr Venton to discuss 12/2/19.
- 8.2 DA/2019/0226: Works to and removal of trees in conservation area: Holly House, Old Forge Lane.
- 8.3 DA/2019/0181: Tree felling in a conservation area – Preston Capes Village Hall with regards removal of walnut tree on road boundary. Parish Council supported.
- 8.4 DA/2019/0136: Work on trees in a conservation area – Bentree House on Old Forge Lane. Overhanging branches and pollarding – approved, 2 year limit, avoid nesting.
- 8.5 DA/2019/0105: Construction of ponds at Old Rectory, Church Way. Parish Council commented upon run-off provision.
- 8.6 DA/2019/0295: Height and crown reduction for trees at Evenlode on Church Way. It was agreed that there is nothing controversial.

9. Finances and Accounts

- 9.1 25 Feb: £1,527.80 on printed cheque account statement kindly obtained by BD.
11 Mar: £3,659.69 on printed savings account statement posted to the Clerk.
15 Apr: Notice received about the pending receipt of monies for CIL against development DA/2018/0536 (Preston Fields Farm), approved Sept 2018.
- 9.2 The RFO has completed his revision of the Parish Council accounts into a single spreadsheet, providing a running total for the accounts on a simple cash basis. This is reconciled against printed bank statements to 19 Feb 2018 (the March statement is still missing). BD kindly signed-off these draft figures to the end of year.

Whilst BD asked for printed statements through to March 2019, only a list of cleared cheques was provided for March! BD will approach the bank again in May to obtain March and April statements; also to simplify the banking arrangements if possible as discussed last month (Clerk to draft a cover letter **GD**).
- 9.3 The draft end of year figures (2018-19) were carried forward by the RFO into a revised budget sheet (version e) which includes 12 months actual figures to the end of March (awaiting the March 2019 statement and internal audit). This shows an excess income

of £74.45 with £417.51 to be added for the mowing grant (probably received); also a VAT claim to be made for £235.06 (will be shown in 2019-20 accounts).

The Parish Council is not liable for the repairs to the village hall boundary wall. However, Council might consider a grant application towards the same, supported by quotations. Alternatively, the £1,500 budgetary provision could be used to clear the reserves shortfall.

9.4 P.M. Warden Environmental Services was reported as having completed a satisfactory first mowing for 2019 just prior to the end of March. His invoice awaits payment.

9.5 The following invoices were initialled and cheques signed on behalf of the Parish Council by SM and BD:-

Description / Power	Amount	VAT	Total
Village Hall hire Q2, Q3, Q4 11.5 hours @ £10/hr	£115.00		£115.00
P.W. Warden Environmental Services – March 2019 mowing	£140.00	£28.00	£168.00
Gary Denby Clerk gross remuneration for Apr 2019 (4 weeks) + Home as office expenses	£134.64 £24.00		£158.64

10. Councillors' Comments

10.1 Dog fouling is becoming an issue again, with black bags in the hedge on the 'Top Path' within the village. Perhaps, with there being a few new dog owners in the village, this could be added to next month's agenda?

10.2 BD should be able to collect the three hoops for the litter picking bags this week.

11. Next Meetings

11.1 Tuesday 21st May 2019 - Annual General Meeting (elect Chairman, sign-off accounts)

11.2 Wednesday 22nd May – Annual Parish Meeting (receive reports to villagers)

Meeting ended at 8:20 pm.

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Chairman

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Date