

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF PRESTBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, PRESTBURY

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018 at 7.30pm**

**Present: Councillors:** V. Herbert (Acting Chair), L. Burns (minute taker), D. Foden. J. Hallowell, M. Leather, T. Jackson, K. Podmore

**Also present:** Cheshire East Councillor P. Findlow  
 Representing Prestbury Bowling Club: David Hawkins, John Clough  
 Members of Prestbury Amenity Society: Gabor Bartos, Irene Bradbury-Jones, Pat Hawkins and John Rose

Item		
	Meeting opened at 7.30pm.	
<b>78</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	
	Cllrs J. Martin (chairman), G. Clewley, A. Dicken, S. Kirk, K. Miles	
<b>79</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b>	
	Cllr. Jackson (Village Hall trustee) Cllr. M. Leather (Shirleys leaseholder)	
<b>80</b>	<b>Public participation</b>	
	<p>David Hawkins, on behalf of Prestbury Bowling Club, explained that the club, located at the back of the Village Hall and founded in 2000, had been granted planning permission with a proviso that there was parking for it. The Village Hall trustees had given permission for their parking area to be used but they had now asked the bowling club to find an alternative. Bowlers were mainly Prestbury residents. For some, walking any distance with heavy bowls would not be feasible. Also, the club had a number of disabled users. It needed parking to survive. There had been initial discussions with The Shirleys representatives and it was thought that it may be possible to have access to the Abbey Mill development. The bowling club felt that it ought to be feasible to work out a solution and were looking for the support of the Parish Council.</p> <p>In response to questions from Cllr. Podmore, Mr. Hawkins also explained that the Village Hall had been very successful and there were parking problems at times. Tuesday mornings were the most critical and also some Thursdays when there were bowling matches. The (public) Shirleys car park was also often full. In response to a question from Cllr. Hallowell, Mr. Hawkins explained that the Methodist Church also had parking problems.</p> <p>Cllr. Jackson explained that, in order to help the bowling club to become established, Village Hall trustees had agreed it could use the Village Hall car park for 15 years. A period of 18 years had now elapsed. In that time, the hall had become very busy and the car park often overcrowded. She pointed out that a green space owned by the Parish Council had the potential to be used for parking but there were access problems. Cllr. Burns suggested that the Parish Council should meet up and discuss the issue on site. This was agreed.</p>	VH

	<p>Gabor Bartos explained that there were several people new to the village who had joined the Amenity Society. The fabric of the village used to be properly maintained and the roads were cleaned. He wondered if there was a way of residents getting proper value for the Council tax they paid. He had already been in touch with Cllr. Findlow who was trying to help. He said that the people present would like to make more of community areas and offered to help.</p> <p>Cllr. Leather explained that all Cheshire East Council's cleaning services had moved to Middlewich. Prestbury P.C. had remonstrated with the principal authority about the move and the sparse street cleaning programme – only once a year for some areas of the parish outside of the centre and not on main roads. The P.C. had written to the portfolio holder, Don Stockton. When they finally received a response, it was not a satisfactory one. The P.C. did want to meet up with the principal authority on this matter face to face. Mr. Bartos explained that Poynton had carried out some work themselves and sent the bill to CEC. He said the bill had been paid. He drew attention particularly to the footpath on Castle Hill which he described as slippery, dirty and in need of attention.</p> <p>Cllr. Herbert explained that there were about 40 individuals in the village who had volunteered to help with tidying up/ cleaning type work, but it was very spasmodic. Cllr. Jackson commented that the scouts and guides used to clean the street name signs. She wondered whether they would be allowed to do that any longer.</p> <p>Cllr Findlow said there was no funding for signs. CEC officers had said that members of the public would be allowed to clean signs if they completed a short health and safety course. He offered to try and facilitate a meeting via Paul Traynor, the senior officer responsible.</p> <p>Cllr Findlow and Cllr. Leather also resolved to raise the issue at the CEC highways meeting due to take place the following week which they would both be attending and it was agreed that the Amenity Society members would meet up with Cllr. Herbert, who had responsibility on the P.C. for organising volunteer help.</p>	<p>PF ML VH</p>
<p><b>81</b></p>	<p><b>To approve the minutes of last meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018</b></p>	
	<p>Cllr Burns pointed out that an amendment made to her minutes had lapsed into the first person and needed to be corrected. The penultimate paragraph of 69 needed to be amended to the third person to read “ ..for no extra charge until <u>its</u> insurance came for renewal this autumn. This addresses the recommendation by the auditors due to the high reserves in the bank account and covers <u>the Council</u> for any theft by paid staff”.</p> <p>Cllr. Leather pointed out that ‘Councillors’ was mis-spelt later in the same paragraph and also, under the same heading, (previous para.), she pointed out that it was Cllr. Martin who had asked for the termination of the broadband package and not Cllr. Podmore as stated.</p>	

	<p>Cllr. Hallowell pointed out that, in paragraph one under item 66, it was erroneously stated that speed awareness courses cost members of the public eight pounds. This should be eighty pounds.</p> <p>Cllr. Findlow asked for a correction under the same item (public participation) in the following paragraph. He suggested that "<i>on Heybridge Lane</i>" be removed. The actual instances in Prestbury were at Spencer Cottage on Spencer Brook and Cloverdale on Chelford Road but it was not essential to record this.</p> <p>Proposed (with amendments agreed) by Cllr. Hallowell  Seconded by Cllr Jackson  Six in favour, one abstention.</p>	
<b>82</b>	<b>Clerk's report</b>	
	The report was accepted without comment.	
<b>83</b>	<b>Accounts for payment and financial matters</b>	
	<p>Cllr Podmore explained that the Virgin Media account was on a 90-day notice. Once it ended, there would be no official Parish Council telephone line in addition to there being no official address. He and Cllr. Martin were exploring having the telephone line and post diverted to one of their homes.</p> <p>The invoice for nurseryman David Ross (held over from last month for clarification) was agreed.</p> <p>Reconciliations for the winter and summer events were awaited from Cllr. Miles.</p> <p>The bank balance at July 30<sup>th</sup> 2018 was 143,504 pounds, 4 pence.</p> <p>Cllr. Leather proposed acceptance of the accounts  Seconded by Cllr. Burns  All in favour.</p> <p>Under the agenda sub heading of 'parish assets', Cllr. Podmore explained that there was a printer, retrieved from the Clerk, which was not working. It was agreed that it would be written off and disposed of.</p> <p>Also, under the same sub-heading, Cllr. Podmore asked for help with updating the asset register. The job was shared out as follows:  Office equipment – Cllr. Martin  Seating and litter bins – Cllr. Jackson  Signs – Cllr. Herbert  Noticeboards – Cllr. Burns  Playground – Cllr. Foden  Items in the Council Chamber – Cllrs. Podmore and Hallowell  Items stored in barn at Cllr Miles' home (believed to include gazebos, lighting and hi-viz jackets) – Cllr. Miles</p> <p>Cllr Podmore also asked for help with establishing when rent claims were sent out. Cllr. Leather agreed to help with this item.</p>	<p>JM  KP</p> <p>KM</p> <p>KP</p> <p>JM  TJ  VH  LB  DF  KP &amp; JH  KM</p> <p>ML</p>

	<p>Following on from the initial point she raised at the last Parish Council meeting, Cllr. Leather emphasised the importance of protecting the public money held by the Parish Council in the event of a bank collapse. The government have committed to covering any individual account to the tune of 85,000 pounds. Cllr. Leather strongly felt that the Parish Council money should be divided between two (or three) accounts as necessary. Cllr. Burns supported her in this contention. Cllr. Leather was asked to explore what was involved further.</p>	ML
<b>84</b>	<b>To receive reports from the Planning Committee meetings on 11<sup>th</sup> July &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> August</b>	
	<p>The reports of the meetings were accepted.</p> <p>Cllr. Podmore explained that the Cloverdale application had been called in and Cllr. Findlow explained that the Dale Brow Cottage application had been withdrawn and the Spencer Cottage one had been altered from 10 apartments to seven houses (some three storey). The latter was to be considered on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Prestbury Parish Council planning committee meeting..</p> <p>Cllr. Findlow gave pre-warning of the publication of the CEC Local Plan Site Allocations document the following week – to be discussed at the Strategic Planning Board meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup>. He said that Prestbury’s allocation of houses was down to ‘about 50’. And he explained that a utility services survey was due to be undertaken at the Bridge Green junction with New Road within the next few days and there was to be a lining renewal on Castle Hill.</p> <p>There had been some hold up regarding works at Prestbury Tennis Club in the CEC legal department. Cllr. Foden reported that some preparatory work had now been carried out.</p> <p>A request was made for Cllr Dicken to return to membership of the Planning Committee, however the advice from Cllr Burns that this must be an agenda item for the next meeting was accepted; no vote was taken on the matter.</p>	VH
<b>85</b>	<b>Playground inspection</b>	
	<p>The playground was inspected on July 24<sup>th</sup>, the bill for which was 250 pounds + VAT. The fee was a little higher than expected but there had been some urgency to the job as the Council needed a safety certificate. Cllr. Leather had found a company that could do the inspection next year for 66 pounds, 50 pence.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllrs. Herbert and Foden would meet up at the playground to consider what this year’s inspection report had to say and report back. There was also a need to obtain a quote for a missing ‘springy’ item of play equipment.</p>	VH DF
<b>86</b>	<b>To consider the location of the village Christmas tree</b>	
	<p>Cllr. Leather explained that a bench had to be removed each year in order to position the village Christmas tree where it had been erected previously. She made various other suggestions for siting a Christmas tree or for dressing a tree in Parrott’s field. She also had some alternative thoughts instead of</p>	

	<p>stringing lights across the main street and pointed out that some of the Christmas illuminations that can be fitted to lampposts are less weighty than used to be the case. Cllr. Leather was due to meet with a representative from Blachere Illuminations on the following day. It was agreed that Cllr Jackson would accompany her and the two would report back to the next meeting. Post meeting note – this meeting was cancelled by Blachere.</p>	<p>ML TJ</p>
<b>87</b>	<b>Update on toilet block site/ car park planning application 17/2260M</b>	
	<p>Cllr. Podmore informed the Council that he had been notified of the release of planning conditions on the toilet block site and he had also received consent for the notices relating to the car park. The final number of signs will be no more than four and they will be black and white - in keeping with the village centre. Also, the car park lining will be white. The entrance will be cobbled. Other landscaping would be delayed.</p> <p>Contributions from businesses which had been confirmed were:  The new Bridge Hotel company - 15,000 pounds over two or three years  John Griffiths Physiotherapy - 20,000 pounds over five years  Cheshire East Council – Five thousand pounds  Friends of Prestbury – Three thousand, five hundred pounds</p> <p>Manchester Airport were to be asked for a grant of three thousand pounds.</p> <p>Everything was now in place to progress the scheme, which would go ahead.</p> <p>In response to a question from Cllr. Leather, Cllr Podmore said he had no idea what had happened to the signs which the Council paid for to be placed on the walls of businesses prepared to offer toilet facilities to members of the public.</p>	<p>KP</p>
<b>88</b>	<b>Remit and salary for the vacant position of Parish Council Clerk</b>	
	<p>A paper had been circulated in advance which had been signed up to by Cllrs. Herbert and Dicken but not by the third member of the working group looking at the Clerk's remit, Cllr. Burns. This was discussed and varied views expressed. Cllr. Leather asked that, whatever hours were agreed, the Clerk be required to complete an hours return so that a check could be kept on how much work was actually being undertaken. Cllr. Burns requested that the job description made it clear that regular training was part of the job (paid for by the Parish Council).</p> <p>At the end of a long discussion, Cllr. Herbert put the proposition that the job should be advertised at 18 hours per week on a salary scale of between 20 and 25, dependent on experience.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. Herbert  Seconded by Cllr. Hallowell</p> <p>Four for. Three against. Motion carried.</p>	<p>VH</p>
<b>89</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<p>ChALC had issued an invitation on behalf of CEC for each Parish Council to send a representative to a meeting about the distribution of the New Homes Bonus to be held at Sandbach Town Hall on the evening of September 3<sup>rd</sup>.</p>	

	Cllr. Burns explained that she would be there – but as a representative of the ChALC Board. It was agreed that either Cllr. Leather or Cllr. Herbert would represent the Parish Council.	ML or VH
	The meeting concluded at about 10.30 p.m.	