

Preston Brook Parish Council

**MINUTES OF PRESTON BROOK ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 6:00PM ON FRIDAY 24 MAY 2024 (ADJOURNED FROM 14 MAY) AT PRESTON
BROOK VILLAGE HALL, SANDY LANE, PRESTON BROOK, CHESHIRE, WA7 3AW.**

Members Present:

A Price, J Walton, C Murray, K Dainty, M Marlow.

Also Present:

Luke Trevaskis - Proper Officer, and 3 members of the public.

1. Election of a Chairman

Cllr Alan Price was duly elected Chairman for the Civic Year 2024-2025.

2. Election of a Vice Chairman

Cllr Jay Walton was duly elected Vice Chairman for the Civic Year 2024-2025.

3. Apologies

Cllrs Lauren Sanders

4. Declarations

Cllr A Price - Preston Brook Village Hall

3. Minutes

The minutes of the prior meeting were approved.

4. Police

Members noted that there had not been a report received from the Police.

5. Minutes

It was resolved that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as a true record.

6. Public Realm

Members noted the works that a contractor of Halton Borough Council would be undertaking within the public realm. This work would include improvements to areas as highlighted in the October 2023 minutes. This work would be resourced for specific projects by the earmarked sum received by Halton Borough Council for the Tannery hosing development. The Land Charges team at Halton has confirmed that (despite the published documents saying otherwise) the Tannery housing development was not subject to a S106 agreement. Members were reminded that the monies originally believed to be S106 monies were in fact not S106

monies and the developer paid Halton council £22,299.75 for the provision of open space in the borough of Halton. The payment was transferred to the council's open space department for open space provision/landscaping works within the vicinity of the development site, the Chester Road area, Preston Brook. It is this sum that will fund the improvement works that Preston Brook Parish Council has requested.

Members asked the PO to clarify the position on weed spraying within the Parish, and obtain a service level specification so residents can understand what to expect in terms of grass cutting, weed spraying, and street cleansing.

7. Village Hall

The Council noted that it had made several attempts to further progress a new way of working with the Village Hall, with the main aim of reducing its financial burden, and the risks to individual trustees. Members agreed that if no appetite existed amongst the trustees to change the status quo, then the Council should focus its efforts elsewhere. The PO will write to the Village Hall.

8. Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Management Scheme

These documents were deferred pending revisions.

9. Planning - members noted the Parish Council's recent application to undertake works on the Horse Chestnut Tree at the entrance to Bridgewater Grange. The Council will remind residents to comment on the application should they wish to make representations.

10. Ward Councillor Report - none received.

11. Conservation Status / Neighbourhood Plan - it was noted that some further evidence was expected from local museums. It was agreed that this should be included in the Area Appraisal (either within the main body of the document, or as an appendix). It was also noted that endorsement letters have been obtained from Halton Heritage, and Cheshire Local History Group (members to forward to the PO).

12. Next Meetings

It was noted that the next meetings of the Council would be held on:

Tuesday 25 June 2024 at 8.30pm
Tuesday 23 July 2024 at 8.30pm
Tuesday 24 September 2024 at 8.30pm
Tuesday 22 October 2024 at 8.30pm
Tuesday 26 November 2024 at 8.30pm

Signed as a true record

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Chairperson