

Preston Brook Parish Council

**MINUTES OF PRESTON BROOK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD at 8:30PM ON MONDAY 23 JANUARY 2023 AT PRESTON BROOK VILLAGE HALL,
SANDY LANE, PRESTON BROOK, CHESHIRE, WA7 3AW.**

Members Present

L. Sanders (Chairman), A. Price, J. Walton, C. Murray, and G. Littler

Also Present:

Luke Trevaskis - Proper Officer

Five members of the public

Ward Cllr Martha Lloyd-Jones

Meeting opened at 8.33pm

1. **Apologies** – received from Cllr M Marlow and P Bolton.
2. **Declarations** – none.
3. **Police** – the Council noted the recent report.
4. **Minutes** - RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as a true record.
5. **Co-Option** - the Council noted no applications had been received for co-option.
6. **Public Realm**

- It was noted that some issues still existed in the parish that were recorded in the Parish Plan of 2005, with little action being taken to address these matters before the current administration of the Council.

- A representative of Halton BC agreed to make enquiries regarding the boulders for opposite the Spar.

- A request for additional planting on Bridgewater Green was approved, with a budget of £400 delegated to the PO to facilitate.

- It was noted that Halton BC may require some form of community consultation to evidence the spend required for the S106 monies (this could be on site or online via social media / website).

7. Village Hall

- It was noted that the Village Hall Committee had not met since the PC's last meeting.
- It was resolved that the PC would cover all legal fees regarding the transfer of the administration of the trust to the Parish Council as sole trustee. The Council resolved to delegate this matter to the PO to contract professional services to facilitate the process.
- It was noted that there would be a vacancy for a Village Hall Manager in the future to process the bookings of the facility.

8. Highways

- The Council noted that a number of FOIs had been submitted to Halton BC.
- The Council agreed to request the SID be moved to Preston on the Hill.
- The Council noted that the Area Forum of Halton BC may be able to provide some funding towards the purchase of a second SID. The Council noted the full cost of a SID was approximately £6K, and funding from the Area Forum may cover £2K. A representative of Halton BC was present and agreed to make further enquiries.

9. Communication

- The Council agreed to hold surgeries in the new financial year, preferably during half terms in the Village Hall. It was agreed that at least two councillors would be present for each and residents could attend to raise any issues they wished. The surgeries would be advertised in the newsletter.
- The Council noted the content for the next newsletter was due to be completed by the end of February.

10. Finance

- The Council approved Quarter 3 Finance Report.
- The Council considered the budget and precept report and agreed to set the budget for 2023-2024 at £30,870.80, with a precept levy of £32,908.68
- A grant of £4,779.00 had been requested from a user group of the Village Hall. The Council deferred the matter to the next meeting.

11. Planning

- Planning Application 22/00635/FULTEL - no objection.
- Planning Application 23/00001/PRIOR - no objection.
- Planning Application 23/00007/LBC - no objection, members expressed support.
- Conservation Status - an update on prior planning applications was provided (Summer Farm and Chester Road). Planning Application 22/00493/OUT was still pending. Planning Application 22/00203/FUL was still pending.
- An update was provided on the Conservation Status and it was agreed a letter would be sent to local representatives to notify them of the Council's ambitions to achieve Conservation Status.

12. Ward Councillor Report - Ward Cllr Martha Lloyd-Jones advised there were no issues to report, other than concerns regarding planning applications.

13. Public Forum -

- A representative of Halton BC agreed to collect some further information on matters raised during the meeting and report back to the Council.

14. Next Meetings

The Council agreed to meet on the 27 February and 27 March at 8:30pm.

Signed as a true record

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Chairperson