

Preston Brook Parish Council

MINUTES OF PRESTON BROOK PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD at 7:30pm ON TUESDAY 20th JULY 2021 AT PRESTON BROOK VILLAGE HALL

Opened at 7.35pm

Part 1

Members Present

M.Marlow (in the Chair), G.Littler, J.Walton

Also present:

Clerk to the Council

C Wyna

Public

There was one member of public present

1. **Apologies** – Apologies from L.Sanders (training), P.Bolton (work)
2. **Declarations** – There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Police Report** – PCSO Bromley provided an update to the Clerk who updated that there had been an incident at the Premier Inn. It was also reported by A.Price of the increased presence across Windmill Lane of blue light vehicles which was followed up to which advice was that this was a possible training route (siren training). This is being investigated.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting of 15 June 2021 be accepted as a true record. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Marlow and seconded by Cllr Walton.
5. **To consider and approve co-option of Mr Alan Price**
Clerk had submitted email received from Alan Price in advance of the meeting. A.Price verbally presented his submission and interest in joining the council and of the skills that could be brought onboard. Following some discussion it was AGREED by all to co-opt Alan Price to the council.
6. **Financial Report**
 - a) **Receipts** – None received
 - b) **Payments approved**
 - C.Wyna – Salary - £320.22
 - HMRC - £74.40
 - C.Wyna - £25.00 – Reimbursement for vouchers
 - P.Bolton - £170.00 – Retrospective approval for rockery work. Cllr Littler advised that this had been approved at a previous meeting. Clerk to check notes and advise.
 - CHALC - £25.00 – Training costs

Balance of account - £35,920.80

c) To approve the annual accounts for 2020/21 for submission to external auditor

The Clerk had circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no comments or questions raised and it was AGREED by all present.

7. Planning

a) 21/00355/TPO – Proposed work to tree T8, Pine, of TPO17 to reduce lower branches back to the boundary to reduce shading and stand clear of adjacent property at Tannery Farm Cottage, Chester Road, Preston Brook

Following some discussion there were no objections to the application from the parish council but it was to be noted that the applicant wasn't in attendance so limited information was available with the application being deferred to Halton BC for final decision.

8. Signage

a) To discuss signage at Chester Road (A56) and at junction of Windmill Lane and other maintenance related works

Cllr Walton raised on the amount of signage on A56 with a majority of the signage being industrial/commercial related and too close together which also increased the traffic turning onto Windmill Lane (WML). The layby on WML is used by HGVs for parking. It was questioned whether this could be removed or relocated after the WML turning. The WML street sign also need replacing. It was also questioned whether a new fingerpost sign could be introduced in this area to maintain the old village feel and if we could adopt an industrial precept to businesses which would contribute towards village realm maintenance.

It was also reported that the street sign at WML needs replacing.

9. Correspondence

a) To consider and approve/reject renewal of CCA membership at cost of £50

Following some discussion it was AGREED to renew. This would prove beneficial as part of the potential transfer of village hall to the parish council.

10. Urgent items

There were no urgent items for consideration. A number of additional items were raised in discussion for action including

a) MM requested update on the copier – Clerk updated that account manager advised contract was due to expire end August with nil cost impact but awaiting confirmation

b) MM asked whether we could request the trimming of tree/hedging at entrance to B.Grange at railings – Clerk to report to Halton BC

c) Clerk updated on the website/email changes – costs to be emailed to Cllrs for consideration

d) List of assets & responsibilities to be provided as part of handover to the new clerk

e) Councillors are to further consider training opportunities and Clerk will organise

f) Tree survey – Clerk advised that the tree survey cannot be completed by Halton BC due to a conflict of interest as it is subject to a TPO. Costs to be obtained by an independent specialist and circulated to Cllrs for approval

g) MM suggested an informal meeting in August of Cllrs with consideration of a Whatsapp group being created

h) GL noted thanks to Paul Lloyd, Lisa Bolton and Sandra Littler for their support in the planted

rockery formation at the junction of Sandy Lane with Gorsewell Lane. Numerous positive comments have been received.

11. Public forum

There were no items raised other than participation in discussions (allowed) throughout the meeting.

12. Next meeting

- Date and time of next meeting being Tuesday 21st September 2021 at 7:30pm.
- Meeting closed at 8:50pm

13. Exclusion of Public and Press

Part 2

Items of a “confidential or other special nature” during which it is likely that the meeting will not be open to the public and press as there would be a disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Signed as a true record

.....

**Councillor M Marlow
Vice Chairperson**