

# Preston Brook Parish Council

**MINUTES OF PRESTON BROOK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD at 7:00PM ON FRIDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2022 AT PRESTON BROOK VILLAGE HALL,  
SANDY LANE, PRESTON BROOK, CHESHIRE, WA7 3AW.**

## **Members Present**

L. Sanders, M. Marlow, A. Price, J. Walton, C. Murray, and P. Bolton

## **Also Present:**

Luke Trevaskis - Proper Officer

Four members of the public

Meeting opened at 7.09pm

1. **Apologies** – received from Cllr G Littler.
2. **Declarations** – Cllr J Walton declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.
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 HBC had installed the bench at the top of Hill Top. However, the boulders were still to be delivered.
- It was noted that HBC had confirmed that a sum of £22,299.75 S106 monies is held for parish projects and that this could be spent on land owned by Preston Brook Parish Council. The Council resolved to split this some between projects to improve the heritage and aesthetic of the area. The Council approved for projects to be summarised in a document to HBC to include the land entering Bridgewater Grange, the plot of land in the centre of Aston Green, the entrance to Windmill Lane, and the corner triangle at the top of Hilltop Road.

## **7. Village Hall**

- The Council approved a budget of £1,000.00 to be accommodated in the next budget to fund any legal fees associated with the transfer of Preston Brook Village Hall.

## **8. Highways**

- The Council considered the quote from a highways consultant to provide additional data that could support the authority's efforts in reducing speeds and controlling the flow of traffic. The Council agreed to ask that the quote be split into smaller work parcels, particularly focusing on Chester Road.

## 9. Communication

- The Council agreed to ensure all content for the newsletter was received by 25 November 2022 and that an approach be made to the History Group and the WI.
- It was agreed to refer to each further newsletter as 'edition x', as opposed to the current seasonal reference, in case any delays in production were experienced.
- Members noted that they continued to receive positive feedback about recent newsletters and wished to retain the same quality moving forward.

## 10. Finance

- The Council received Month 7 finance report.
- The Council had preliminary discussions about next year's budget and noted that the parishes precept had historically been below the national average. The ambitions of the current administration were discussed and this indicated that more resource may be required in the future to fund projects that would enhance Preston Brook and help to protect the area for generations to come. The Council outlined the below sums that may be required in the new budget, for further discussion at the next meeting.

Public Realm - £5,000.00

Planning / Legal - £5,000.00

Reserves - £10,000.00

Coronation Event - £5,000.00

## 11. Planning

- Planning Application 22/00541/FUL - no objection.
- Planning Application 22/00564/FUL - the Council noted its support for this proposal.
- Planning Application 22/00572/FUL - no objection.
- Conservation Status - the Council approved to meet remotely on 29 November 2022 at 7pm to further progress the Conservation Status process, noting this would be coordinated with the officer at Cheshire West and Cheshire Council responsible for providing heritage advice to Halton Borough Council.

**12. Ward Councillor Report** - none received.

## 13. Public Forum -

- Some questions were raised regarding the Conservation Area Status and residents seemed positive that action was being taken to protect the heritage of Preston Brook.
- A resident advised they were currently researching community solar power funding and grants for cavity wall insulation.
- A resident was provided with an update as to what speed enforcement had been undertaken by Cheshire Police.
- Borough councillor attendance was discussed, and a resident advised they had not received the data that a ward councillor had agreed to provide following their door-to-door petition.

- A planning application for Summer's Farm was also discussed and it was advised the application was within the boundary of a current garden, as opposed to within the green belt.
- It was noted that two bollards had been removed at the top of Hill Top Road. PO will contact Highways and ask that these be replaced.

#### **14. Next Meetings**

23 January 2023, 27 February 2023, 27 March 2023.

**Signed as a true record**

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**Chairperson**