

PRESTON BROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PRESTON BROOK ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8:30PM ON TUESDAY 22 JULY 2025 AT PRESTON BROOK VILLAGE HALL, SANDY LANE, PRESTON BROOK, CHESHIRE, WA7 3AW.

Members Present:

A Price, J Walton, C Murray, K Dainty, L Hewliett, L Sanders, P Bolton.

Also Present:

Luke Trevaskis - Proper Officer, and 2 members of the public, and Ward Councillor Martha Lloyd-Jones.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declarations

Cllr Kerry Dainty and Cllr Liam Hewlett noted an interest in the proposal for future partnership working with Heatherfield Heritage, and the Chester Road Development (Planning Application 22/00203/FUL) for 136 Homes.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the prior meeting were approved.

5. Police

The meeting was joined by PCSO Georgia Griffiths.

It was noted that any reports made to Crime Stoppers UK (which is anonymous) get passed to the Police.

It was understood the SID would be moving back to Chester Road.

There had been a request submitted from Dutton for Speed Watch.

It was noted that a person had been camping under the bridge - as it is on a private road, there is no enforcement powers.

It was noted that Tagmaster had been successful in some parts.

It was noted the Chief Constable was recruiting more Police Constables. But there will be no further recruitment of PCSOs in Runcorn (there are currently four).

The PCSO advised they could arrange a bike marking event in the Village Hall if it would be of benefit to the community.

6. Public Realm

Members noted the new Bridgewater Grange contractor would be commencing work over summer.

Members noted the locations for the planters had been submitted to Halton BC and the Spar.

Members suggested additional littering signs be placed throughout the Parish.

The PO agreed to chase up the gateway signage.

7. Finance

The Council approved Q1 accounts, and bank reconciliation.

The Council noted that the period of rights for the public inspection of the FY2425 accounts would be 1 July - 11 August.

The Council noted it would be changing its website hosting provider once all digital assets had been migrated, to ensure compliance with requirements for [.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) registrations.

The Council approved for new signatories (Cllr Alan Price, Cllr Kerry Dainty, and Cllr Liam Hewlitt) to be added to the bank mandate with online access to view bank accounts, and authorise payments

8. Planning

Members considered the Planning Application (25/00252/ADV) for a illuminated totem sign at the Spar and agreed with the draft content, to submit a strong objection to the application, noting the significant number of objections that had been raised in the Parish.

Members noted an update regarding Planning Application 25/00107/OUT (94 Dwellings at Hilltop Farm) and agreed to submit an objection once all documentation had been provided by the developer. The Council resolved that the engagement of a planning expert would be delegated to the PO, in line with the budget, and any other experts such as a highways consultant, or drainage consultant regarding water discharge into the Canal and Brook. Members also noted they would have welcomed a pre app discussion regarding this proposal. Members were keen to ensure there would be a traffic regulation order (to reduce speed limit) accompany this development if it proceeds, on both Windmill Lane, Barker Hollow Lane, and Chester Road.

Members also noted it may be worthwhile to inspect the S106 Agreements in Daresbury and Tannery to see if PBPC could access any funds.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

The Council requested some traction on these meetings, and the PO advised a proposed schedule of meetings would be circulated.

The Council was awaiting area confirmation from Halton BC.

10. **Ward Councillor Report** - Cllr Martha Walsh agreed to chase Halton BC re outstanding matters.

11. **250th Anniversary of the Bridgewater Canal** - members received an update on event progressions, which have subsequently been postponed.

12. Next Meetings

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

23 September 2025 at 8.30pm

13. Public Forum

Residents raised no further concerns that had not already been discussed during the meeting.

14. Exclusion of Press and Public

The Council resolved that, in accordance with Section of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following business.

15. Assets

Members agreed the outcomes as recorded in the Confidential Report accompanying this minute.

16. Staffing Matter

Members agreed the outcomes as recorded in the Confidential Report accompanying this minute.

Signed as a true record

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Chairperson