PRESHUTE PARISH COUNCIL 1 - 2023/24

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** held on the 22nd May 2023 at 7.45pm at the Manton Village Hall.

**Present:**  Cllr S Mills, Cllr I Wroth, Cllr J Penn & Cllr J Clark.

**In attendance**: Miss S Roberts (Clerk), Sally Johnson and 2 parishioners.

Cllr Simon Mills in the absence of Peter Morgan and in his capacity as Vice Chair opened the meeting.

1. **Election of Chair**
* Cllr Simon Mills was elected as Chair. ***Cllr I Wroth proposed, Cllr J Penn seconded.***
1. **To receive apologies for absence**
* Cllr P Morgan, Cllr H Wroth & Unitary Cllr Jane Davies sent apologies.
1. **Co-option**
* Sally Johnson was co-opted onto the Council and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Proper Officer.
1. **Declarations of Acceptance of Office**
* All councillors were reminded of the requirement to register their disclosable pecuniary interests and (if applicable) those of their spouse/civil partner/person with whom they are co-habiting as if they were their spouse or civil partner. This must take place within 28 days of the member’s appointment.
* Cllr S Mills signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Proper Officer.

1. **To receive declarations of interests**
* Cllr Sally Johnson declared an interest in the planning application PL/2023/03372, item 10.
1. **Election of Vice Chair**
* Cllr J Clark was elected as Vice Chair. ***Cllr S Mills proposed, Cllr I Wroth seconded.***

1. **Appointments to other positions:**
* **Planning Committee:** All Councillors
* **Rights of Way:** Cllr S Mills & Cllr S Johnson
* **Traffic/Police:** Cllr I Wroth
* **Community Emergency:** TBC
* **Communications/Press:** Cllr S Mills & Cllr J Clark
* **Marlborough Area Board:** Cllrs agreed to rotate
* **Covid Copse Working Group:** Cllrs S Mills, Cllr J Clark, Cllr S Johnson &

 Ian Mellor (not present, TBC)

1. **Clerk’s Report**
* **Ash Tree at Clatford Crossroads**

The Ash Tree at Clatford Crossroads has Ash dieback and will sadly need to be felled.

* **Dog fouling on PRES12**

Wiltshire Council Rights of Way have kindly supplied signage to be erected on PRES12 to encourage dog walkers to pick up after their dogs.

* Cllr P Morgan attended the last LHFIG meeting and agreed the amount of £275 as the Preshute Parish Council liability for the proposed 40mph speed limit on part of Frees Avenue. The Council noted the issues of speeding at this location were getting worse and asked the Clerk if it would be possible to request a speeding checks by the Police. **Action Clerk.**

Cllr Johnson raised the issue of the footpath leading off the golf course onto Frees Avenue being on a bank, the Rights of Way representatives agreed to discuss the issue to see if a satisfactory solution could be found. **Action Cllr S Johnson & Cllr S Mills.**

1. **Minutes of the previous meetings**
* The minutes of the meetings held on 20th March 2023 was approved unanimously and signed as a true record.
1. **Planning**
* **PL/2023/03372** - Replacement of existing outbuildings with new ancillary and incidental accommodation – Lexbury House, Manton Road, Clatford, SN8 4EB.

Cllr Sally Johnson stepped back from the meeting.

The Council discussed the application and considered whether the proposed changes following withdrawal of the previous application would make the application acceptable. Although not unanimous, the Council resolved to raise ***no objection but would like to see a condition that the proposed new dwelling is and remains ancillary to Lexbury House.***

1. **Rights of Way**
* PRES 18, footpath south of Manton Copse & PRES34 at the Manton Drove cow sheds – both have been referred to the Wiltshire Council Countryside Officer for guidance and clarification due to one being blocked and the other does not appear to link up with other paths.
* Overhanging tree by the bus stop – the Council resolved to replace the tree to be felled at some point but for it not to necessarily be a commemorative tree.
1. **Trees of Remembrance**
* The plaque for the commemorative tree at Clatford crossroads will be ordered soon and a Sarsen stone to attach it to has been sourced. **Action I Wroth**
* The Council agreed Temple would be a suitable location for the planting of a tree to mark the Coronation, provided it was planted next to a footpath and the landowner is willing to water it. The tree will be planted in the Autumn.
1. **Covid Copse**
* Covid Copse – the group need to meet to discuss locations and future care of the trees with landowners and consider sourcing the trees from the Woodland Trust.
1. **Finance**
* The accounts for the year to 31 March 2023:

Balance carried forward from last year: £10401.87

Total receipts for the year to March 2023: £4137.38

Total payments for the year to March 2023: £5502.11

The available (cash book) balance on 31 March 2023: £9037.14

* All councillors were reminded of their need to inform the Monitoring Office of any gifts over £25.
* The Clerk confirmed she did not expect her annual income to be above the current tax threshold for PAYE.
* The Clerk will shortly be submitting the accounts to the internal auditor, Graham Kitchen.
* The Council reviewed the Asset Register.
* The following retrospective BACS payments were approved:

Wessex Woodland – Copper beech – revised invoice £285.00

S Roberts – Salary April 2023

* The following BACS payments were approved:

S Roberts – salary May 2023

S Roberts – expenses Apr/May 2023

WALC – Membership 2023/24 £63.55

1. **Agenda items for the next meeting**
* Year End Accounts & AGAR
* Risk Assesment
* Standing Orders
* Policy Document reviews
* Dates of meetings for 2024

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

This is the last page of the minutes.

#### PLEASE NOTE

## The date of the next full Council meeting is Wednesday 28th June 2023.

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