PRESHUTE PARISH COUNCIL 2 - 2023/24

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 28th June 2023 at 7.15pm at the Manton Village Hall.

**Present:**  Cllr J Clark, Cllr H Wroth, Cllr I Wroth, Cllr J Penn, Cllr P Morgan & Cllr S Johnson.

**In attendance**: Miss S Roberts (Clerk)

**Public Participation** – there were no members of the public present.

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
* Cllr S Mills & Unitary Cllr Jane Davies sent apologies.

1. **To receive declarations of interests**
* None
1. **Items to be taken in private session**
* None

1. **Minutes of the previous meetings**
* The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting and Annual meeting of the Council held on 22nd May 2023 was approved unanimously and signed as a true record.
1. **Clerk’s Report**
* The Clerk has put in a request to Wiltshire Police for a traffic speed check on Frees Avenue.
1. **Traffic**
* The Council agreed to support the proposal to recommence efforts to improve road safety along the A4 in collaboration with neighbouring Parish Councils.
1. **Rights of Way**
* The footpath leading off the golf course onto Frees Avenue is 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. **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 Oak Tree to mark the passing of the late HRH Queen Elizabeth II has been ordered. 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

1. The Council received and noted the annual internal audit report 2022/23
2. The Council approved & completed the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23
3. The Council approved & completed the Accounting Statements 2022/23
4. The RFO announced the commencement date of the exercise of public rights as 3rd July 2023.
5. The Council confirmed the Parish Council is exempt from External Audit for 2022/23 and meets the following criteria:

Total gross income and total gross expenditure below £25K; and no public interest report/statutory recommendation/advisory notice/judicial review/application to court re unlawful item of account issued by its external auditor in the prior year; and been in existence since before 1/4/2014.

1. The Council approved the following payments:

S Roberts – Salary June

S Roberts – Expenses June – July 2023

G Kitchen – Internal Audit £100.00

Idverde – Bin West Manton emptying Jan-June 22 £54.60

CPRE – membership 2023/24 £60.00

1. The Council reviewed and confirmed that the Risk Assessment for 2022/23 is complete.
2. **Electoral Review**
* The Council considered a request made to the Electoral Review Committee in 2019 to consider a possible boundary change to merge Preshute Parish Council with Kennet Valley Parish Council.

The Council resolved unanimously to remain independent and withdraw the request. **Action Clerk to respond.**

1. **Agenda items for the next meeting**
* Standing Orders
* Policy Document reviews
* Dates of meetings for 2024

The meeting closed at 8.30pm. This is the last page of the minutes.

#### PLEASE NOTE

## The date of the next full Council meeting is Monday 11th September 2023.

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