PRESHUTE PARISH COUNCIL 5 - 2023/24

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 30th January 2024 at 6.30pm at the Manton Village Hall.

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

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

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

1. **To receive apologies for absence**

* Cllr J Clark, Cllr S Johnson & 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 meeting of the Council held on 13th November 2023 was approved unanimously and signed as a true record.

1. **Clerk’s report & report from Unitary Councillor Jane Davies**

* Parish Steward Scheme – the Parish Steward is due to visit Preshute on 22nd February. A list of jobs the Parish Steward is able to carry out had been circulated prior to the meeting and all councillors present were reminded to pass on details of any jobs for him. **Action All Councillors**
* Police Parish Council Update –The Clerk attended this informative meeting on 8th January which was an opportunity for the local police to advise on their current priorities and who is working in our area. They are keen to be more visible within the communities and are alternating different villages to have a presence, especially where a request for support has been made. They are hosting several drop-in sessions which are detailed in the quarterly newsletter which was circulated earlier this month, the next one is at Waitrose Café on 5th February.
* Youth Network Meeting –The Clerk attended this meeting on 10th January. The Network has been set up to improve what’s on offer for mainly the secondary school age group and what can be done to support them. The next meeting will be mid February and the Clerk will provide a report for the March PC meeting.
* Unitary Cllr Jane Davies was unable to attend the meeting but wished to encourage councillors to attend the Wiltshire Council Webinar on 2nd February outlining their budget plans for 2024/25.

1. **Traffic**

* Discretionary Gully Service – a timetable and request form has been issued by Wiltshire Council. The Council are going to add the grips and drains leading from Westwoods to the bridge passed Clatford Crossroads to the list with a priority on the area by the Clatford Bridge, which is prone to flooding. **Action Cllr S Mills**
* Flooding following Storm Henk – the Council is not aware of any properties being flooded in the Parish as a result of the excessive rainfall. The bridge at Clatford Crossroads was submerged but flooding was fairly quick to subside.
* Councillors were reminded they could view all scheduled road closures on the One.Network.

1. **Planning**

* Planning Application PL/2024/00499 was made Invalid by Wiltshire Council prior to the meeting and therefore could not be discussed.

1. **Defibrillators**

* Following the Department for Health & Social Care annoucement of match funding grants of £750 towards the purchase of defibrillators, the Council discussed the possibility of installing defibrillators in the Parish. The grant is only applicable if the defibrillator has an electricity supply and is in a public building which would exclude the Council from applying. The Council explored the possibility of installing solar powered units but given the population distribution and the cost per unit exceeding £3,000 it was not considered viable.
* The Council agreed to ask Kennet Valley Parish Council if they could open up their annual defibrillator and first aid training currently provided by the British Heart Foundation and held at the Kennet Valley Hall in Lockeridge to residents of Preshute. **Action Cllr S Mills & Clerk**

1. **Trees of Remembrance**

Platinum Jubilee HM Queen Elizabeth II, Death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, and Coronation of HM King Charles III -

* The wording and expenditure (£275) for the plaques and mount for the commemorative trees for Clatford Crossroads, Rockley and the bottom of Ian Wroth’s garden were approved and will be ordered shortly. **Action Cllr I Wroth**
* The English Oak tree and Beech tree have been ordered and expenditure (£185) approved, these will be collected soon by the Wroth’s. Cllr J Penn will arrange for the planting of the Beech Tree which is to be sited on the left hand side of the road leading from Rockley to Temple Farm. **Action Cllr I Wroth, Cllr H Wroth & Cllr J Penn**

1. **Covid Copse**

* Covid Copse – the group has arranged a meeting for 8th February 2024.

1. **Policy Documents**

* The Council reviewed and approved minor changes to the Press and Media Policy, Complaints Procedure and the Policy on the Filming, Photography, Audio Recording and Social Media Reporting of Public Parish Council and Committee Meetings.

1. **Communications**

* BT Big Switch Off – the Council discussed the role out of the switching off of the landlines and move to Digital Voice planned for the Summer of 2024. BT have issued new guidance allowing some users to keep their landline if they fall into any of the following categories: Customers with a healthcare pendant, customers who only use landlines, customers with no mobile signal and customers who have disclosed additional needs. Customers need to advise BT if they fall into any of these categories and they are not currently switching off customers over the age of 70. In some circumstances ‘vulnerable’ customers may be supplied with a battery back up unit.
* The Council noted their final draft response to the Wiltshire Local Plan Consultation had been submitted to Spatial Planning at Wiltshire Council.
* The Council noted the submission form and the online portal are set out in a way that is incredibly cumbersome. The Council considered this to be non inclusive and could discourage those willing and able to submit a response and act as a barrier to others. A letter to Wiltshire Council will be sent highlighting this serious oversight. **Action Clerk**
* Cllr S Mills suggested the creation of a Preshute PC newsletter to be distributed by hand, the Council supported the idea. Suggested items for inclusion: Councillor Vacancy, Remembrance trees, First Aid training, Parish Steward, reporting on My Wiltshire, Neighbourhood Plan and details of local PCSO and drop in dates. **Action** **Cllr S Mills & Clerk**
* The Council has been given a leaflet for distribution from SSEN, this will be distributed at the same time as the Preshute PC newsletter.

1. **Finance**

* The Precept request for 2024/25 has been made to Wiltshire Council.

The accounts for the year to 30 January 2024:

Balance carried forward from last year: £9037.14

Total receipts for the year to January 2024: £4942.65

Total payments for the year to January 2024: £4490.52

The available (cash book) balance on 30 Jan 2024: £9489.27

* The Council approved retrospective and outstanding BACS payments:

**Current BACS payments – to be approved.**

S Roberts – Salary January 2024

S Roberts – expenses Dec – Jan 2024

SLCC subscription 2024 £54.90

Simon Mills – Peter Morgan gift £32.99

Netwise – Website Hosting £396.00

1. **Agenda items for the next meeting**

* Remembrance Trees, Newsletter, Policy Document reviews, Donations & Covid Copse.

The meeting closed at 8pm. This is the last page of the minutes.

#### PLEASE NOTE

## The date of the next full Council meeting is Tuesday 19th March 2024.

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