



**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2014.**  
**Wednesday April 30 2014 6pm.**  
**The Elders Community Centre, St. Aidans Estate.**

To comply with the Local Government Act 1972, the Annual Parish Meeting must take place between March 1 and June 1 each year. It is NOT a Parish Council Meeting, this will follow straight after the Parish meeting. Any complaints against the Parish Council or conduct of its members should be directed through the Councils adopted complaints procedure.

**AGENDA**

Chairmans welcome address and open meeting

1. Receive the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Held on April 24 2013.
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Presentation of current unaudited 2013 - 14 Accounts.
4. Annual Report.
5. Trustees Report. Swillington Educational Charity.
6. Agenda Items.
  - 6:1 Refusal of Wildflower Meadow funding
  - 6:2 St Aidans Country Park
  - 6:3 Fleakingley Lane abuse by vehicle users and fly tipping.
  - 6:4 St. Aidans Estate Sheltered accomodation and The Linesway
  - 6:5 Slow Broadband Speed in Great Preston ( Little Preston has been upgraded).
7. Ward Members Report.
8. Open Session. An opportunity for electors to say what they would like to see happen in the coming year

Signed. *Ian Wallace*

Cllr Ian Wallace Chairman of the Parish Council



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF GREAT AND LITTLE PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30th APRIL 2014 IN THE ELDERS COMMUNITY CENTRE, ST AIDANS ESTATE, AT 18.00 hrs.**

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The Meeting was conducted by the Chairman with the Clerk present as minute taker.

**Those present:**

Cllr I Wallace (Chairman) and the Mrs. J. Winn Clerk to the Council and elector.

**Electors Present.**

Mrs. G .Cooke; Mr. R. Unwin; Mrs. P. Unwin; Mrs. E. Crossley; Mrs. M. Haigh; Mr. G. Haigh; Mrs. D. Blackburn; Mr. M. Webster; Mrs. E. Butler; Mr. K. Bolton; Mrs. M. Bolton; Mr. Stanley; Mrs. Stanley; Mr. G. Baker; Mrs. J. Beattie; Mrs. J. Bentley; Mr. A. Bentley; Mrs. J. Taylor; Mr. J. Winn; Mr. L. Shakespeare; Mrs. B. Shakespeare; Mr. T. Betteridge; Miss B. Jubb; Mr. J. Gill; Mr. S. Furness; Mr. M. Fretwell; Mrs. J. Fretwell.

**Members of the Public.**

Mr. S. Brownridge; Mrs R. Armer.

**Junior Parishioner.**

Miss R. Baker

**Leeds City Council** were represented by Councillor Mark Dobson. Ward Member for Garforth and Swillington, Executive Board member, Environmental Services and Parks and Countryside .

Mrs Victoria Nunns Parks and Countryside officer

**CHAIRMANS WELCOME:**

Chairman welcomed all for attending. All present were issued with the agenda, minutes of the 2013 Annual Parish Meeting and reports pack. Ward Councillors and Mrs Nunns had been issued with all information by e mail prior to the meeting

**1. RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.**

Held on Wednesday April 24 2013

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

## **2.MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**Infant School Building, Preston Lane.** Work has commenced on the renovation and it is expected to take approximately 18 months to complete.

### **Passageway past the Elders onto Berry Lane**

Some cleaning done by LCC, further cleaning took place during Parish Litter pick.

### **Security Cameras around the Elders:**

Enquiries made but funding not available to supply them.

### **Gutter and Roof repairs to the Elders building:**

These have not been done, the Clerk to pursue this further.

### **Seat on Whitehouse Lane:**

Residents nearby not in favour of a seat near to their properties.

### **Parking problems near to the junction of Berry Lane and Preston Lane:**

Cllr Wallace said the police were monitoring the situation. Vehicles should be parked at least 10mtrs from the junction and not blocking the foot way

## **3. PRESENTATION OF CURRENT UNAUDITED 2013/14 ACCOUNTS:**

Copies of Accounts for 2013/14 were distributed.

## **4. ANNUAL REPORT: Due to the recent events dealing with the S106 funding rejection, the report would be presented at the Annual Parish Council Meeting at the end of May.**

## **5. TRUSTEES REPORT – SWILLINGTON EDUCATIONAL CHARITY:**

Cllr Wallace as Nominated Trustee for Great and Little Preston PC informed those present that the sale of the building is going through and is in the hands of both parties solicitors.

## **6.AGENDA ITEMS:**

### **6:1 Refusal of Wild flower Meadow Funding**

The Chairman explained that funding for the project had been refused. Members of the public present had all the relevant correspondence and a copy of the consultation document that was requested by Cllr Dobson. Copies had been sent to the Ward Members and Parks and Countryside Officer Mrs Vicky Nunns prior to the meeting.

The Chairman asked for input from residents first then allow Cllr Dobson and Mrs Nunns to respond.

Mr Jim Winn stated that a number of volunteers had been working hard for up to 2 years, clearing paths, cutting back hedges and opening up and widening the old main path into the field so that a tractor could get through to allow the field to be cut, weeds sprayed and new trees planted in preparation for the meadow. Over £600 has been spent on this part of the project already.

The volunteers had even opened up a completely blocked and un accessible LCC Public Right of Way Footpath GP8 leading to Astley Lane and St.Aidans.

Mrs P. Unwin explained that a hedge cutting and clearing evening had taken place during last summer. It was a community effort supported by 20 volunteers of all ages ending with an outdoor fish and chip supper.

A village walk also took place on 20 October 2013 and involved 70 people of various ages and included walking the newly cleared footpaths, down to the St Aidans Country Park, then returning to the Village Hall for tea. Members from neighbouring parishes were welcomed. She produced photographs of both events and presented them to Cllr Dobson.

Mrs M Bolton asked why the funding had been refused and where is the money going.

Mr S Furness asked why Garforth and Swillington are able to apply for money from this particular S106 funding which was generated through building works taking place in this Parish.

Cllr Dobson, in answer to Mrs. Bolton, told the meeting that nothing had been decided and that he and Cllr McKenna will not agree to any funding generated from the developments in the Parish being spent outside the Parish.

Cllr Wallace mentioned that £58,000 S106 green space money from Queens Court and Queens Close developments was spent on the Swillington Skate Park. Which was wholly funded from S106 funds.

Cllr Dobson said that the Wild flower Meadow project is 'up his street' but his colleagues do not necessarily agree with him.

He said the Chair of Outer East Leeds Area Committee, Cllr McKenna is of the opinion that the money should be spent on structured organised child and youth provision. He said Cllr McKennas budget had been cut and funding from the Area committee is restricted.

Cllr Dobson stated that he wants the Wild flower Meadow to progress and, stressing very clearly his views and that of the Parish, he will take this back to his colleagues.

He reiterated that the S106 money from the Hollinhurst and Biffa developments will not leave this Parish and is very happy to take this back to the other Ward Councillors.

Mr L. Shakespeare commented on the non-attendance at the meeting of Cllrs McKenna and Murray.

Cllr Wallace asked if the other Ward members agree that S106 money will be spent in this Parish as Kippax PC were looking to build a Skate Park. A suggested site was Glencoe in Great and Little Preston Parish.

Vicky Nunns stated that they are not looking at the LCC land near Glencoe playground as a possible skate park any longer, there are two possible sites in Kippax to be considered and she is liaising with Doug Morley Chair of Kippax Parish Council regarding this matter.

Mr S. Furness stated that the majority of residents of this Parish are of an older age group.

The Chairman said that according to the figures available from the 2011 Census and the Leeds Observatory web site Great and Little Preston had a population of 1463, 75% were over 25.

Regarding Playground refurbishment at Glencoe, Mr S. Brownridge asked if this was the only project to be considered in S106 spending.

The Chairman said it was one of four proposals from the PC agreed with Vicky Nunns.

Mr R. Unwin asked if the agenda and minutes of meeting which Ward Members and Vicky Nunns made the decision regarding refusal of the Wild flower Meadow funding been received. If not available, they are out of order.

Mr Unwin issued a letter to all present (see Page 7) recommending to the Parish Council that an appeal be made on this decision. This was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously by the electors present.

The resolution from the electors would be an agenda item for discussion at the May PC meeting.

Cllr Wallace said a request had been made on April 10 but the PC had not received any papers.

Cllr Dobson stated that he had given instructions for the agenda and minutes to be released and again asked Vicky Nunns to ensure they were forwarded to the Parish Council.

Although he is not sure of the appeal process he would be happy for the Parish Council and residents to go down this avenue, although he will try to sort out the matter within the next week. He agreed that on this occasion he has got it wrong.

The Chairman suggested an appeal would be a long drawn out process and we should allow Cllr Dobson the time to sort the problem, in the meantime the PC would investigate the route of appeal and seek advice from the YLCA.

Mr Furness asked that decisions regarding S106 would be discussed more openly in future.

Mr. A. Bentley suggested that the people who have worked on the project should be commended for their hard work.

Regarding the development of the Biffa Site, the S106 Legal Agreement had just been made public. The total agreed S106 contribution was around £500,000. The Chairman thought that very little S106 green space money will be available due to land remedial work and a possible maintenance contribution which will be kept by the developer to finance the management of the on site green space.

### **6:2 St Aidans Country Park**

Cllr Dobson said they were in a catch 22 situation with various issues including parking. RSPB have withdrawn their visitor contacts from the site and removed all RSPB notices. The car park cannot be opened until LCC Legal department and Harworth Estates legal department sort out the problems.

Mr Shakespeare asked that when the park is re-opened, how many people would pay £2.50 to park when they could park on the road for nothing.

The Chairman said Parks and Countryside were prepared to reinstate the damaged verges along Astley Lane but this would be a futile exercise unless there were parking restrictions. Highways are reluctant to impose a traffic parking notice as this would only move the problem to other verges or onto Queen Street and Wood Lane.

The problem cannot be solved unless the car park is opened and parking is free.

Cllr Wallace stated that there was growing public health concern regarding dog fouling within the park and the around the main entrance.

The Parish Council had purchased a waste bin from LCC, placed outside the park on Queen Street. The cost was £300 but this includes weekly emptying service which the PC thought would be value for money if people returning to their cars deposited litter in the bin instead of on the verges and footpaths. Cllr Jaqui Smith, Swillington Parish Council chairlady, has agreed to approach her PC for agreement to place a second bin on Astley Lane.

There are no litter bins within the park.

Mr Unwin stated that the principle of the park is in Great and Little Preston parish. He suggested that it when eventually opened could be suitable for a 10k or 12k charity family walk/run event.

### **6:3 Fleakingley Lane:**

Mr Shakespeare asked if the lane was classed as a bridleway. Cllr Wallace informed him that it was designated as a public footpath.

There had been several incidents of fly tipping and 4x4 vehicles using the lane as a short cut to horses nearer Little Preston. Notices have been put up at the access points at the end of Hall Road, Little Preston and Whitehouse Avenue Great Preston. The notices warn that CCTV cameras could be in operation. No incidents have been reported since the notices went up. The PC has tried to get Public Right of Way department to secure both ends but they do not have the funding. It would cost £3400 to gate both ends.

### **6:4 St Aidans Estate Sheltered Accommodation and the Lines way:**

Cllr Wallace informed the meeting that 6 people had shown interest in forming a committee but were reluctant to sign up to a management plan for the Valley Drive section of the lines way until LCC had completed the promised work.

Cllr Dobson agreed that until this was done and old rubbish removed the area could not be policed with regard to fresh dumping over fences

Mrs Butler stated that the fences surrounding the sheltered accommodation are rotten and grassed areas are left in a mess by grass cutting team.

The chairman said he had contacted Mr Simon Frosdick of LCC regarding the sheltered accommodation grassed areas. To change to a weekly cut in line with other Parishes would cost over £1000 but this would set a City wide precedent.

As far as the fences are concerned some residents have replaced damaged fencing but the majority was erected by the City Council years ago.

### **6:5 Slow Broadband Speed in Great Preston:**

Various dates for upgrade had been promised by BT, end of January then end of March, but as yet there has not been any improvement.

This item is an agenda item for every Parish Council meeting.

## **7. WARD MEMBERS REPORT:**

**7:1** Cllr Dobson stated that the Parish has a very good chair.

**7:2** He expressed real concern about Strategic Housing, stating that there has already been house building in this Parish on brown sites and felt there was not too much to worry about. He said the submission from the Parish Council was very strong.

**7:3** He stated there is a new structure in place for Policing in Leeds, which affects outer areas. This may leave some places unpoliced and open to more crime.

**7:4** He gave thanks to the Parish Council for their work in the Parish.

With regards to 7:3 Cllr Wallace added that a Net Coffee morning takes place in the Elders on the third Monday of each month, which is also the Police contact point. A police officer and a parish councillor will be in attendance.

With regards to 7:2 Consultations on the final Site Allocations Plan will hopefully take place in the autumn the Parish Council will hold a drop in event similar to the one held in 2013.

## **8. OPEN SESSION**

**8:1** Mr Shakespeare said that the hedge at the bus stop on Berry Lane is very overgrown, which makes it dangerous as there is very little space to stand. It also makes it difficult to see if buses are coming, without actually stepping out into the road.

Vicky Nunns agreed to speak to a colleague in Forestry Dept. If this is a Highways matter Chris Proctor is to be contacted.

**8:2** Mrs. D. Blackburn asked that a vote of thanks should be given to Cllr Wallace.

**8:3** Mr S. Furness mentioned the speed humps in the village. He asked if cameras could be erected instead.

The chairman stated this had been looked into in the past but the response was that the results of accident statistics showed that the road was not deemed dangerous enough to warrant speed cameras.

**8:4** Mr Fretwell asked about Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS).

The chairman stated that the Parish Council had looked into the possibility of having VAS, with Highways engineer Chris Proctor but found them to be too expensive. There are only two places in the Parish where the speed limit changes from the national speed limit (60mph) to 30mph, Astley Lane and Whitehouse Lane. This should have been given consideration in the planning applications for the new housing.

**8:5** Mr T. Betteridge asked if dummy cameras could possibly be erected instead.

**8:6** Mrs J. Taylor asked if the Primary School could police parked cars outside school as some are now parking on yellow lines.

Cllr Dobson was asked if a parking purge could take place.

He agreed that this could be done, but in his experience with the problem at other schools found this a limited success, as after the initial purge, cars eventually begin parking back again.

Mrs Taylor asked if the head of the school could be contacted to try and work together on the problem.

It was agreed to contact the head and to also remind her that the caretaker has a key to the Village Hall gate and to inform drivers the car park is available at drop off and pick up times.

**The chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 7.30pm.**

Chair.....

Date.....

**Draft minutes will be approved at the next Meeting of the Parish.**

**Letter circulated to the meeting by elector Mr. R. Unwin.**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 30 APRIL 2014**

**REFUSAL OF WILDFLOWER MEADOW FUNDING**

**RECOMMENDATION TO GREATAND LITTLE PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL.**

That the recent decision to reject an application for the use of S106 monies for an ongoing wild flower meadow should be formally appealed on the following grounds, namely that:

1. During 2013-14 the Parish Council has followed the established criteria that S106 monies should be used for the development of green spaces for the benefit of the community. The decision to reject the application for the wild flower meadow in Great Preston resulted from a different interpretation of the criteria for S106 applications.
2. The decision to reject the application was ill-informed and based on incomplete evidence. Although invited to visit the wild flower meadow those who took the decision to reject the application failed to avail themselves of opportunities to observe the situation on the ground.
3. Since applications for S106 monies are substantive and financial matters, it is to be expected that applications would be considered at meetings ordered by agendas and minuted. Assurances were given on 10 April that the appropriate papers of the meeting that rejected the Great and Little Preston application would be provided. Until such time as the Agenda and Minutes of that meeting are available, the decision to reject the application should be deemed as out of order.

**NOTE:**

**\*The context and current situation for the use of S106 monies was recently stated by Leeds City Council executive board member for Environment and Parks, Councillor Mark Dobson.**

***'Leeds is a very green city and ensuring our open spaces are of high quality is a priority.***

***These projects will make a big difference to the areas they're in - providing more enjoyable spaces for communities to come together.'***

***[www.leeds.gov.uk/news/pages/Green-space...](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/news/pages/Green-space...)***

**\* *In using S106 monies (£47,000) the community at Holbeck (Leeds) applied part of the grant to the development of wild flower meadows.***

***[www.holbeckurbanvillage.co.uk/](http://www.holbeckurbanvillage.co.uk/)***