



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25
FEBRUARY 2015 IN THE ELDERS COMMUNITY BUILDING,
ST AIDANS ESTATE, GREAT PRESTON, AT 18.30hrs.**

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www.greatandlittlepreston.pc.org.uk

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Wallace, Crossley, Bath, Webster and Blackburn
Also present was the Clerk.
Also present were 2 local electors.

1. CHAIRMANS WELCOME AND OPEN MEETING:

Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked the residents for attending. The meeting was opened at 1830hrs. Agenda Items 6, 7 and 16 – the year should read 2015, not 2014.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Beattie, Taylor and Dickinson.

3. LATE ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA: To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration. Details will be included in the minutes.
There were no late items.

4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of Interest.

5. OPEN SESSION: Members of the public may raise any matters concerning the Parish.

One local elector was present at the meeting to make objections to the siting of a new information board which has been erected at Preston Corner.
He stated, as the nearest homeowner, he had not been consulted prior to the information board being erected and felt that the positioning of the board has resulted in some loss of amenity and privacy when people were stood in front of the board to read the information. He also stated it would devalue the property if he decided to sell.
The homeowner said he wanted the board moving away from the corner.
A second resident, a relative of the homeowner, entered the meeting at this point and supported the claims and said the "sign was in a stupid position".
The meeting was told it would not be a straightforward job to relocate the board as licences to excavate and erect structures at side of the highway were required, but enquiries would be made on the implications as soon as possible after the meeting.
The Chairman stated that in phone conversations with both occupants of the property he had apologised for the failure to inform them of the intention to instal an information board as part of the overall plan to improve Preston Corner.
The residents were assured their concerns were noted and the matter would be discussed by the Parish Council under **Agenda item 15e** and they would be informed of the outcome in writing.
They were both thanked for attending and left the meeting .

6. TO RECEIVE the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **28 January 2015**
RESOLVED The minutes of the meeting held on **28 January 2015** were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

7. MATTERS ARISING from the PCM minutes of **28 January 2015 – information only.**
Queens Court/Close. A further email has been received from a second resident, stating that they totally agree with the comments made by the previous complainant.
Leeds City Council have been contacted by phone for advice regarding this matter but as this is a private estate they do not erect 'No Ball Games' notices. This is done on council estates by the local Housing Office. Residents could put up notices on their own property but the problem would be difficult to enforce. It was suggested that the local policing team be informed and ASBO's were mentioned.

8. VILLAGE HALL To receive report of Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) meeting
No meetings had been held during February
The next meeting to take place on 19 March 2015.

Car Park – Cllr Bath is to make further enquiries regarding the obtaining of road scalplings to fill in the holes.

9. ESTATES AND PLAYGROUNDS:-

9:1) Glencoe.

a) To receive reports : There was nothing to report.

9:2) St. Aidans.

a) To receive progress reports: There was nothing to report.

9:3) Little Preston

a) To receive reports

Cllr Webster contacted Rosie Watts of LCC regarding the ginnel between Hall Road and Fleakingly Lane (66 and 66a) leading to Swillington Boundary.

RESOLVED: The furrow at the top-end has now been filled with some road scalplings.

Overhanging hedge on field at Hall Road.

RESOLVED: Cllr Webster reported that this has now been partially cut back, he will monitor the situation.

It was reported that the correct location address is now coming through on some of the mail received by Little Preston residents.

The chairman reminded members that the PC had agreed in 2014 that the footpath/ginnel between Hall Road and The Grove would be maintained by the Parish Council. This will continue in 2015/16 with 3 visits per year for cutting back and spraying. He also asked the Little Preston members to try and involve the local community more and any suggested areas of improvement would be supported by the PC.

10. COUNCIL WEBSITE AND BROADBAND SPEED

a) To receive updates.

Website – Cllr Webster will look into the problem with message inbox. It is displaying 'full' for February.

Broadband – An email has been received from a resident of Whitehouse Avenue regarding the Broadband speed in Great Preston. Average up load speed is less than **500Kbps!!!!** download speed less than **300Kbps!**. Several residents are trying all avenues including contacting Ward members and local MP. Several excuses have been given for the delay. The latest public information from BT Openreach is that box 19 will be upgraded between April and September 2015 to give a minimum speed of 2Mbs. The PC will continue to push for some honest answers.

11. SWILLINGTON EDUCATIONAL CHARITY

a) To receive Trustees report.

Cllr Wallace reported there had been a Trustees meeting on 30 January.

All changes to the governance document have now been finalised.

All minutes are on SEC website.

The next meeting is to be held at the end of March 2015.

12. HIGHWAY MATTERS –

a) To receive reports of continuing efforts to improve safety on Whitehouse Lane

Nothing to report.

b) To consider 20mph zone on Berry Lane.

Nothing to report.

13. TO CONSIDER ONGOING PLANNING MATTERS –

a) 11/01713 Kensington Place (Hollinhurst). Update.

The sales office has now been demolished for further houses to be built on the site.

b) 10/038123/10/01412 Biffa Site. Revised Application layout from 79 houses to 76.

01412 – Approved

03823 - Reserve matters are still ongoing

c) 14/07355/OT/E Land and premises, Preston Lane, WF10 2HN.

RESOLVED: Parish Council comments registered, main objection are the vehicular access onto Preston Lane. Other objections have also been submitted by local residents.

d) Wind Turbine, Brecks Farm. To consider **pre-application** consultation.

An email had been received from Earthmill, a renewable energy company, laying out the proposals to erect a 48mt wind turbine near Brecks Farm, approximately 250metres east of Whitehouse Lane

RESOLVED: It was agreed that it would be unwise for the PC to comment at this stage and until the local community were aware and able to register their opinions this item should remain on future agendas until a formal planning application is received.

14) NEW AGENDA ITEMS.

a) Site Allocations Update

(i) To consider second letter sent by Ward Members to residents. Although promised by the week ending 21 February no letter had been received by the concerned residents of St. Aidans.

(ii) To consider proposal from LCC to allocate site 3100B as suitable for 40 houses.

The chairman had a meeting with Cllr Andrea McKenna to express the Parish Council concerns to this site STILL being included in the Site Allocations Plan (SAP). The site is allocated as Whitehouse Lane, SWILLINGTON!. Anyone with local knowledge will know it is the land at the rear of Hemishor Drive, and the only access will be St.Aidans Road. A formal report, approved by the PC, on the concerns about wrong location and misleading information, together with maps were handed over. The chairman expressed the PC's disappointment and those of the residents that all the input and comments made at the SAP Issues and Options stage in July 2013 had been ignored and also in the Ward members letter sent to some local residents. The same misleading information for 3100B and other sites in the Parish were still being used in the latest published documents although the corrections to the locations were formally requested in 2013. Cllr McKenna said she would call a meeting with the Executive Member for Planning, Cll Gruen and the chair of the Development Plan panel Cllr Walshaw on Monday February 9 2015 to make sure they were aware of our concerns

The last stage before going to final consultation would be the approval by the Executive Board who met on February 11 2015. The PC report was sent to all ten members of the Executive board and our Ward members by email but when some were finding difficulty in opening attachments it was also sent by post. It was hoped 3100B could be taken out of the process but this was not to be. There was no mention of the site or the PC report in the published draft minutes of the Executive Board meeting of February 11. The best we can hope for is, that the location of the sites are correctly described and we respond robustly AGAIN, as we did in 2013, when the final SAP comes out in the summer/autumn 2015. The Ward councillors were contacted , Cll Dobson, Executive member replied and said some residents would be informed by the end of the week February 21 with a follow up letter. To date no letters have been received.

The chairman, although little compensation, stated we have had some limited success, after 2 years of trying, the post codes LS26 8BH and BJ (for both sides of Whitehouse Lane) do now show Great Preston not Swillington when you search on Leeds City Council web site so hopefully someone is listening at last.

No comments are being accepted now by LCC until the final SAP is made public. The Parish Council will keep local residents informed. We will leaflet all homes and hold our own drop in event to help and advise, as we did in 2103.

b) To receive report of War Memorial Trust Workshop.

Cllr Wallace attended this event organised by Civic Voice.

As part of the centenary remembrance of the start of WW1, the Charity, War Memorials Trust and English Heritage aim is to involve communities groups or individuals to register their local War Memorial and any other they wished to.

The idea is to set up a data base to record the information of an estimated 100,000 memorials in the country.

One of the main aims is to do and record a condition survey of memorials. This would then be emailed to the Trust together with images of any areas of concern. The Trust would then advise on the next step. There are restoration grants available.

As Cllr Wallace was the only representative from the area he has forwarded all the information to neighbouring Parish Councils and Swillington Church. It has also been relayed to the Village Hall Management Committee who are keen to see our memorial improved.

The members were informed that Great Preston War Memorial details have been registered. All the names on the memorial are recorded and images of the monument are displayed on the web site. <https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/>
The condition survey will be done shortly.

15 ENVIRONMENT

a) In Bloom. To receive reports

Meeting held on Wednesday 4 February at 18.30

b) Peasecroft Wood. To receive report.

There was nothing to report.

c) St. Aidans Country Park. To receive report from meetings.

Meeting held on 17 February 2015.

It was reported that an email had been received stating Harworth Estates are pursuing the possibility of erecting a solar panel farm on arable land north of Lowther Lake (map attached)

d) Wild flower Meadow. To receive progress report.

Three information boards have now been erected. One at Preston Corner, one in the Jubilee garden and one in the wild flower meadow. The four new corrected fingers for signposts are to be delivered and fitted on Friday 27 February. The original ones are to be given to the Parish Council to utilise elsewhere along the route.

Padlocks still required for main gate on Fleakingley Lane.

£500 worth of plug plants still to be delivered.

e) Preston Corner. To receive progress report.

Regarding Preston Corner information board See item 5.

Members who had not had chance to view the board were shown images taken of the location. Discussions had taken place between the Highways department and all licenses were in place prior to installation. The In Bloom group, who have been actively engaged in making Preston Corner the focal point of the village for the last three months, were involved as part of the overall plan to improve the neglected area. The decision to put the board in that position was :- a) It cannot be seen from 2 Berry Lane and 1 Preston Lane due to the high conifer hedge. b) It is clear of the main road and not in any sight lines. c) People viewing it are stood on a little used footway thus keeping clear of the most used footway running parallel with the above houses. e) The local and historical information can be easily viewed by school children enroute to the Junior and Infant school.

The residents concerns were discussed. As the provision of the information board was part of the wildflower meadow grant that part of the contract was fulfilled upon installation. If the board was to be moved there would be costs to the Parish Council involved. The board could only be moved by Leeds City Council Street Works accredited contractors even if only a metre. If the board was to be moved out of the red line boundary of the current licence to a different location, new licences would be required and utilities searches would have to be carried out which would increase the cost considerably.

RESOLVED: The clerk and chairman would look into the costs involved and get quotes for a) Moving the board within the current licence boundary and b). Moving the board to a new location. The options and costs would be on the agenda for discussion and decision at the next meeting.

f) Public Rights of Way. To receive report on the conditions of footpaths.
Nothing to report, but maintenance of paths needs to be sorted as they were not maintained at all during 2014.

15:1 Allotments To receive reports.
Nothing to report.

16) FINANCE: February

To recommend payment of:-

a) Clerks Salary and expenses up to 25 February 2015

Salary February 2015 £ 160.00

Expenses.

Meeting Refreshments £4.75

Stationery £6.40

Postage £10.12

Bus fare – delegate War Memorial Workshop in Leeds £3.20

Total £184.47p

Cheques paid February 2015

Wild flower Meadow Grace Landscapes Invoice 1
£10227.40 + vat £2045.48 (reclaimable)** £12272.88

16:1 Income January/February 2015

Wild flower Meadow Grant Payment 1 £10227.40**

16:3 To receive record of Debit Card purchases.
No transactions had taken place.

17) PUBLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk to inform meeting.

There was nothing to report

18. TRAINING COURSES AND MEETINGS.

To receive Information for 2014/15 YLCA training courses.

To receive reports Police contact point meetings. Crime figures.

It was reported that there was no Police presence at the coffee morning held on 16 February. Cllr Wallace advised the meeting that Crime figures state that there was nothing to report in this area.

He reported that he had been informed by a resident that 3 garage burglaries had taken place at properties in The Grove, Little Preston.

19. MATTERS TO REPORT: (formerly Any Other Business).

There were no matters to report.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

25 March 2015

21. CLOSE MEETING. Meeting closed at 20.32hrs.

Signed

Date.....