

# Preston on Stour Parish Council

Clerk: Dionne Sambrook (Temp) ✉ [prestononsour.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:prestononsour.clerk@gmail.com) 🌐 [www.prestononstour.org](http://www.prestononstour.org)

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## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Preston On Stour Parish Council held at Three Parishes Millennium Hall, Preston on Stour, Warwickshire on Thursday 27th September. 2018 at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Mrs. A. CORSER, Mr. L. SMITH (part of meeting), Prof.R. Reed and Mr. W. SPENCER (Chair)

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 10 public, Cllr. P. O'DONNELL (SDC).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr. M. Jennings.

2. Declarations of interests

Mr. L. Smith declared an interest in item 7 - planning application 18/02100/FUL.

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 5th July 2018 were previously circulated by the Clerk. The following amendments were agreed: date was 5<sup>th</sup> July and item 8b cheque for St Mary's PCC was authorised and signed for £500. The amended minutes were **ACCEPTED** as a true record.

4. Public participation

A resident asked the parish council to contact Alscot Estate regarding repairs to the fence adjacent the bridge on Preston Lane and to keep derelict buildings on the Estate's agenda, particularly the Old Forge (AC to forward to Alscot Estate).

Pot-holes in Preston Lane and disrepair along the lane to Atherstone on Stour were report (WS to report to WCC Highways).

5. Parish Council Reports

Prof. R. Reed provided an update on the broadband group. A newsletter has been delivered to all households and should shortly be on the parish council website for the details. Some considerable progress has been made and there is to be a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September with representatives of Alscot Estate to discuss how best to move things forwards. Now the solar farm has been approved there may be some funding allocated to the parish (to be confirmed).

There were none, but Mrs CORSER reported that although there was nothing new to say following her recent liaison meeting with Alun Rees he appeared to be very positive with regards to the Estate supporting the broadband initiative.

6. Reports From Other Organisations

a. Ward Member for Stratford-on-Avon District Council (Cllr P. O'Donnell). Supportive of efforts to get high-speed broadband to the village. Reported that six-year housing plan for district is on target and recycling is in the top ten nationally and to be further improved.

b. Alscot Estate. Written report provided by Mr Rees was read out (provided as Appendix 1).

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## 7. Planning

Mr. L. SMITH left the meeting (declared interest).

The following actions were **RESOLVED** and up-dates noted:

Application no.	Proposal	Address	Agreed comment or up-date
18/02100/FUL	Demolition of existing single storey side extension & erection of side and rear extension	Preston Pastures Admington Road Preston-on-Stour CV37 8NJ	Support application due to the following: It is not in a conservation area; It is not a listed building; It does not greatly increase the footprint; and the applicant has noted comments made following the previous application and appropriately modified the design which is now more in-keeping with and subservient to the original building.

## 8. Financial Administration

- a. No report received as RFO absent.
- b. **RESOLVED** to pass the following payments:

Thomas Fox Mowing                      £469.80

## 9. Correspondence

None.

## 10. Village Telephone Box

It is in a very filthy state, only in service for emergency calls, but is a listed building. Cllrs Corser and Spencer to clean it up and find out more about BT's obligations.

## 11. Parish Clerk

Mrs Sambrook has taken the role of locum (temporary) clerk until Mrs Bush is able to take up the post on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

## 12. Governance

Governance will continue to be reviewed and up-dated but will be a priority when a permanent clerk is in post.

## 13. Items for Future Agenda and Items of Information

Members requested that the following items be added to the agenda of the next ordinary meeting:

- a. Council Elections in May 2019. How to encourage people to stand. Note 11<sup>th</sup> February at 6.00pm at SDC Elizabeth House WALC briefing about being a councillor.

## 14. Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be an Ordinary General Meeting on Thursday 22nd November 2018 at 7.30pm at the Three Parishes Millennium Hall.

There being no further business the MEETING CLOSED at 20:55.

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## Appendix A

Written report from Mr Alun Rees, Alscot Estate 22/09/18

My thanks to Anna for kindly agreeing to issue / provide this update on behalf of the Estate.

As I outlined last time I attended, I am only on site at Alscot approximately two days per week and in moving up from West Sussex, I do have the occasional domestic or professional conflict (as my wife works as well) meaning that I am sadly unable to attend tonight. Please accept my apologies for this.

Turning to the 'topical matters':

### **Broadband**

It is a real shame I am unable to attend this evening as I hear this is at the top of your agenda. As I outlined to Anna when we last meet, ITS have approached us saying they have Code Powers and are investigating the supply of broadband to Preston. I know they are reporting back to you on this and I am eager to learn more. That being said, ITS have said to me that they have determined a short-fall of £60,000 to put broadband into the village and have asked us whether we are able to assist with the funding of that. We have not had any time to consider this request and have not responded. Clearly that is a substantial amount of money.

### **Listed Buildings**

Anna and I spoke about listed buildings and it goes without saying that the Estate fully supports the maintenance and management of listed buildings. It should also go without saying that the cost of looking after property seems to be forever increasing, as we all know in respect to our own homes, and as such we need business cases to justify or prioritise any given project on the Estate over the other given that estates have many competing cases requiring expenditure when cash is forever in short supply. The Old Forge is a case in point, whereby if the parish can think of a compelling use that will generate a rent, that will help enormously to justify or prioritise any expenditure on it.

### **Atherstone Airfield**

This continues – no material changes to report: a masterplan is needed and we are considering which architect to appoint to help with this.

### **Bushes by Junction Box**

These are being cut back this week, and the plan is that they are to be cut 'in line' with the junction box. I am advised that the TPO officer has been advised as well.

### **Sylvester Cottages Access and Parking**

This continues – the matter is with our solicitors and I will endeavour to follow this up with them in due course.