14/2020

PRESTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of Preston St Mary Parish Council.**

**held on 29 September 2020 at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall, Preston St Mary**

**Present:** Chair Cllr Martin, Cllr Tasker, Cllr Korwin, together with the Parish Clerk, Kay Shorter. District and County Cllr Robert Lindsay remains “shielding” due to the Coronavirus but did telephone into the meeting and spoke on loud speak to Cllrs. No Members of the public present.

1. **Apologies:**
2. Cllr Hanlon sent her apologies as she was away, and Cllr Luck sent his apologies due to work commitments.
3. Cllrs consented to the apologies.
4. **To receive Members’ Declarations of Interest:**
5. Disclosures of pecuniary and non pecuniary interest for the Agenda under discussion – none;
6. Declaration of gifts of hospitality – none;
7. Requests for dispensation for pecuniary interest – not applicable.
8. **Minutes of Meeting:** to consider and approve the Minutes of the meeting on 28 July 2020 – Chair Cllr Martin signed that the Minutes were a true and accurate record. As there was only 1 set of minutes all Cllrs present agreed.
9. **County councilor Robert Lindsay:** as Robert is still shielding he joined the meeting on the phone. He went through his report which was not the same as the report he had sent through for the meeting. This is the report we should have seen

**Report for Preston St Mary PC from County and District**

councillor Robert Lindsay

29.9.20

Babergh to say no to proposed new housing quota formulaI recently (Sept 7) attended a Babergh councillor workshop onGovernment’s proposed changes to the quota of new houses that councils have to build. The Govt is suggesting tweaking the formula to

bolster the number of houses. In Babergh the number would shoot up from the current requirement of 300 to 789. Our official response, which was a unanimous no, has been approved by full council.  This Government proposal is separate from the white paper on a new planning system that has received more publicity and which the Babergh local plan working group of councillors has yet to discuss.

Update on school transport arrangements for September Suffolk County Council has confirmed that it will initially not be offering spare seats on school transport. This is due to social distancing requirements, which have reduced the capacity on school buses.

However, parents may be able to apply for a spare seat from October half term. The council has also confirmed the arrangements for masks and social distancing on school transport. The rules vary depending on the type of transport used.

https://www.suffolkonboard.com/school-travel/bus-getting-to-school-college-or-sixth-form/coronavirus-faqs/

Council takes giant loan for ballooning costs of Lowestoft bridge The cabinet in late August decided to borrow the county’s largest ever single sum - £65m - to finance the ballooning costs of the planned third crossing at Lake Lothing, Lowestoft. The cabinet heard that

estimated costs had risen from £92 million to £145m. The interest costs alone for the loan will be £3.3m a year for the next 30 years. This is essentially a road bridge (although with a footway attached)and personally I do not see how it matches with the county’s goal of

reaching zero carbon by 2030.

Climate emergency recommendations for Suffolk wide reductions published When on July 14th, the county council Cabinet approved a plan to bring council carbon emissions to zero by 2030 it also authorised the Suffolk Climate Partnership to commission a report detailing how emissions by the wider county could be brought to zero by 2030. Thatinitial report, by consultants Ricardo, has been published and is due to go to public consultation via series of five workshops. It is available on the county council websitehttps://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-

and-environment/pledge-to-climate-emergency-declaration/It includes proposals for eliminating one in four car journeys across Suffolk by 2030 and massive investment in electric charging points to enable the remaining three in four cars to be electric by 2030.

Sizewell C

The county council has said it will not support EDF’s application to build Sizewell C “as it currently stands”. EDF have the option to amend their plan. The final decision will be made by the Government. Babergh and Mid Suffolk receive £800k funding to install solar carports

The councils are looking at installing two pilot car ports in Station Road, Sudbury and Gainsborough Road, Stowmarket. These will be EV charging points roofed with solar panels and including batteries so that they do not take power from the grid. This is part of the council’s zero carbon by 2030 initiative. A feasibility study will be completed by

November with the two projects expected to be complete by March 2022.

Babergh takes “public realm” grass cutting, playing fields and litter bin contract in house

Babergh’s current outsourced contract for public realm management expires in November next year and cabinet has now agreed to take this work in-house then. Mid Suffolk already does the work itself. This will allow the council to manage verges and some open space more

for biodiversity and meadow type habitat.New Innovation awards event for businesses

Forward thinking businesses, large and small, are being invited to enter the inaugural Innovation Awards 2020, being run by Babergh and Mid Suffolk. The Innovation Awards will celebrate and recognize businesses who have put innovation at the heart of what they do,

creating new initiatives, supporting customers and leading bestpractice across the districts.

1. **Public Forum:** No members of the public present.
2. **Correspondence** an email from Cllr Hanlon asked for help with planting bulbs on the verges in the village on 18th October. She also added that as part of the woodland trust we will have 5 silver birches in addition to the trees that the villagers are going to plant, she suggested that they might be planted on the village green, cllrs, Korwin and Tasker felt that as it’s a village green silver birches may be out of place as they are deciduous there will be even more leaves gathering in the road causing a slip hazard. Cllr Korwin says he has an area of land that these can be planted in, and would be happy to plant them. Parish clerk to look into the removal of the red chestnut remains.
3. **Clerk’s Report:** Clerk had not prepared a full report

**Expenditure**

Suffolk Association of Local Councils – annual subscription 127.94

Top Marques printing (PPP printing) 105.60

N Smith (salary between 29/01 and 10/04) 386.40

HMRC – tax and NI 51.60

N Smith (salary between 11/04 and 31/08) 956.06

Catherine Hanlon (reimbursement for bulbs for the village) 136.75

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1764.35

1. **Planning Matter:**
2. Application DC/20/04098 – The Old School Village Hall, The Street Preston St Mary :errection of single storey rear extension, erection of porch and bricking up of opening (following demolition of storage building and extension. ***No objections***
3. **Dates for 2021 Parish Council Meetings** to be agreed 26th January,30th March, 27th April,

29th June, 28th September and 26th October

1. **Cllrs Reports:**

Cllr Tasker reported that the signpost by the triangle of land (where the post box is) is damaged. Clerk will report on the Highways Reporting Tool. Cllr Martin suggested moving Public Forum to later on the Agenda for future meetings, it was agreed to leave it as is.

1. **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 27 October 7.30 pm**
2. **Meeting closed: 8.20pm**