

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PRESTON PARISH PLAN STEERING
COMMITTEE held on 14th November 2007 at Elmstone Court**

Present:

David Theoff (Chairman)
Louise Perryman (Secretary)
Roger Ayling (Deputy Chairman)
Alan Coller (Treasurer)
Oliver Chapman
Duncan Scott
John Greig
John Simpson
Pat Simpson
Karen Wright
Lorna Listbrain
Jan Rudolph

Apologies for absence were received from Michael Fenney and Martin Ferber

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 10th October 2007 were adopted as a true record.

Matters arising

All of the matters arising were dealt with by items on the agenda.

Payment of accounts

The treasurer confirmed all receipts submitted to date had been paid

Village Design Statement

Following DT's letter to the committee expressing concern over the time this project was demanding from the main PPPSC to the detriment of other activities, the committee held detailed discussions regarding the best way forward, with input from all members.

It was agreed by all to adopt the following changes:

1. The VDS Sub committee would be formalised and made much stronger by the addition of new members. Roger Ayling had already been elected chairman and more members were being added to strengthen the team which now comprises Pat Simpson, Martin Knight, Pip Hazelton, Lorna Listbrain, Karen Wright, Alan Coller, Duncan Scott, Ollie Chapman and Martin Ferber.
2. A formal Terms of Reference would be drawn up for the VDSSC, with involvement of DT requested.
3. Reporting by the VDSSC would henceforth be in the form of a brief written report which would be circulated to the PPP committee a few days before the PPPSC meeting, supported by a verbal update and discussion period in the meeting that would be limited to 10 minutes.

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These changes were expected to provide a much stronger VDSSC that would be able to make the majority of decisions and carry out the necessary organisation of events within its own meetings. The VDSSC would ask the PPPSC for approval of its proposed actions.

Regarding timescales for issuing a draft VDS, DS still wished to aim for February 2008 as this gave the possibility of getting it accepted within the next Local Development Framework. The VDSSC would be meeting shortly to take this forward and decide whether the outstanding work could be achieved in this time.

Reports on Action Plan progress

Young Persons Action Plan

JS and AC had been very impressed with the documentation regarding youth shelters that had been issued by DT. It was agreed that AC and Martin Knight would speak with some of the young people to get their views regarding location and type of shelter.

JS reported that we should be able to obtain a grant on this.

The Village Hall Refurbishment

The timing of fundraising events was re-iterated: 16th November (Wine Tasting), 27th November (Quiz) and 1st December (Christmas Fair). A flyer would publicise these.

JS reported that it now appeared cheaper to re-build the Village Hall than refurbish it. If a way could be found of positioning it a little closer to the school, so that a covered way could be added, it would be a valuable additional school resource and would have access to many additional grants. Issues relating to land and use of the hall during the rebuilding phase were under discussion with the village hall committee and other interested parties.

Newsletter

PS requested that all submissions be in by 24th November

Speed watch

DT reported that a recent report showed that the majority of road traffic deaths are now on rural roads. OC reported he is trying to arrange a meeting with KCC – DT will also attend - with the statistics.

Neighbourhood Watch

OC and DT reported on a very productive meeting with Sally Coleman, and would be enclosing a letter with the next Newsletter explaining what was now on offer.

They would also talk about the Handy Van scheme.

OC said that one NW coordinator would be needed for Elmstone, and two for Preston.

Community Facilities

Nothing to report

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Education

JG reported there were now sufficient people to set up the computer training. A date was being finalised and would be a Saturday in February.
RA would do a photography course in March and DS would offer art next summer.

Tennis Courts

Nothing to report

Helping Others

DT and LP reported on a very successful meeting with Tessa Woodward and Alex Krutnik from the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau. DT requested that a number of the committee members help with verifying information from a list of organisations that Tessa had prepared. All agreed. This checking was urgent because, if completed by late November, the CVB would pay for the printing and associated costs.

Keep the village clean

A date for a further 'clean-up' expedition will be put in the next Newsletter (AC)
OC reported that the Parish council may employ someone to help out with this activity for a few hours a week.

Footpaths and bridleways

OC reported that a bridleway had been cleared now and that a Rights of way map is now being produced by KCC.
LL agreed to talk with DS regarding assistance with getting agreement to the TROT scheme.

Any Other Business

Reminder that meetings are now scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month

A tree is to be planted - the prize from the Village of the Year competition. RA would pass the information to DT for action.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held at 8pm on 12th December 2007 at The Half Moon and Seven Stars.