

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PRESTON PARISH PLAN STEERING
COMMITTEE held on 5th September 2007 at the Heathers, Elmstone**

Present:

David Theoff (Chairman)
Louise Perryman (Secretary)
Roger Ayling (Deputy Chairman)
Alan Coller (Treasurer)
Oliver Chapman
Duncan Scott
Martin Ferber
Karen Wright
Mike Fenney
John Greig

Apologies for absence were received from John Simpson and Pat Simpson

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the committee held on 8th August 2007 were adopted as a true record with two corrections. The secretary was not on the list of those present, the Neighbourhood watch contact is based at Dover, not Canterbury.

Matters arising

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

Payment of accounts

JG mentioned that he still needed to present the bill for Publisher software purchased for use in preparation of the Newsletter.
DT would be submitting minor expenses shortly
DS gave advance warning of minor costs to be incurred in running the two VDS events.

The Village Design Statement

The focus was on the next two VDS events. DS said he had produced the flyer with the assistance of LP and MFerber final layout and printing. The distribution team had delivered the flyers with the exception of one small area which JG volunteered to do without delay.

OC agreed to request a move of the PPC meeting from 5th October as it currently clashed with the second meeting

Organisation of 14th September event. Action points

1. All that could attend agreed to be at the hall by 7pm. (ALL)
2. All agreed to make efforts over the next few days to encourage others to attend this event, which would be crucial to getting support for going forward with the VDS. (ALL)
3. DS would check with the other presenters the format of their presentation material. Assistance available from RA or LP/JG if it is not PowerPoint (DS)

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4. KW would make urgent enquiries regarding cancellation or earlier scheduling of the Pilates class and let DS know the outcome. (KW)
5. RA would provide a screen for the event (RA)
6. OC Would provide a laptop and projector (OC)
7. The WI had agreed to prepare teas and biscuits etc. for the first meeting but Joan Foad should be contacted in the next few days to confirm this – she had been on holiday (??)
8. Provision of wine needs organising (DS)
9. KW would provide a flipchart, paper and pens (KW)
10. It was agreed that some method of obtaining feedback/commitment from attendees to come to the second event was required. (LP to suggest a form and circulate it to VDS Sub-committee)

Organisation of 5th October event.

It was agreed that details of this event would be organised at the next VDS subcommittee meeting.

All members present thought they could attend on the 5th with the exception of LP The WI was already pre-warned and would organise the Ploughmans' suppers if the committee obtained and delivered the materials to the Village hall.

More presentation materials would be required – KW said she had them from the earlier PPP meetings.

RA said he had all the screens and wall materials from earlier presentations. These could be added to by VDS specific materials.

DS said he already had a number of other Villages' VDS documents which would make good display.

Worksheets for the forum would be prepared by the sub committee.

Reports on Action Plan progress

The Village Hall Refurbishment

JS was away but AC reported that a third (recommended) Architect, Roger Lewis, had now visited the hall to discuss plans and was very enthusiastic. Awaiting responses from all three.

Newsletter

JS and PS away. All submissions must now be received before the 25th and preferably by the 18th, which is the date that JS and PS return.

Speed watch

No progress made. The usual discussions took place.

MFerber suggested that, as in Thanet, it might be possible to suggest to Dover they put up some warning signs in the village (Watch your speed, Children crossing etc)

DS re-iterated that this subject could be included in the VDS.

OC reported that the DDC is currently not reviewing the classification of anything other than A and B roads, so there would be no possibility of getting the whole stretch (outside the village) downgraded to a 40MPH zone at the moment.

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Neighbourhood Watch

No progress because OC had found it impossible to contact with Sally Coleman. DT agreed to urgently chase up on this via his original contact.

Community Facilities

KW has been discussing the village newsletter with various local business contacts and has two more people interested in sponsoring future issues of the Newsletter. She also has now drafted a letter to go to other businesses which she will forward to DT for review.

Education

No progress this month. JG would be doing another brief article for the Newsletter and putting an ad in the shop to try to get sufficient numbers to run a computer course. RA said that he would be pleased to offer a Photography course.

Tennis Courts

Mferber reported that he had not heard further from Kevin at Carpenters farm whether it would be possible to organise occasional use of his tennis court .

DS suggested that regarding any long term plans for provision of village tennis courts, we should consider working closely with the school as this would give a much better chance of obtaining funding.

Helping Others

DT reported that action on this by Tessa has been postponed until October. MFerber reported that he had visited the Sandwich centre for the retired, which included Preston in the area covered by its 25 seater bus service (twice weekly in Preston). It was a very active 'club' offering many activities for the retired. He offered to send the explanatory documentation to PS for compilation into an article for the newsletter explaining just what is on offer. He would also write a brief summary and send it to JG for publishing on the PPP Website.

Keep the village clean

It was agreed that another village tidy-up would be organised soon, with more publicity. There was some discussion about how many types of activity, including this one, can act as a catalyst to get village people interacting and working together. It was felt that getting on and doing something now would be more likely to attract younger people who are not currently well represented on any of the village committees.

Footpaths and bridleways

LL not present – so no further progress regarding Canterbury's agreement about clearing up the bridleway

Young Persons' Action Plan

No progress. DT reported that the seminar which he attended back in July did not contain anything useful for Preston.

It was agreed that this is an important item which recently has not had time to be discussed. Accordingly it would be moved to the top of the Agenda for the next

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meeting. DT would bring along the materials he was sent earlier regarding dens, meeting places, playgrounds etc.

Village of the Year competition

RA and OC attended the presentation on 3rd September in Lenham. RA was pleased to report that the village won three Awards relating to being best newcomer in the only category we entered, Community life. Apart from certificates, which RA has framed, there is a £100 gift from BBC Radio Kent to go towards a village activity. He reported that the event was very well attended with many like-minded people trying to promote community spirit in their villages.

Any Other Business

MFerber raised his concern about the need to engage more people in their 30s and 40s into village activities over longer term. He felt we should bear this in mind at all times, including the upcoming VDS activities.

KW suggested that the next update of the village directory should include Deal Emergency hospital details.

RA passed round his suggested poster for the village wine tasting evening at the end of this month.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held at 8pm on 10th October 2007 at the Moon and Seven Stars.