

PRESTON-UNDER-SCAR PARISH COUNCIL

(Note: This meeting was held in accordance with the arrangements adopted by the Parish Council on 13 January 2022. As such, this was an informal meeting at which, having considered the items of business on the agenda, and where required, Parish Councillors made recommendations to the Clerk for the purposes of resolution 3(c) of Minute 5 of that meeting. The meeting was held in public.)

Draft Minutes of the Informal Parish Council Meeting held remotely via Zoom at 7.00pm on 10 January 2022

Present: Councillor Brooks (Chairman), Councillors Amsden, Fletcher, and Knights
Clerk: Linda Stevens

In attendance: District Councillor John Amsden and 2 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** County Councillor K Sedgwick
- 2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 2022**

Agreed:

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 2022 were a true record of the meeting and that they be formally approved and signed by the Chairman at the next formal meeting.

3. To declare Councillors' interests in items on the agenda: None

4. Applications for appointment as a co-opted member of the Parish Council

The Clerk invited Councillors to consider one application for co-option as a Councillor submitted by Mr M Sayers. She confirmed that Mr Sayers had completed the necessary eligibility and disqualification form and was eligible for appointment.

Councillors considered the information submitted by Mr Sayer in support of his application.

Agreed:

To recommend to the Clerk that Mr M Sayers be co-opted to serve as a Councillor for the remainder of the current term of office of Councillors.

(Note: Following this item, the Chairman invited Mr Sayers to contribute to the remaining items of business).

5. Code of Conduct

Councillors were invited to consider whether to recommend to the Clerk that a revised and updated Code of Conduct for Parish Councillors should be adopted. The revised Code was closely based on the recently updated Model Code of Conduct prepared by the Local Government Association.

Agreed:

To recommend to the Clerk that the revised Code of Conduct for Councillors, as circulated with the papers for this meeting be adopted.

6. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Event

Councillor Fletcher advised the meeting that there were now only four Trustees remaining on the Village Hall Committee (VHC). Whilst the Committee had agreed that it would match the level of funding (£500) provided by the Parish Council for the event, and wished to organise a celebration event, it was now limited in the scale of event that it was able to organise. The current plan was to hold a "Bring Your Own" Community Lunch, together with a celebratory cake and a toast. It had not yet been decided whether to erect the marquee. It was proposed to hold a coffee morning in the Village Hall on 5 March at which it was hoped that volunteers would come forward to assist with organising the event and to fill at least some of the vacancies for VHC Trustees. An advert for the coffee morning had been delivered to all homes in the village although this had not resulted in any response to date. It was noted that the Parish Council had invited residents to put forward suggestions as to how they would like to celebrate the occasion and that, to date, 2 responses had been received. These had been circulated to Councillors.

The possibility of establishing a specific working party to organise an event was raised along with a question as to whether the Parish Council might make a larger contribution, given the unique nature of the celebration. It was however noted that any funding by the Parish Council could only be made available under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 which limited the level of funding it could provide. It was also noted that funding was available from Richmondshire District Council (RDC) which had established a grant fund for community celebrations, and that funding may

also be available from Tarmac, who had previously met the costs of a Hog Roast for the village. Any application to RDC would need to be a costed proposal.

Councillor Fletcher confirmed that the VHC was happy to organise any event, with a financial contribution from the Parish Council, if this was needed. The Committee was meeting again on 14 March and would consider the issue further at that meeting and would keep the Parish Council informed.

The Chairman reminded Councillors that under the terms of the Village Hall Trust Deed, the quorum for the VHC was three trustees. The Deed also stipulated that if there were only three trustees in place for more than three months the Committee was required to discuss with the Parish Council a plan to encourage more trustees to come forward. If the number of trustees fell below three, the Parish Council was required to take over responsibility for the management of the Village Hall, assuming this was permitted by the Charity Commission.

7. Date of next meeting

Agreed:

That the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on Thursday 24 March 2022 at 7.00pm.