

Preston Parish Council

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 3rd September 2026 at 8.00pm
Village Hall, School Lane, Preston, SG4 7UE

To Cllrs: S Anderson, J Buckland, M Burleigh, J Clark, A Morecroft, H Page, M Trinder (Chair)

Councillors are respectively summoned to attend this meeting for the transaction of business in the agenda below. The meeting is open to members of the public and press.

Lisa Lathane, Clerk to Preston Parish Council – 27th August 2026



AGENDA

1. **To receive and accept apologies for absence.**
2. **Chairman's Remarks**
3. **Declarations of interest**
4. **To adopt minutes of the previous meeting**
5. **To consider matters arising from the previous minutes not already on the agenda**
6. **Comments from the general public and press (15 mins)**
7. **County and District Update (15 mins)**
8. **Finance**
 - a. **To authorise non-contractual payments and note payments to date**
 - b. **To authorise the signing of the Bank Reconciliation**
 - c. **To review the 2026/27 budget**

The above sent as 03 Financial Report

The NALC Salary Scales have been agreed and published which will be reflected from the clerk's Sept salary.

9. **Planning**
 - a. **To consider any new planning applications**
 - a. **26/01607/FPH - Hitchwood Cottage, Hitchwood Lane, Preston, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7RY**

Next scheduled meetings: Parish Council meeting: 22nd October 2026 8pm

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- b. To note decisions and appeals
- c. To consider any other planning matters pertinent to the Parish Council

10. Blue Plaque at Spindle Cottage – update

11. To review and adopt:

- a. Financial Regulations
- b. Data Protection Policy
- c. Data Audit Schedule
- d. General Privacy Notice

The above sent separately to Cllrs.

12. Church Meadow

a. Update on play equipment

Thanks to the intervention of District Councillor Graziano, NHDC agreed to pay the £20,000 section 106 allocated to this project in advance of the work being undertaken. They will also pay the £9400 from the PHC development as soon as it reaches NHDC.

The Clerk has confirmed the order and we expect to receive the invoice for the deposit this week, after which we should get an installation date. The revised cost is £49,168.16 which is a 1.52% increase on the previous quote several months ago. The Sovereign Sales Manager will conduct another site visit prior to installation.

13. Pavilion Working Party update

a. To note the Written Report from the Working Group

Parish Councillors will be asked to comment on the written report. The PWG will take all comments into account at its next meeting when it will consider the way forward for the pavilion.

14. Tennis Court Lease Update

The lease should be completed in the next few days. The lease is for 75 years but will not automatically renew after that time. It is expected that the tennis courts will be ready for use in two years.

15. Pavilion and Recreation Ground

16. Hertfordshire Highways Update

a. To consider organising an online petition for a 20mph speed limit in Preston

We know that Preston is eligible for consideration for a reduction in the speed limit but both the current and next programmes are full so the earliest possibility for Preston to be considered is 2028-2029 but there is no guarantee that we will be put on that programme.

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County Councillor David Barnard has suggested that the Parish Council could consider a petition to try to move this forward sooner than 2028 – 2029.

b. Planned Road works

The Parish Council has been informed that at some point after 5 October, the following road works will take place:

- 1) Back Lane, Preston from its junction with Crunnells Green north westwards for a distance of approximately 130m for 1 day for utility service works.
- 2) 2a that length of Back Lane, Kings Walden/Preston and Church Lane, Preston from its junction with Parsonage Lane north eastwards, south eastwards and north eastwards to its junction with School Lane, a distance of approximately 1627m.
- 3) 2b that length of School Lane, Preston from its junction with Church Lane south eastwards to its junction with The Green, a distance of approximately 46m.
- 4) 2c that length of School Lane/Chequers Lane, Preston from its junction with Church Lane north westwards to its junction with Templars Lane, a distance of approximately 358m.

This is because water main renewal works are proposed to be executed on or near the roads. The works are scheduled to take 6 months to complete

These Orders will come into effect from 5 October 2026 and will be valid for a period of 18 months.

17. Parish Paths Partnership

18. Clerk's Report (information only)

19. Correspondence received

20. Matters for future consideration

21. Date and time of next meeting: 22nd October 2026 at 8pm

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