



Parish of Preston

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 15th April 2026 at 8.00pm.

Present: Councillors: Julie Buckland, Matt Burleigh, Jane Clark, Ali Morecroft, Helen Page, Margaret Trinder (Chairman)

In Attendance: Two members of public, District Cllr Joe Graziano and Lisa Lathane (Clerk and RFO)

8.1) (Agenda 1) To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr Anderson sent her apologies, members **AGREED** to accept her apologies.

8.2) (Agenda 2) Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman reminded everyone that the meeting would be conducted in a respectful and polite manner. Being rude to or about a Parish Councillor or a member of the public is not acceptable. Should it be necessary she would invoke the Parish Council's Standing Orders which allow her to order that anyone not adhering to the rules should leave the meeting.

8.3) (Agenda 3) Declarations of Interest

None

8.4) (Agenda 4) To adopt minutes of the previous meeting

The January and March minutes were adopted and were signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

- January minutes – adding in the council response to the member of public's question on why the survey results weren't published until after Christmas.
- March Minutes – adding in the council's response to the member of public's question asking why the Working Group had worked outside the terms of reference.

8.5) (Agenda 5) To consider matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda

Councillor Clark has made good the damage to the Green and the company involved, Olleco, has contributed £100 to Parish Council funds.

8.6) (Agenda 6) Comments from the general public and press (15 mins)

1. Before starting this item, the Chairman informed the meeting that Standing Orders are the guidance for how Parish Council meetings are conducted and that the Parish Council has decided that these will be strictly adhered to so Comments from the Public will be for the allocated 15 minutes and no longer. This decision is due to the amount of other council business which has to be covered in a meeting. Also being implemented is that a member of the public may speak only once and for a maximum of 3 minutes.
2. A member of public raised a concern that item 10c did not follow NALC guidance. She queried whether it should go ahead as it wouldn't offer sufficient governance. The Chair confirmed that due diligence had been carried out in regards to this item and that it was accepted practice for people to Chair two groups in small villages where there was a limited number of people available to fulfil these roles.

8.7) (Agenda 7) County and District Update

Cllr Graziano addressed the meeting:

1. The Local Government review finished 26th March. The decision now rests with the Secretary of State.



2. Fly tipping – The Hitchwood ward accounts for 12% of all fly-tipping in Hertfordshire. Along with the Offa ward they make up 25% in Hertfordshire. Please report any fly-tipping. It will usually take 5 days to collect however larger sites will take up to 10 days.
3. Flexible voting is coming into force after a recent trial.
4. Local police officer PC Stuart Stone has reported that there has been an increase in thefts from cars.
5. Cllr Graziano has recently helped a couple in Templars Lane with issues with Settle.

8.8) (Agenda 8) Finance

1. Members noted and authorised the payments shown in Annex 1. Members also **AGREED** to a forthcoming payment of £1000 + VAT for solicitor fees in relation to the lease for the PHC tennis courts.
2. Members authorised the signing of the bank reconciliation shown in Annex 2.
3. Members **NOTED** the final 2025/2026 Budget.
4. Members **NOTED** the 2026/2027 Budget.
5. Members deferred the completion of the annual Governance and Accountability Return to the next meeting.

8.9) (Agenda 9) Planning

1. To receive and consider responses to planning applications

None.

2. To note decisions and appeals

- 26/00248/LBC - Tudor House, Poynders End. Single storey front extension and installation of ground floor french door into North-east elevation following removal of existing window. Internal alterations. Granted Listed Building Consent.
- 26/00321/FPH - Tudor House, Poynders End Single storey front extension and installation of ground floor french door into North-east elevation following removal of existing window. Internal alterations. Granted Permission.
- 24/02230/FPH - 2 Lodge Temple Dinsley, St Albans Highway. Single storey rear and side extensions and insertion of front dormer window following demolition of existing outbuilding and green house (as amended by plans rec'd 21 October 2025). Granted Permission.

3. To consider any other planning matters pertinent to the Parish Council

The Parish Council has been informed by Russell Prince that, with the agreement of those funding the Temple Dinsley project, all section 106 monies would be paid soon rather than being staggered throughout the process. It is expected that the Parish Council amounts will be available via NHDC in a couple of months. The lease for the tennis courts is being prepared.

Section 106 Funding from Temple Dinsley (69 dwellings):

Village Hall Improvements: Lighting, Ceiling mounted projector and screen, Door Locking system, CCTV, Timed sensor light.	£7625.00
Local Area of Play: Roundabout in Church Meadow	£9400.94



Locally Equipped Area of Play: Multiverse Activity Centre and replacement swings at Recreation Ground	£10,749.73
Picnic Area in Millennium Playground	£4,400.00
Two tennis courts, provided by the developer for a peppercorn rent on a 75 year lease	
Total:	£32,175.67

8.10) (Agenda 10) Pavilion Working Party Update

1. Members **NOTED** the report from the Pavilion Working Party.
2. Resolution 1 - Preston Parish Council believes that the Pavilion Working Group should be disbanded.

Members voted:

For: 0
Against: 6
Abstained: 0

Councillor Morecroft voted against the resolution on the basis she could see a reset and an improvement in communications.

3. Resolution 2 - The following clause to be added to Parish Council Standing Orders: It is acceptable for the Chairman of Preston Parish Council to also be Chairman of a Sub-Committee or Working Group.

Members voted:

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 1. Cllr Trinder abstained as she holds the Chairs' positions.

4. Resolution 3 - To accept the quotation of £6000 from Pentangle, a local company, to provide preliminary drawings for the development of the pavilion. In addition to accept the quotation of £190 for the provision of basic costings for the project. The costs will be matched funded by Preston Cricket Club so the amount for the Parish Council will be £3095 paid from section 106 funding allocated to the pavilion.

Members voted:

For: 6
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

5. Resolution 4 - To agree and accept the revised terms of reference for the Pavilion Working Group.

Further amendments made were made to the proposed amendments: to the wording of the 'Purpose' of the Working Group. Members voted on this further revised version.

Members voted:

For: 6
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

8.11) (Agenda 11) Church Meadow

Playground equipment installation: Members **AGREED** to liaise with the Playground equipment contractor regarding possible accessible play equipment.

Action: the Chairman to liaise with the contractor about accessible play equipment



8.12) (Agenda 12) Parish Council Website Update

1. The new website has been set up and the clerk is working on elements of it before it is ready for publishing.
2. Gov.uk emails have also been set up and login details have been sent to all Cllrs.

Action: The Clerk to complete and publish the new website

Action: Parish Councillors to set up their new email addresses

8.13) (Agenda 13) To review final organisation of the Annual Parish Meeting

1. Members **RESOLVED** to heavily advertise the Annual Parish Meeting including: a poster, emails via PNS and the council email database.
2. A welcome drink will be offered to attendees when they arrive. All Cllrs to bring a bottle.
3. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will start at 7pm to allow adequate time before the Annual Parish Meeting.

8.14) (Agenda 14) Pavilion and Recreation Ground

The new bins should be in place for the start of the cricket season.

8.15) (Agenda 18) Hertfordshire Highways Update

None.

8.16) (Agenda 19) Parish Paths Partnership

None.

8.17) (Agenda 20) Clerk's Report

None.

8.18) (Agenda 21) Correspondence Received

None.

8.19) (Agenda 22) Matters for future consideration

Title Deed of the Recreation Ground and covenant

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Date and Time of next Meeting: Wednesday 20th May 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall.



Parish of Preston

ANNEX 1

Preston Parish Council

13 April 2026 (2025-2026)

PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
78	Water	09/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-078	Payment - Water	Castle Water	Z	-19.84		-19.84
79	Pension	10/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-079	Payment - Pension	NEST	Z	-78.34		-78.34
80	Domain and Cybercheck	12/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-080	Payment - Cybercheck and Dor	Zen Internet Ltd	S	-16.49	-3.30	-19.79
82	Electricity	19/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-082	Payment - Electricity	E.on	L	-145.95	-7.30	-153.25
21	Grounds maintenance	20/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	R26-021	Receipt - Damage to the Green	Olleco	Z	100.00		100.00
81	ICO Registration	20/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-081	Payment - ICO Subscription	Information Commissioner'	Z	-47.00		-47.00
83	Shutter Service	23/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-083	Payment - Shutter Service	Royal Industrial Doors	S	-285.00	-57.00	-342.00
84	Salary	25/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-084	Payment - Salary	Staff	Z	-529.02		-529.02
85	Clerk expenses	25/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-085	Payment - Clerk Expenses	Staff	Z	-57.50		-57.50
86	Newsletter Costs	30/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-086	Payment - Newsletter Costs	Wally Steele Ltd	S	-546.57	-109.31	-655.88
87	Church Grasscutting	30/03/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P26-087	Payment - Grant - Church Gras	St Martin's Church	Z	-350.00		-350.00
22	Interest	31/03/2026		Unity Instant Access	R26-022	Receipt - Bank Interest	Unity Trust Bank	Z	46.90		46.90
Total									-1,928.81	-176.91	-2,105.72



Preston Parish Council

20 April 2026 (2026-2027)

PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST

Vouche	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Payment Ref.	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
1	Newsletter Costs	01/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	R27-001	Receipt - Newsletter Costs	Preston Trust	Z	182.19		182.19
1	HAPTC Membership	02/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P27-001	Payment - HAPTC Membership	HAPTC	Z	-341.52		-341.52
2	VAT Reclaim	08/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	R27-002	Receipt - VAT Reclaim	HMRC	Z	2,334.85		2,334.85
2	Website and email costs	08/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P27-002	Payment - New council website	Local Authority Technology	S	-274.00	-54.80	-328.80
3	Precept	09/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	R27-003	Receipt - Precept & CTRSG Gra	NHDC	Z	9,007.89		9,007.89
3	CTRSG Grant	09/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	R27-003	Receipt - Precept & CTRSG Gra	NHDC	Z	69.95		69.95
3	Pension	10/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P27-003	Payment - Pension	NEST	Z	-78.34		-78.34
4	Domain and Cybercheck	13/04/2026		Barclays Current Acc	P27-004	Payment - Cybercheck and Dor	Zen Internet Ltd	S	-16.49	-3.30	-19.79
Total									10,884.53	-58.10	10,826.43



Parish of Preston

ANNEX 2

13 April 2026 (2026-2027)

Preston Parish Council

Prepared by: _____

Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Date: _____

Approved by: _____

Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

Date: _____

Bank Reconciliation at 13/04/2026			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2026		89,264.53
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2026 - 13/04/2026		11,594.88
			100,859.41
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2026 - 13/04/2026		768.45
A	Cash in Hand 13/04/2026 (per Cash Book)		100,090.96
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 13/04/2026	9,140.09	
	Unity Instant Access 13/04/2026	0.00	
	Redwood 95 Day 13/04/2026	78,835.39	
	Barclays Business 2 13/04/2026	0.00	
	Barclays Business 1 13/04/2026	0.00	
	Barclays Current Account 13/04/2026	12,115.48	
			100,090.96
	Less unrepresented payments		
			100,090.96
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		100,090.96
	A = B Checks out OK		