

**Preston Parish Council
and
Pavilion Working Group**

Pavilion Project – Questions and Answers

Who owns the recreation ground and pavilion?

The Parish Council owns both the recreation ground and the pavilion. Preston Cricket Club rents them during the cricket season and is available for hire by residents and clubs.

Who is responsible for maintaining the pavilion?

The Parish Council manages and maintains the pavilion. It has never been owned by the cricket club.

Why does the pavilion need work?

The building is 27 years old and requires upgrades to the electrics, plumbing, drainage and kitchen to meet modern standards and ensure long-term use.

What does the Parish Council want to achieve?

The Parish Council would like a welcoming, inclusive and modern sports facility which is future proofed for many years of use by both the community and Preston Cricket Club.

What facilities are required to do this?

Requirements include:

- Home and away changing rooms with three separate showers each
- Ladies' and Under-18s changing rooms and showers
- A separate changing room and shower for the umpires
- A kitchen and a communal room

What is the Pavilion Working Group?

It is a group appointed by the Parish Council to:

- Explore development options for the pavilion
- Investigate opportunities for increased community use
- Make recommendations to the Parish Council who make the decisions for the way forward.

Why was a community survey carried out?

To understand how residents might use a refurbished or new pavilion, especially during the day. It was not intended to be statistically significant, nor was it a vote on whether to extend or rebuild.

Will the cricket club have exclusive use of the pavilion?

No. The cricket club does not want, need or expect exclusive use. The Parish Council hopes to increase community use, as was the case when the pavilion was first built.

Has the Parish Council made any decisions so far?

Yes. It has ruled out:

- Moving the pavilion to a different location
- Creating a different access route
- The pavilion must remain in the same place as it is now.

How will the early stages be funded?

- The Parish Council will agree a budget from section 106 funding for professional drawings and costings.
- Section 106 funding for the pavilion is ring fenced by NHDC and cannot be used for any other village project.

Why are drawings and costings needed?

Professional advice for drawings and costings is essential for deciding the best way forward and for preparing any planning application. Without them, accurate decisions cannot be made.

How will the building work be funded?

Through grant applications and fundraising within the local and wider community. Funding sources can only be explored once professional advice and costings are available.

Will increasing community use help with funding?

Yes. A Planning Officer has advised that wider use of the pavilion could help attract additional funding, which is one reason the survey was undertaken.

How will residents be kept informed?

The Parish Council and the Pavilion Working Group will provide updates and consult the community at appropriate stages as the project progresses via the newsletter, PNS and Parish Council database messages. Residents are welcome to attend Pavilion Working Group meetings as Observers and also Parish Council meetings.

Who are the Parish Council?

- Preston Parish Council is an elected group of residents who represent the community and the parish. They have a mandate to make decisions.
- Decisions are made by the Parish Council as a whole. Individual members are not able to make decisions.
- Members of the community can find out more about the work of these volunteers by attending Parish Council meetings or by contacting individual councillors. Their names are on the Parish Council website.