

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting
held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 3rd May, 2017

Present: Cllrs Kate Greet (Chairman), Alan Butcher, Chris Dyke,
Robin Maine, Barry Wilkinson (Vice-Chairman)

In attendance: William Newton Newey (Clerk)

PPC17/065

Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

PPC17/066

Declarations of Interest

Members are required to act in accordance with the Priddy Parish Council Code of Conduct adopted 6th July, 2016 (clauses 10 – 14) where a matter arises at the meeting in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest or other interest as detailed in the Code. Unless a dispensation has been granted the member shall not participate in the discussion or vote on the matter or shall withdraw from the meeting as required by the Code.
Nil

PPC17/067

Election of Chairman for 2017 – 2018

On the nomination of Cllr Wilkinson (seconded by Cllr Dyke) Cllr Greet was elected unopposed.

PPC17/068

Election of Vice-Chairman for 2017 – 2018

On the nomination of Cllr Greet (seconded by Cllr Dyke) Cllr Wilkinson was elected unopposed.

PPC17/069

Confirmation of Proper Officer

Mr William Newton Newey, Clerk, was confirmed as the Proper Officer of the Council.

PPC17/070

Confirmation of Responsible Financial Officer

Mr William Newton Newey, Clerk, was confirmed as the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) of the Council.

PPC17/071

Appointment of Internal Auditor

Mrs Pamela Lloyd was re-appointed as Internal Auditor. Cllr Wilkinson would confirm this with Mrs Lloyd.

PPC17/072

Appointment of Parish Council Committee and confirmation of Terms of Reference

a) **Finance Committee**

It was agreed that the terms of reference of the Committee would remain unchanged and membership would continue as all members of the Council.

PPC17/073

Agreement of Meeting Schedule for 2017 – 2018

The schedule circulated by the Clerk was agreed, with Council meetings remaining on the first Wednesday of the month, was agreed.

It was further agreed that the date of the Annual Parish Meeting and the possibility of holding it on the same day as the Annual Meeting of the Council would be reviewed.

PPC17/074

Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies

a) **Village Hall Committee**

It was agreed that Cllr Dyke would continue as the representative of the council on the Village Hall Committee

PPC17/075

Public Forum

As there were no members of the public present, the meeting was not adjourned.

PPC17/076

Acceptance of the Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5th April, 2017 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

PPC17/077

Chairman's Report

The Chairman made the following report on the previous year:

Our 5 councillors are very ably supported by William Newton-Newey as Clerk and RFO but we are still seeking to co-opt 2 people to the vacancies. The Council's finances are in good order.

During the last year:

PARC was disbanded in September so all PC business is now conducted in a single meeting on the first Wednesday of the month.

The Sheep Fair Committee was dissolved as there had been no volunteers to keep the event running. The remaining funds have been placed in a special 'Priddy Preservation Account' and a sign to explain the demise of the Sheep Fair will be erected. The Implements Sale in September remains alongside an expanding Rural Crafts Fair.

PPC supported Voneus' initiative to bring Wireless Broadband to Priddy and gave permission for access to site equipment on council land.

Councillors are working with Somerset Highways on the possibility of painting lateral white lines as a traffic calming measure in Pelting Road, and with preparing the refurbishment of the cast iron fingerpost at Nordrach.

Ruud Mantingh is still the Parish Paths Liaison Officer keeping an eye on footpaths and bridleways. The top end of the Dark Lane path by Panes Green, has been resurfaced. Discussions continue on possible kerbing and other alternative solutions to areas of erosion. There will be new signs on the top green to discourage inappropriate parking.

The bus shelter on the Lower Green has proved popular but the noticeboards still need some work. The old noticeboard is being transferred to Nordrach. The defibrillator in the old phone box is well maintained but the facility is used more as a book exchange!

An easement to the existing access to New House for the proposed new dwelling to share it has been agreed for a consideration of £22,000.

To aid our approach to planning applications a Big Lottery grant was obtained to facilitate a Community Council Somerset Housing Needs Survey.

The Newsletter now produced electronically and posted on the parish web site along with all other items likely to be of interest to parishioners.

The annual litter picking event was poorly attended and will be reviewed.

PPC17/078

Clerk's Report and Continuing Business from Previous Meetings

a) Noticeboards

The Clerk reported that the old Parish Council noticeboard had been re-erected at Nordrach but that the existing board at Nordrach had not been removed. There had been no progress on the enlargement of the noticeboards on the Bus Shelter and the Clerk said that he would contact Mr Roberts-Arnold.

WNN

b) Sheep Fair Plaque

There was no further information on this item. The Clerk would include this in his correspondence with Mr Roberts-Arnold.

c) Sheep Fair Oral History Project and Archive

Councillors had been glad to meet Dr Banks at the Annual Parish Meeting and interested to hear his presentation. The Council remained supportive of the idea of an oral history project and archive. The Chairman said that she would circulate the information sheet that Dr Banks had provided to organisations and individuals who might be interested. The Clerk would put the information on the website.

KG
WNN

PPC17/079

Planning

a) **2017/2077/FUL** – Conversion and extension of detached garage into dependent relative accommodation - Cold Comfort Wells Road Priddy Wells Somerset BA5 3AZ
At a vote (five in favour) It was agreed to support the application without comment.

b) **2017/0482/FUL** – Replace residential conversion with new dwelling and construct first floor above estate yard to create ancillary accommodation – Hazel Manor Lodge Nordrach Lane Priddy Cheddar BS40 6LG

The paper version of this application had only been received the day of the meeting and had not been circulated to councillors. It was also anticipated that there would be a site visit but this had been delayed until the receipt of the application papers. Discussion of the application was deferred until 7th June and the Clerk had already sought a consultation extension from Mendip District Council.

c) Fulfilment of Planning Conditions in Respect of Mendip Farmer's Hunt Kennels

Cllr Butcher reported that he had been approached many times by local residents concerned that the various conditions in respect of the approval of the planning application for the Kennels were not being discharged. This included the operation of the kennels as well as the fabric and fitments of the buildings. The Clerk reminded the meeting that the matter had been raised with the Enforcement Team at Mendip District

Council, who had passed the issues of noise and light pollution to the Environmental Health Team.

The Clerk was asked to contact Environmental Health to ascertain the result of their investigation and to ask the Enforcement Team to review all the conditions related to the granting of planning permission.

WNN

- d) Approval with conditions of change of use land from agricultural land to residential curtilage – The Stables The Batch Priddy Cheddar BA5 3BD (2017/0296/FUL) was noted.
- e) Approval of Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (external walling sample), 4 (external surfaces) and 5 (landscaping) on planning consent 2014/2635/FUL – Rose Meade Pelting Drove Priddy Cheddar BA5 3BA (2017/0371/APP) was noted.

PPC17/080

Parish Council Matters

a) **To note matters from the Annual Parish Meeting**

The Chairman noted that a couple who had attended the Annual Parish Meeting had not received the Housing Needs Survey. The Clerk was asked to confirm the Parish address list and that it contained all the Parish addresses in Ubley Drove.

The booklet of Reports from Parish Organisations, Clubs and Societies had proved popular. They had been distributed after the meeting in various locations.

b) **To approve the Parish' Publication Scheme (FOI)**

The Scheme was approved unaltered.

WNN

c) **To review and re-adopt Standing Orders**

The Standing Orders had been thoroughly reviewed in 2016 and were re-adopted without change.

d) **To review and re-adopt Financial Regulations**

The Financial Regulations had been thoroughly reviewed in 2016 and were re-adopted without change.

e) **To agree Part 1 of the Annual Return for 2016 / 17**

Part 1 of the Annual Return, relating to internal control, was presented to the meeting.

It was agreed that the Chairman should sign Part 1, showing no issues of concern.

f) **The Great Get Together – 17th & 18th June, 2017**

This event was designed to recognise and encourage community cohesion following the murder of Jo Cox MP. A letter had been received from the Lord Lieutenant drawing attention to this event and seeking details of any activities planned.

The meeting felt that there were also a number of local events already planned and, with less than a month to go, it would be difficult to arrange any further events.

g) **Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute & WW1 Beacons of Light, 11th November, 2018**

The Council had already signified its intention to create a beacon at Deer Leap, as for the Queen's Jubilee celebration. The Chairman had passed the information to the Chairman of the Friendly Society who would be organising the event for the Council.

h) **To receive a report on Verge Protection meeting (Neil Corp, Somerset Highways) and consider options**

Notes of the meeting with Mr Corp had been circulated by the Chairman. Five areas had been identified.

1) Traffic calming in Pelting Road - It was thought that white lining the edge of the highway might be helpful. **The Clerk was asked to complete the request from on the Traffic website.**

WNN

2) Pelting Road Verges – Highways had previously addressed this issue and the Parish Council was asked to hold a watching brief on this issue, which occurred across Mendip.

3) Erosion in front of Manor Farm- It was felt that kerbing at this location would be helpful and appropriate. This would have to be funded by the Parish Council.

4) Erosion of Verges in front of Church Farm – The most appropriate solution at this location appeared to be building up the verges. This would avoid water pooling and ensure that that vehicles remained on the highway. The solution was acceptable to church Farm, provided there was adequate access for farm vehicles. These works would require Section 171 approval and be undertaken by an approved contractor.

5) Erosion at Nine Barrows Triangle - The lay-by verge area had been built up but required some more material. The triangle continued to be eroded. Mr Corp had

confirmed that Highways should be filing the pot holes and he suggested small, reflective stakes around areas where repairs had been undertaken to deter vehicles from driving across the areas.

The Clerk was asked to contact Somerset Highways for approved contractors before obtaining quotes for the Verges at Manor Farm and Nine Barrow Lane.

WNN

PPC17/081 **Police Matters**

The Crime Report for April, which had been tabled, was noted.

The invitation PACT meeting at Wells Town Hall on Tuesday 30th May (7:30pm), contained in the report, was also noted.

PPC17/082 **Council Reports**

a) **Somerset County Council**

No Report

b) **Mendip District Council**

There was no report as Cllr Killen had sent his apologies.

PPC17/083 **Financial**

a) The Budget Statement and Bank Reconciliation that the Clerk had tabled were noted.

b) **Insurance**

The Clerk had circulated a comparison sheet provided by Came and Company (brokers) detailing three options for the Council's Insurance policy. The Clerk had added details of an independent quote received from Zurich Municipal.

It was agreed that the Council would accept the brokers' recommendation of a policy with Inspire. It was further agreed that the Council should take up a three year agreement which would reduce the annual premiums. A cheque for £420.16 to Came and Company would be raised.

c) **Annual Parish Meeting Refreshments** – a re-imbusement for cheese, wine and biscuits of 3£7.41 was agreed and cheque raised and signed.

d) **Dark Lane** [TFW Owen] – works at the top end of Dark Lane had been completed, under budget. A cheque for £800.00 was raised and signed.

PPC17/084 **Matters of Report**

a) **Charity Cycle Challenge**

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted about a charity cycle challenge in the Mendip Hill, organised by staff of Halsall Construction of Peasedown St John, on Friday 19th May. There was a request that the Village Green be used as rest station with refreshments with tables and gazebo and a porta loo. The Clerk would confirm agreement to the use of the Green subject to By-Law

b) **Mendip AONB Young Rangers**

A news release had been received from Mendip Hills AONB that they were seeking to recruit 15 young people to form a group of Young Rangers.

c) **Damage to The Causeway**

Cllr Butcher reported damage to the Causeway by vehicles entering and leaving the building site next to Bay tree Cottage. He believed that the damage presented a trip hazard. It was agreed that Cllr Butcher would speak to Mr Steve Sparkes.

PPC17/085 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 7th June at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8:25pm

Signed
(Chairman)

7th June, 2017

William Newton Newey
6th May, 2017
parish.clerk@priddyparish.org