

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 7th June, 2017

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

In attendance: William Newton Newey (Clerk)

PPC17/093

Apologies for absence

Cllr Alan Butcher

PPC17/094

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

PPC17/095

Public Forum

As the member of the public did not wish to speak, the meeting was not adjourned.

PPC17/096

Acceptance of the Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 3rd May, 2017 and of the Extra-Ordinary Council meeting held on 31st May, 2017 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

PPC17/097

Chairman's Report

The Chairman noted that there were still two casual vacancies on the Parish Council.

PPC17/098

Clerk's Report and Continuing Business from Previous Meetings

a) **Noticeboards and sheep Fair Plaque**

The Clerk reported that there had been no progress on the enlargement of the noticeboards on the Bus Shelter and that he would contact Mr Roberts-Arnold again. It was noted that the Sheep Fair Plaque had been made and erected by Mr Roberts-Arnold.

WNN

b) **Verge Protection and Approved Highways Contractors**

The Clerk said that he had forwarded a suggestion of white lining in Pelting Drove to the County Engineers Department as part of the Road Improvements scheme. This request had to be submitted via the divisional County Councillor and the Clerk confirmed that the request had been sent to Cllr Mike Pullin.

The Clerk had also contacted the Highways Department to ask for a list of approved contractors. The Department had replied saying that it no longer held a list of contractors but stating what permits and insurance would be required. Advice was also given as to the need for licence (Section 171) on or near a road.

The names of several local contractors were suggested and the Clerk asked to produce a list of competent contractors.

WNN

c) **Nordrach Finger Post**

A quote was still awaited from Mr Ben Selway for the refurbishment of the post itself. Further discussion was deferred to the next meeting of the Council

AB

d) **Mendip Farmers' Hunt Kennels**

A paper noting all 22 conditions applied to the original approval had been circulated by Cllr Butcher. Cllr Butcher had also included comments or questions which he felt should be raised with the Enforcement Team at Mendip District Council. The Chairman noted that some of the issues had already been raised with the Planning Department. Cllr Wilkinson was concerned that the newly enclosed area at the Kennels was not surfaced and could not be kept clean. He also believed that the hounds were left in the new enclosure for a long period each day.

It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Enforcement Team using Cllr Butcher's paper as a basis for the letter and raising the issue of the new enclosure.

WNN

The Clerk reminded the Council that the Environmental Health Officer had suggested an approach to Natural England in terms of disruption to wildlife, the wider environment and dark skies.

It was resolved that the Clerk should contact Natural England.

WNN

e) **ArcTanGent Licence**

The Clerk said that he had spoken with a licensing officer at Mendip District Council and subsequently requested a copy of the licence. The ArcTanGent Festival was held under the licence for the premises of Fernhill Farm and not a Temporary Event Licence. The licence once granted under the Licensing Act 2003 would continue as long as the premises to which it related existed. For licensing and fee purposes, attendances at events were banded, 0 to 4,999, 5,000 to 9,999 and so on. The licence for Fernhill Farm was for one weekend festival each year in August or early September, with dates being confirmed to Mendip District Council six weeks in advance of the event.

The Licensing Officer had told the Clerk that he was aware of the intention to apply for a new licence and that the organisers were canvassing opinion from neighbours. Only a draft application had been received and that this had been shared with 'Responsible Authorities'. It would appear that under the terms of the Licensing Act, the Parish Council is an "interested party" but the Licensing Officer thought it might have been appropriate to include the Council.

Call had been received from a local resident concerned by letter from the organisers and the Licensing Officer said that he had offered to facilitate a meeting between the organisers and local residents.

It was resolved that the Mendip Licensing website be monitored and that representation should be made using the approved form.

PPC17/099 **Planning**

- a) **2017/1344/HSE** Rear Extension to create family kitchen/Utility space and first floor extension to create new bedroom and family bathroom West Cott Pelting Drove Priddy Cheddar BA5 3BA

It was agreed to support the application without comment.

WNN

PPC17/100 **Parish Council Matters**

- a) **To agree Part 2 of the Annual Return for 2016 / 17**

The Clerk presented section 2 of the Annual Return which included the figures which had been audited by the Internal Auditor.

It was resolved that the Chairman should sign Section 2 of the 2016 / 17 Annual Return.

The Clerk confirmed that the statutory notices would be published and that the accounts would be available for inspection for the statutory period including the required period at the beginning of July.

- b) **To agree the process for Dispensations**

Guidance had been received from Mendip District Council, the only change from the Code of Conduct and Standing Orders already adopted by the Council was the requirement for a formal resolution delegating authority for granting dispensations to the Clerk.

It was resolved that the Council delegates the power to grant dispensations to the Clerk. The power rests with the relevant authority under section 33(1) of the Localism Act 2011 and the basis is set out under section 33(2).

WNN

- c) **To receive a report on Pincross from Mr Albert Thompson**

The report had been circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting and Mr Thompson was thanked for his thoroughness in researching the history of the area behind Pincross.

Cllr Butcher had suggested that the Council should register the Right of Way with the County Council and had provided some information on this process.

In the absence of Cllr Butcher, it was decided to defer further discussion of the matter to the July meeting of the Council.

- d) **Somerset Remembers – 6th November, 2018**

The intention on the part of the Lord Lieutenant to arrange an event in Wells on 6th November to mark the end of World War I was noted.

The Chairman reminded the Council that it had already agreed to organise, with the assistance of the Priddy Friendly Society, a beacon to be lit on 11th November, 2018.

- e) **To note St Lawrence's (Parish Church) Songs of Praise on 16th July and to agree a hymn choice.**

The Clerk tabled three hymns and various hymn tunes were played to the Council.

It was resolved that the hymn What Colours God Has Made (by timothy Dudley-Smith) be chosen and sung to the tune Carlisle.

Cllr Maine was asked to convey the details to Mrs Pam Maine.

RM

f) **The Conservation Volunteers (Bristol)**

The Clerk had circulated details of the local branch of The Conservation Volunteers to Councillors. The organisation was offering help with a range of conservation and grounds and gardens type work. A small charge would be levied but it was possible that funding sources could be sourced by The Conservation Volunteers to cover this expense.

The Clerk was asked to pass the details to Mr Ruud Mantingh, Parish Paths Liaison Officer.

WNN

PPC17/101 **Police Matters**

The Crime Report for May had not been received and there were no other matters to note.

PPC17/102 **Council Reports**

a) **Somerset County Council**

Cllr Pullin had sent apologies as he was in America.

b) **Mendip District Council**

There was no report.

PPC17/103 **Financial**

a) **Budget Statement and Bank Reconciliation**

The Clerk presented a budget statement noting that income and expenditure were as per budget forecast. The bank reconciliation had been prepared using account balances received from the bank the previous day, statements not arriving until later in the month. The budget statement and bank reconciliation that the Clerk had tabled were noted.

b) **Research in respect of Pincross (£132.72) [Albert Thompson]**

The payment of Mr Thompson's costs were agreed and cheque for £132.72 was raised and signed.

c) **Clerk's Remuneration April, May and June (£545.35)**

The payment of the Clerks Remuneration was agreed and cheques for £109.00 (HMRC) and £436.35 (WD Newton Newey) were raised and signed.

d) **Strimming (£200.00) [Cole Major]**

An invoice for the first strimming of the Village Green and other areas had been received. The payment of £200.00 under the contract was agreed and a cheque was raised and signed.

PPC17/104 **Matters of Report**

a) **Housing Needs Survey**

In response to a query from Cllr Maine, the Chairman reported that, including a number of late entries, the return rate for the survey had been 20%. Whilst this might appear a low figure, it was quite a good return rates for the type of survey. Results from the survey were expected in the middle of July.

b) **Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting**

Due to an application being received from Mendip District Council too late to be included on the agenda, it would be necessary to hold an extra-ordinary meeting on Wednesday 21st June at 7:30pm at the Hunters Lodge Inn.

PPC17/105 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 5th July at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8:30pm

Signed
(Chairman)

5th July, 2017

William Newton Newey
13th June, 2017
parish.clerk@priddyparish.org