

Minutes of the Parish Amenities, Recreation and Countryside Committee
held on Wednesday 20th April 2016 at the Hunter's Lodge Inn at 7.30pm

Present: Kate Greet, Robin Maine (RM), Mr Ruud Matingh (RMh)

In attendance: William Newton Newey (Clerk)

- PPP16/017 **Apologies for absence**
Judith Coles, Rachel Thompson
- PPP16/018 **Resolutions as to the Conduct of the Meeting**
a) **Election of a person to chair the meeting** – in the absence of JC, KG was elected to chair the meeting.
b) **Resignation of Glenda Collier** – it was noted that GC had resigned from the Committee due to other commitments.
- PPP16/019 **Public Forum**
No members of the public were present.
- PPP16/020 **Declarations of Interest**
Members are required to act in accordance with the Priddy Parish Council Code of Conduct dated 1st August 2012 (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.
None.
- PPP16/021 **Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings**
The Minutes of the PARC Committee meeting held on 17th February were signed as a true record.
- PPP16/022 **Matters Arising and continuing business from previous meetings**
a) **Church, Hall, School Sign** – The sign had been erected. RMh agreed to remove and re-cycle the old sign and post. RMh
b) **Dark Lane** – No action had been taken as regards the tree stump to be placed at the bottom of the Lane or the stone at the top of the Lane to discourage motor traffic. JC
c) **Interactive Mapping** – Tina Bath was to ask Tom Killen (ward councillor) about the system used by Mendip District Council with TB
- PPP16/023 **Village Greens**
a) **Village Green Events** – it was noted that the Bale Racing to be organised by the Pre-School had been deferred until September. The need to avoid a clash with the Implement Sale was noted. Priddy Friendly Society Day would not include an event on the Green.
b) **Horse Riders** – RM was concerned about a couple of riders who he had been seen repeatedly galloping across the Green. When he had approached them, he had received a hostile response. In answer to a question from RMh, RM said that galloping horse damaged the surface of the Green. The riders, on chestnut horses, proceed from the direction of the Church and leave the Green via the Batch in late morning. KG
c) **Chestnut Tree** – RM reported that the large chestnut tree, which was believed to be in the grounds of the New Inn, had overhanging branches which made cutting the Green difficult. The Clerk was asked to identify the owner of the tree and discuss the removal of the branches. WNN
- PPP16/024 **Highways, Verges and Assets**
a) **Asset Register update** – review was deferred until JC was present. JC
b) **Netting for Hurdle Stack** – the Clerk said that he had not received the information to order the netting. TB
- PP16/025 **Parish Council Business:**
a) **PPL RoW Report** – RMh reported that he had met with Chris East of Somerset County Council and that it had been agreed that the brush obstructing the verges would be cleared in Eastwater Lane. An order for the works had been issued but no time frame had been received. Chris East was also to liaise with Mendip Ramblers about further clearance and the laying of plants to form hedges
RMh had walked some of the outlying paths and there was nothing major to report.

It was believed that the replacement of some styles might also be undertaken (by the County Council). Replacement of styles and other furniture was technically the responsibility of the landowner but had been undertaken by the AONB and others in the past.

A complaint had been received about the footpath between Pelting Drove and Durston Drove, where the path was constricted by barbed-wire fencing. The constriction had resulted in the pathway becoming rutted and very muddy. RM opined that footpaths had to be 2 meters wide.

- b) **Coxton End Lane** – RMh said that he had been to look at the wildflower area and had found some litter, which he had taken away. He wondered if more works were to take place. KG said that she had received responses to the work that ranged from too much to too little. The possibility of applying for a further grant from Priddy Folk Festival, to fund more work in Coxton End Lane, was discussed. It was confirmed that roadside trees in need of attention remained the responsibility of the Highways Authority.

PPP16/026

Ancient Monuments

Nothing to report.

PPP16/027

Flora and Fauna

- a) **Seed Collecting and Planting** – The Clerk was requested to send a note of thanks to GC for her membership of the Committee. This note could include a request as to whether GC wanted somebody to take on responsibility, as far as the Committee was concerned, for Wildflowers and related matters or if she was happy to make a report or advise the Committee.
- b) **Verge Mowing and Management** – The Clerk confirmed that GC had contacted Neil Corp about the exclusion of Coston End Lane from the verge mowing schedule in 2016.
- c) **Churchyard Wildflowers and Information Board** – See PPP16/026a (above).
- d) **Priddy Pool** – RMh commented that the Pool had significant weed growth. RM noted that there was a small leak in the dam which created the Pool. It was noted that a sum of £829 was still available for works in respect of the Pool.

WNN

PPP16/028

Recommendations to Council

None

PPP16/029

Matters of Report

- a) **Fly Tipping** – KG noted that whilst this continued to be reported to Mendip District Council, the response was less than consistent.
- b) **Flag Pole** – it was noted that the flag pole had been re-instated and that it was flying the Union flag in honour of the Queen's 90th birthday.

PPP16/030

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 8th June, 2016.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm

Signed _____

Date: 8th June, 2016

Initialed