

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2014**

VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: PRIDDY VILLAGE HALL @ 7.30pm

		Present: Cllrs Alan Hutfield (Chair), Rachel Thompson, Richard White, Simon Eastham, Barry Wilkinson, Chris Dyke also in attendance Harvey Siggs, Tom Killen and Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
	1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Kate Greet.	
	2	<u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 15 minutes to allow public participation. One member of the public was present, there were no matters raised.	
	3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.	
	4	<u>Resolutions relating to the conduct of the Meeting.</u> None.	
	5	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 3 rd September 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.	
	6	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meetings:</u> a: Fly tipping: Some roofing sheets, possibly asbestos cement had been dumped at “The Splotts”. Clerk to contact Mendip. c: Fingerpost signs at Nordrach and Townsend: The clerk had recovered part of one of the broken arms and had contacted a company in Bristol who had given an estimate of £1425 + VAT for casting three new arms. It was agreed to contact the AONB about the company who had been involved with the replacement signs funded by the AONB and to seek further quotes. The bolt holes to the Townsend sign required easing to allow the bolts to be fully tightened, Barry and Alan to liaise with Barry Payne about providing suitable “taps”. The sign at the Castle of Comfort which had been demolished by a vehicle was also mentioned. This had been reported to highways but there appeared to have been no progress in this matter to date.	

		<p>d: Nine Barrows Triangle and damaged finger post sign: The damaged arm had been welded back into place by Ben Selway; some cosmetic treatment was required.</p> <p>e: Flooding near Church Farm and St Cuthberts Farm: Highways had reported that the gulley near Church Farm had been cleaned out and, hopefully, the flooding had been rectified.</p> <p>Highways had also advised that they were inspecting the problem at St Cuthberts Farm and would be attending to the flooding at Sunnycroft.</p> <p>f: Trees on Wells Road, beyond “Sunnycroft”: It was agreed to take no further action on this matter.</p> <p>g: Illegal use of by-way at Ubley Drove: All of the options to resolve this matter had been investigated; it was agreed to monitor the situation until the next meeting.</p> <p>h: Correspondence concerning Eastwater Drove: Following discussions at the last meeting a number of authorities and experts had been contacted regarding the rights of access over the drove and Rachel gave a resume of the rights both public and private involved. Barry urged caution in that the Parish Council did not, in some way, condone a possible illegal act. It was agreed that the Parish Council, having looked into the query raised about the use of the drove should take no further action unless a persistent nuisance occurred when further discussion or action might be necessary.</p>	
	7	<u>Police Report.</u> No report.	
	8	<p><u>Council Reports:</u></p> <p>a: Somerset County Council: Harvey Siggs reported that he had attended a meeting about Shale Gas Extraction and noted that whilst some authorities were keen to allow extraction because of the financial benefits from a Mendip point of view extraction was unlikely as this was not allowed within AONB's.</p> <p>He reported on the new Somerset Rivers Board formed as part of the twenty year action plan and advised that this would precept across the whole county. He advised that flood prevention works were proceeding.</p> <p>The recent good weather had enabled good progress with re-surfacing and top dressing of county roads. He also noted that highways were taking a stronger approach to land-owners responsibility to cut back overgrown hedges. He noted that highways was overwhelmed with consultations for planning applications.</p>	

		<p>The meeting on 2nd October to discuss traffic issues at the Hunters Lodge Inn crossroads was noted and he also advised that the matter of the Nordrach and Castle of Comfort signs should be raised with Chris Betty at this meeting.</p> <p>b: Mendip District Council: Tom Killen noted that the local plan would be in place by Christmas 2014. Mendip were currently working on the renewal of the leisure provision in the district and it was hoped to remove the subsidy on this section by instituting new arrangements. They were working toward a balanced budget for 2015/16 with a view to be self-funding when government grants are finally removed in 2018.</p> <p>The new council offices have been completed ahead of schedule with just the police facility outstanding. The broadband roll-out was due for 2016 and would cover 95% of the district although it was possible that some small pockets in the parish would not be served.</p> <p>On a separate note, Tom reported that a successful implements sale had been held on the village green on 27th September 2014.</p>	
	9	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p>a: The New Inn:</p> <p>i) There was still concern about the apparent continued inclusion of letters of support for the application on the website whilst the Parish Council submission and other letters of objection were not properly represented. Matter to be raised again with Tom Killen.</p> <p>b: Parish Plan update:</p> <p>i) Heather Keys-Toyer had submitted as report on behalf of the group which is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>c: Other matters:</p> <p>i) Improving communications between council and Parishioners: The clerk to liaise with Kate regarding the address list she had forwarded.</p>	
	10	<p><u>Committee Business:</u></p> <p>a: PARC Committee</p> <p>i) Purchase of Flagpole to be located outside Manor House and funding for same: It was suggested that a 10 metre flagpole would be suitable. Quotes and funding to be finalised.</p> <p>ii) Land registration and access to Greenhill Cottage: The clerk had written to Ian Davison on this matter and was awaiting a reply.</p>	

		<p>b: Finance Committee</p> <p>i) Future projects and funding of same: The clerk had recently a letter from the Folk Festival indicating that a grant could be available and requesting an application for grant funding. The Finance Committee had discussed the matter previously and it was agreed to seek funding toward the flagpole and the reinstatement of Dark Lane. Clerk to complete application form. The clerk also confirmed that he made an application to the Mendip Hills fund for a new notice board at Nordrach.</p> <p>c: Sheep Fair Working Group</p> <p>i) Report from Bevis Miller: this was deferred until the next meeting.</p>	
	11	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>i: Erection of detached dwelling on land at Wells Road for Mr Jake Baynes – Notice of Appeal, representations by 24th October 2014: Clerk to update objections and circulate prior to submission to the inspector.</p> <p>ii) Application 2014/1378/FUL – Erection of dwelling at Rosemeade, Pelting Road, Priddy for Mr Mark Haynes (re-submission): It had become apparent immediately prior to the meeting that the wrong documents had been forwarded by Mendip. It was agreed to defer consideration of the application until an extraordinary meeting on 15th October and to advise Mendip that the Parish Council response would be delayed.</p> <p>Two other applications had been received after preparation of the agenda and it was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting on 15th October to consider these applications.</p> <p>The grant of permission for Higher Eastwater Farm was noted.</p>	
	12	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>a: Clerks salary and expenses for September £286.04 was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>b: Expenses for Judith Coles for Land Registry information £6.00 was agreed and a cheque raised.</p>	

		c: An invoice for the renewal of the Parish Online mapping facility had been received. It was agreed that there was little use of the facility and that it should not be renewed.	
	13	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> all email correspondence received has been circulated to councillors, any further correspondence will be available at the meeting.</p> <p>A letter of resignation from Richard White was received indicating that he was visiting New Zealand for a period of six months and would therefore be unable to continue to fulfil his council duties.</p> <p>Alan Hutfield thanked Richard for his service to the council and parish during his time as a Parish Councillor and member of the PARC Committee and wished him bon voyage for his travels, sentiments heartily endorsed by the other members of the Parish Council present.</p> <p>The clerk to advertise the resulting casual vacancy.</p>	
	14	<u>Matters of Report;</u> None	
	15	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 5th November 2014, 7.30 Priddy Village Hall.</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
10th October 2014
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