

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2014**

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

		Present: Cllrs Rachel Thompson (Chair), Kate Greet, Barry Wilkinson, Simon Eastham, Chris Dyke; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
	1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Alan Hutfield.	
		<u>Co-option of new member to fill casual vacancy.</u> No one had come forward to fill the vacancy.	
	2	<u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 15 minutes to allow public participation. Three members of the public were present; no matters were raised.	
	3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> Chris Dyke – Greenhill Cottage.	
	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 5 th November 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.	
	6	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meetings:</u> a: Fly tipping: None reported. b: Fingerpost signs at Nordrach and Townsend: Rachel to contact Chris Betty regarding funding to refurbish the Nordrach sign. The Townsend sign was awaiting action from Alan H and Barry Payne. It was noted that the Castle of Comfort sign had been replaced. c: Flooding near St Cuthberts Farm: Clerk to remove banked section of gravel which is blocking water from entering the gully directly. It was noted that Highways are installing new drainage outside Sunnycroft on the Wells Road. d: Illegal use of by-way at Ubley Drove: Rachel advised that additional signs were to be installed. e: Advice of changes to Snowdrop Cottage planning application: The planning consultant had circulated proposed amendments to the site boundary in error. No further action was required at this time.	

7	<p><u>Police Report.</u> There was a discussion about the second case of vandalism to the phone box on Friday 28th October when the door had been completely removed and the electric box cover smashed. There was some doubt about the time of the incident which most likely took place between 9.30pm and 1am. The clerk had reported the matter to the police and had subsequently spoken to Linda Vincent about a plan of action to combat these malicious acts. It was agreed to leave the door off the box at present; the clerk to make a cover for the fuseboard.</p>	
8	<p><u>Council Reports:</u> a: Somerset County Council: No report b: Mendip District Council: No report</p>	
9	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u> a: The New Inn: i) Future actions. The clerk had spoken to Dean Collier but it was agreed that little could be done by the Parish Council to take the matter forward at the present time. Kate reiterated that there was a need to review funding sources available and have a strategic plan in place if the premises came up for sale and this was agreed. It was also agreed to remind Mr Hatton that the Parish Councils offer was still on the table. b: Parish Plan update: i) Report from working group: Additional volunteers were required and a request to be put into the newsletter. There would be a meeting in January and the existing plan would be re-written as necessary and Parishioners views sought. Judith Coles and Glenda Collier were compiling a record of cherished parish assets including photographs. c: Other matters: i) Flagpole to be located outside Manor House. The clerk to check if the flagpole can be erected as permitted development of Parish Council land. ii) Land registration and access to Greenhill Cottage: Ian Davison of Hedleys has been instructed to progress this matter. iii) Improving communications between council and Parishioners: Simon/Barry to consider the introduction of a “forum” on the website and the newsletter to contain a suitable form to allow feedback on this. Simon confirmed that he has set up a Facebook and Twitter account for contact with younger people in the parish.</p>	

		<p>iv) Newsletter: Kate to prepare draft newsletter for circulation in January.</p> <p>d: Update of Standing Orders to include recent legislation: A policy on the broadcasting and recording of meetings had been published by SALC and this was adopted unanimously. The relevant clause in Standing Orders had been revised and this was also adopted.</p> <p>e: Operation of Finance Committee: It was agreed to accept the recommendation contained in the clerks paper on the matter that the exclusion of press and public be considered on a meeting by meeting basis.</p>	
	10	<p><u>Committee Business:</u></p> <p>a: PARC Committee:</p> <p>i) Pincross – Recommendation to commission Somerset Archivist to research information at an approx. cost of £100 and to research information at the Public Record Office, Kew for the same amount; total £200: Albert Thompson had agreed to research the information at Kew and at Somerset and it was agreed to pay reasonable expenses for this. The overall cost not to exceed £200.</p> <p>ii) Somerset Wildlife Trust – Wildflower project; it was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that SWT be invited to speak to the council at the February 2015 meeting; the clerk had spoken to SWT and extended the invitation which was accepted.</p> <p>b: Sheep Fair: Village consultation: An item to be included in the newsletter to advise of a parish meeting provisionally set for Wednesday 11th March 2015 which could also include consultation on the Parish Plan and Youth provision.</p>	
	11	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>No applications received at the time of agenda issue.</p> <p>The following had been received from Mendip District Council: App 2014/1976/FUL – Borderlines, Western Lane – Staff facilities – approval. App2014/0784/FUL – New Inn, Priddy – Change of Use – refused. App 2017/1915/FUL – Whitegate Lodge, Nordrach Lane – New dwelling – refused.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the way that responses on planning applications to Mendip were formulated. It was agreed that the reasons for the Councils recommendations should be summarised.</p>	

12	<p><u>Financial:</u> a: Clerks salary and expenses for November: £286.04. This was agreed and a cheque raised. An invoice from Martin Edwards for Strimming had been received – this was as agreed at £600.00 and a cheque raised. b: Update of Financial Regulations and Internal Control procedures: deferred to Finance Committee meeting c: Budget for 2015/16 – items for Finance Committee meeting on 17th December 2014: A project list had been prepared. Rachel advised that a verbal quote for works to Dark Lane had been received in the sum of £2000.00.</p>	
13	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> all email correspondence received has been circulated to councillors.</p>	
14	<p><u>Matters of Report</u> Continued concern was expressed about the caravan in Nine Barrows Lane. The clerk had written to Mendip and Kate had spoken to the enforcement department. Clerk to write again. Rachel reported that The Mineries had now been scheduled as an ancient monument and would circulate details when received.</p>	
15	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 7th January 2015, 7.30 Priddy Village Hall.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.27pm

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
10th December 2014
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