

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2015**

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

		<i>Present:</i> Cllrs Alan Hutfield (Chair), Simon Eastham, Barry Wilkinson, Chris Dyke, Kate Greet, Rachel Thompson; also in attendance Tom Killen and Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
	1	<i>Apologies for absence.</i> None.	
		<i>Co-option of new member to fill casual vacancy.</i> No application to fill the vacancy had been received.	
	2	<i>Public Forum:</i> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 15 minutes to allow public participation. Four members of the public were present. Dean Collier raised the matter of consultations on the new local plan and queried the current situation with the New Inn. Presentation by SWT on Wildflower Meadows. Rosie Winch (in attendance) outlined the proposals for a three year project in three parishes including Priddy run in conjunction with Plantlife to save wildflower meadows for the future. Three people from SWT would be involved and there was funding available. There would be an informal Public meeting on 25 th February to involve the community. IT was agreed that the PARC Committee should take on this matter and Rosie was invited to the next meeting on 18 th February 2015.	
	3	<i>Declarations of Interest:</i> Chris declared an interest in respect of Greenhill Cottage.	
	4	<i>Resolutions relating to the conduct of the Meeting.</i> None	
	5	<i>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</i> Minutes of the meeting held on 7 th January 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record. Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 21st January 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record.	
	6	<i>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meetings:</i> a: Fly tipping: the two instances of fly tipping at Townsend and The Splotts had been removed but there had been a mattress dumped at Cheddar Head. b: Fingerpost signs; Alan H and Barry Payne had secured the Townsend sign in the correct configuration. Thanks were given to Barry for his help. There had been no response to requests about funding for the Nordrach sign; Rachel to chase up.	

		<p>c: Flooding near Townsend: Neil Corp had advised that an inspection of the problem would be taking place shortly; Rachel to contact and meet to discuss the situation with the adjoining pond.</p> <p>d: Phone box repairs: in hand</p> <p>e: Caravan in Nine Barrows Lane: clerk to speak to enforcement again.</p>	
	7	<p><u>Police Report.</u> There was no report but a number of local break-ins were noted.</p>	
	8	<p><u>Council Reports:</u></p> <p>a: Somerset County Council – no report.</p> <p>b: Mendip District Council: Tom Killen (in attendance) advised that the Local Plan had been examined and adopted but that was a legal challenge from a developer regarding the housing numbers included which would be taken to the High Court. This would obviously involve the council in unexpected expense. The budget was in good shape with a reasonable level of reserve to take the council forward and deal with future funding cuts. He noted there was an offer of free insulation available in the district. The Somerset Rivers Authority had come into being on 1st February. He noted that there was concern about the level of voter registration with the elections coming up in May.</p>	
	9	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p>a: The New Inn: Kate had circulated information about grants available. The status of the New Inn remained unclear.</p> <p>b: Parish Plan update: Kate advised that there was a meeting planned for 12th February to review and prepare information to be available for 11th March meeting. There was a need to invite people to the meeting on 11th March; Kate to prepare a poster. Simon suggested that a “wiki” could be set up to collate on the village information into one place. Kate noted that The Community Council for Somerset was arranging a presentation on neighbourhood plans for 23rd March at Compton Dundon.</p> <p>c: Other matters:</p> <p>i) Purchase of Flagpole to be located outside Manor House and funding for same: It was agreed to provide more information for consideration by parishioners at the meeting on 11th March. Alan H to arrange photographs, clerk to prepare text.</p>	

		<p>ii) Land registration and access to Greenhill Cottage: Information was still awaited from Ian Davison. A query had been made about the works to the tarmac area and parking for the post box. The clerk advised that the situation was likely to be similar to the other long standing accesses across the green despite the discrepancy in registration as the area was registered village green under the control of the parish council. Clerk to respond to email.</p> <p>iii) Improving communications between council and Parishioners: a number of additional requests to receive the newsletter by email had been received; results to be collated.</p> <p>iv) Youth provision: Simon reported that there had been no response to the Facebook or Twitter accounts. It was agreed to launch these on 11th March and to set up a “Youth” page on the website. Simon to forward details to the clerk.</p> <p>v) Satellite Internet: Barry and Rachel to attend a meeting at Mendip on 5th February to discuss the possibility of a pilot project in Priddy. There was some discussion about the coverage within the village of the “Faster Broadband” scheme currently being rolled out but not expected in Priddy until 2017.</p>	
	10	<p><u>Committee Business:</u></p> <p>a: PARC Committee: Confirmation of projects for 2015/16 – New Notice Board at Charterhouse and Gateway at Townsend. These were agreed with the Nordrach Notice board being included if possible.</p> <p>b: Application to Mendip Hills Fund for Notice Boards. It was agreed to submit an application for two boards, Rachel to assist with preparing the application.</p> <p>c: Sheep Fair: Village consultation. Kate to prepare posters for this meeting which was to start at 7.30pm. Topics to be presented were Sheep Fair, Flagpole, Parish Plan and Youth Provision. Cheese and wine to be provided.</p>	
	11	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>a: Application 2015/0071/HSE – Demolition of existing garage and store and erection of a new garage at Rookham House, Old Bristol Road, Rookham for Mr J Callaway. This was approved unanimously.</p>	
	12	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>a: Clerks salary and expenses for January: £375.76 to include reimbursement for Krystal Hosting annual charges. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>b: Adoption of Financial Regulations: These were formally adopted and signed by the Chairman.</p>	

13	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> all email correspondence received has been circulated to councillors, any further correspondence will be available at the meeting.</p>	
14	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u> Kate and Simon had attended the recent Rural Forum and would circulate copies of information about the Local Plan. It was noted that consultation on the plan was to be arranged. It was also noted that the old development limit around Priddy no longer exists.</p> <p>Chris and others expressed concern about the change of roofing materials on the barn at St Cuthberts Farm although it was agreed that no action could be taken as there had been no breach of planning rules.</p>	
15	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 4th March 2015, 7.30 Priddy Village Hall.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
11th February 2015
01749 870358;
parishclerk@priddyparish.org