

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH AMENITIES, RECREATION AND COUNTRYSIDE
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19th NOVEMBER 2014**

VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: THE HUNTERS LODGE INN, PRIDDY @ 7.30pm

	Present: Rachel Thompson (Chairman), Kate Greet, Glenda Collier, Tina Bath, Robin Main, Judith Coles, Simon Eastham; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk). Rachel welcomed Simon Eastham who had taken over from Richard White as a Parish Council representative.	
1	<u>Apologies for absence:</u> Alan Hutfield.	
2	<u>Public Forum:</u> The meeting will be adjourned for 5 minutes to allow public participation. No members of the public were present.	
3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> Robin declared an interest in the car park and cutting the village greens.	
4	<u>Resolutions relating to the conduct of the Meeting:</u> None.	
5	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> The minutes of the meeting held on 15 th October 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.	
6	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u> a: Car park adjoining village hall: This was still awaiting a decision from Mendip, clerk to contact to check on progress. Kate queried whether the AONB had responded to the application; clerk to check with Sarah Jackson. It was generally agreed that it would always be useful to seek input from the AONB on any sensitive planning issues. Any other matters arising will be dealt with under Agenda items 7 – 12.	
7	<u>Village Greens (Robin Maine)</u> a: Village Greens condition (including Top Green Restoration): The lower green was in good condition and had not been affected by the recent Hunt opening meet. The top green was suffering from cars using the lower section at school times and for village hall events. Robin advised that the unsightly orange fencing should be replaced by dragon's teeth with stakes between to prevent parking as the area would not be ready to take the weight of cars until next spring. Alan H had been investigating the costs of the installation of dragon's teeth and it was agreed that costs should be established as soon as possible. b: Village green events in 2014 – The next event would be the Boxing Day hunt meet; Robin had spoken to the Hunt Master on the matter. d: Pincross land – deferred from Parish Council: Rachel outlined recent research into the land which seemed to indicate that it was an ancient highway. It had not been included on the road records dating from 1929 but was probably still designated as ancient highway.	

	<p>She advised that a rights of way claim could be made designating the land as a restricted by-way but that could take up to 30 years. It would, however, be possible if there was sufficient evidence for the Parish Council to designate the land as a highway in advance of the formal designation by Somerset County Council.</p> <p>Some members queried the relevance of these actions but, after discussion, it was agreed that this could be the easiest way to secure the land.</p> <p>It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that the Somerset Archivist be asked to research the history of the land for an approximate fee of £100 and that maps and records be researched and obtained from the Public Record Office at Kew for an approximate fee of £100</p>	
8	<p><u>Highways, Verges and assets</u> a: Highways/Assets Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Flagpole – planning permission: this would be required for a fixed flagpole. Costs had yet to be confirmed. Information to be included on the website and newsletter to gauge village reaction and a decision on whether to proceed made in February by the Parish Council. ii) Assets register update: Judith and Glenda had checked and photographed the assets and this was ongoing. There was a discussion about recording the non-tangible assets considered important to the Parish as a separate document within the overall Asset Register. The clerk had looked at the bench at Two Trees which was still in position but overgrown. The bench to be removed. iii) Repairs to telephone box following vandalism – this was in hand with the door from the old box to be fitted when dried out. 	
9	<p><u>Rights of Way, Commons, Open Spaces (Rachel Thompson)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Priddy Pool restoration project/Dark Lane: Tina had spoken to John Dixon and it was agreed that a good job had been made of the restoration. It was noted that there was still a water leak at the side of the dam; to be sealed next spring. Work was on-going to prepare for the restoration of Dark Lane b) PPLO ROW report: nothing to report. c) Wildflower project – communication from SWT: SWT wished to speak to the Parish Council about a wildflower project in the parish. Concern was expressed about the possible introduction of non-indigenous species and the need to protect existing local species. It was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that SWT be invited to attend the February meeting. It was also agreed that an agenda item of Flora and Fauna be substituted for Caves. 	
10	<p><u>The Mineries.</u> This was now an AONB project with the committee keeping a watching brief. Rachel to contact Sarah Jackson to check on any progress.</p>	

11	<u>Ancient Monuments (Kate Greet):</u> Nothing to report.	
12	<u>Caves and Fracking (Alan Hutfield):</u> Nothing to report.	
13	<p><u>Committee Business:</u></p> <p>a) Projects:</p> <p>i) Gateway at Townsend</p> <p>ii) Nine Barrow kerbing</p> <p>iii) Dark Lane</p> <p>b: Other future projects: Rachel had circulated an updated list and the clerk had prepared a list of all projects which had been discussed with costings. A number of these were discounted. The amended list is appended to these minutes and committee members to consider and prioritise projects for discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>Simon to organise a Facebook page to seek ideas and comments from younger parishioners about youth provision in the parish for which the Parish Council held monies passed on from the defunct youth club.</p>	
14	<p><u>Recommendations to the Parish Council:</u></p> <p>i) Pincross – Recommendation to commission Somerset Archivist to research information at an approx. cost of £100 and to research and obtain maps from the Public Record Office for the same amount.</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.</p>	
15	<u>Matters of Report:</u> The problems with large vehicles using Nine Barrows Lane, the recent email from Alison Moody about a near miss between horses and vehicles and the directions included on satnavs causing vehicles to use the lane were discussed. It was agreed that an item should be added to the next agenda.	
16	<u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> 21 st January 2015; 7.30pm; venue Hunters Lodge Inn, Priddy.	

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Alan Butcher
 Parish Clerk
 26th November 2014
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