

# PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2016

**Present:** Cllrs Kate Greet (Chairman), Tina Bath, Alan Butcher, Chris Dyke, Robin Maine

**In attendance:** William Newton Newey (Clerk)  
One member of the public

PPC16/091

## **Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Coles (prior engagement) and Wilkinson (away from home). These apologies were accepted.

PPC16/092

## **Public Forum**

**Traffic Flows and Speed** – Mr Nick Furze wanted to express concern over this topic which had been raised by Mr James Head at the Annual Parish Meeting. He felt that the suggestion that any calming measures could be put in place without a speed limit was misleading. He further wanted to know why the Parish Council was not promoting the discussion of this topic and considering it itself. The Chairman said that the Parish Council would consider the topic but that it had been referred to the PARC Committee whilst further investigation and discussion took place. The Clerk confirmed that minutes and recommendations from the PARC Committee would come to the full Parish Council.

PPC16/093

## **Declarations of Interest**

*Members are required to act in accordance with the Priddy Parish Council Code of Conduct dated 1<sup>st</sup> 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.*

Cllr Dyke is respect of item PPC16/095a (Land Registration and Greenhill Cottage)

PPC16/094

## **Acceptance of the Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings

PPC16/095

## **Clerk's Report and Continuing Business from Previous Meetings**

### **a) Land Registration and Greenhill Cottage**

*Cllr Dyke left the room (at 19:42, returning at 19:45) for the discussion of this item, having declared an interest.*

The Clerk reported that text of the letter between the owners of Greenhill Cottage and the Parish Council had been agreed subject to the acceptance of additional clause as to maintenance, "who [the Parish Council] are henceforth responsible for the regular maintenance of this land." The Clerk then read the entire letter and **it was resolved that the Clerk should sign the letter on behalf the Council and exchange copies with the owners of Greenhill Cottage.**

WNN

### **b) Mendip Farmers Hunt**

The Clerk reported that he had requested dates, which accorded with the availability of Cllrs Coles, Dyke and Bath, from Mr Pullen, the Chairman of Mendip Farmers' Hunt.

WNN

### **c) Replacement Noticeboards and Bus Shelter (Youth Project)**

It was confirmed that verbal notification had been given to the contractor. The Clerk was still seeking a suitable form of contract.

WNN

### **d) Arrangements for Strimming the Village Green and Other Areas**

Only one expression of interest had been received in respect of strimming between April and September. The Clerk asked that the Council should clarify the areas that it wanted strimmed and the following list was compiled:

- Village Green (upper and lower) Perimeter with the exception of the wall / hedge boundaries with St Cuthbert's Farm and New House which should be cut annually
- Bank behind Greenhill Cottage
- Around the Hurdle Stack and all benches
- Around sign posts and road signs
- Behind Pin Cross and Pin Cross Triangle (if Highways Permit held)

- Village (gateway) stones on Wells Road and Pelting Drove  
It was confirmed that public liability insurance and a statement of safe working (method statement) would be required of any contractor. It was thought unnecessary for the contractor to have a permit to work on the highway, even if cones were being used on the roadside.

**Further discussion was deferred to the Finance Committee to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> June.**

WNN

PPC16/096 **Planning**

No planning applications had been received in time for comment. An extension would be requested for the application received too late for consideration

PPC16/097 **Parish Council Matters**

a) **To adopt Standing Orders**

Cllr Butcher was concerned that the revised Standing Orders and the revised Code of Conduct (item PPC16/097c) did not fully accord with the advice from the Monitoring Officer at Mendip District Council circulated to Parish Councillors in May. In particular the removal of references to prejudicial interests in the Code of Conduct seemed to differ from the Monitoring Officer's guidance. The Clerk confirmed that the Standing Orders were based on the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) model and the code of Conduct on the Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) model.

**At a vote (four in favour and 1 abstaining) it was resolved to defer adoption of the Standing Orders and Code of Conduct until the Clerk had confirmed their appropriateness and validity with the Monitoring Officer.**

b) **To adopt Financial Regulations**

The Clerk confirmed that the proposed regulations were again based on the NALC model, with local amendment in line with the previous Financial Regulations. The only significant change was in increase in the procurement / tendering threshold from £2,000 to £3,000.

**On a unanimous vote it was resolved to adopt the revised Financial Regulations.**

c) **To adopt Members' Code of Conduct**

Deferred – see item PPC16/097a above.

d) **To approve Annual Accounts 2015 / 2016**

**It was resolved to approve the accounts as presented.**

e) **To adopt updated Asset Register**

**It was resolved to adopt the updated Asset Register**

**It was confirmed that a review of Assets should be undertaken in the autumn**

f) **To agree and authorise signature of Part 1 of the Annual Return**

**It was resolved that the first section of the Annual Report (statement of internal control) should be signed, noting the signature of Part 4 by the Internal Auditor**

g) **To agree and authorise signature of Part 2 of the Annual Return**

**It was resolved that the first section of the Annual Report (financial activity).**

The Clerk reported that the due date for the Annual Return set by External Auditors was 1<sup>st</sup> July.

PPC16/098 **Police Matters**

None

PPC16/099 **Council Reports**

a) **Somerset County Council**

There was no report as Cllr Harvey Siggs was not present.

b) **Mendip District Council**

There was no report as Cllr Tom Killen was not present.

PPC16/100 **Financial**

a) **SALC Affiliation (£153.32)** – the payment of the invoice for affiliation to Somerset Association of Local Councils (and National Association of Local Councils) in 2016 / 2017 was agreed and a cheque raised.

b) **The Essential Clerk October 2015 [SALC] (£55.00)** – the payment in respect of the invoice for training received was agreed and a cheque raised.

PPC16/101 **Matters of Report**

a) **Roemead and Tor Hole Road Closure**

The forthcoming closure was noted.

b) **Fly tipping**

Cllr Bath reported that she had not sent picture of fly tipping to the Clerk as by the time she had been able to photograph the offending material it had been removed.

c) **Committee Meetings**

It was noted that the Finance Committee was due to meet on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June. As it was felt that the PARC Committee should meet before 20<sup>th</sup> July, the date of Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June was suggested. The Clerk said that he would liaise with Cllr Coles as Chairman of the Committee.

PPC16/102 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

PPC16/103 **Motion to exclude the Press and Public**

It was resolved to exclude the Press and Public from the final item on the agenda due to the confidential and potential legal implications of the discussion.

The meeting closed at 9:20pm

Signed .....  
(Chairman)

6<sup>th</sup> July, 2016

William Newton Newey  
14<sup>th</sup> June, 2016  
parish.clerk@priddyparish.org