

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 6th July, 2016

Present: Cllrs Kate Greet (Chairman), Tina Bath, Alan Butcher, Chris Dyke, Robin Maine, Barry Wilkinson
In attendance: William Newton Newey (Clerk)
Cllr Tom Killen (from item 110)
One member of the public

PPC16/105 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies had been received from Cllr Coles. Apologies had also been received from Cllr Harvey Siggs of Somerset County Council.

PPC16/106 **Public Forum**
Nil

PPC16/107 **Declarations of Interest**
Members are required to act in accordance with the Priddy Parish Council Code of Conduct dated 1st 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 PPC16/108a (Land Registration and Greenhill Cottage)

PPC16/108 **Acceptance of the Minutes of Previous Meetings**
The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9th June 2016 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings. The Part II minutes of the meeting held on 9th June were amended to reflect concerns expressed by Cllr Bath as to development on the Green.

PPC16/109 **Clerk's Report and Continuing Business from Previous Meetings**

a) **Land Registration and Greenhill Cottage**

Cllr Dyke left the room (at 19:37, returning at 19:38) for the discussion of this item, having declared an interest.

The Clerk reported that the owners of Greenhill Cottage had noted that the access across the Green had been added to the deeds of the property by a previous owner. They were consulting with their solicitor before signing the letter, the last paragraph of which made which made reference to the access as being established by long term use.

WNN

b) **Mendip Farmers Hunt**

It was confirmed that Cllrs Bath, Dyke and Coles were to meet with the Chairman of the Hunt on Monday 18th on the Green.

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

The Clerk had sent a contract to Charley Roberts-Arnold. It was confirmed that planning permission was not required due to the size and nature of the Bus Shelter.

WNN

PPC16/110 **Planning**

The Chairman suggested that planning applications might be viewed on the planning portal as an alternative to the paper copies which were being received with too little time for circulation.

a) **2016/1419/FUL** Retrospective - Proposal for the construction of a detached carport at the front of the development site and rearrangement of vehicular parking spaces. - Lower Pitts Farm Wells Road Priddy Cheddar Somerset BA5 3AZ

It was felt that the new plan was better than that originally submitted but that it was unfortunate that it was a retrospective application. There was concern about the layout and location of the car parking. At a vote (four in favour, one against and one abstaining) the Council resolved to support the application.

b) **2016/1196/FUL** - Erection of two stables - Penny Cottage Wells Road Priddy Wells Somerset BA5 3AT

There was a concern about the prominent position of the stable block but no other objections. At a vote (four in favour, one against and one abstaining) the Council resolved to support the application.

c) **2016/1609/FUL** - Erection of agricultural building for storage of fodder and machinery (not livestock) - Higher Eastwater Farm East Water Lane Priddy Cheddar BA5 3AX

As the paper copy of this application had not been received in time for circulation, consideration was deferred to an Extra-Ordinary Council meeting to be convened on 20th July.

PPC16/111 **Finance Committee**

- a) The minutes of the Finance Committee held on 15th June, 2016 were received.
- b) Recommendations from the Finance Committee:
 - i. **It was agreed to create separate budget lines for Nordrach Noticeboard and the Bus shelter and Noticeboards for the Village Green.**
 - ii. **The creation of verge protection plan was referred to the PARC Committee.**

PPC16/112 **Parish Council Matters**

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

The Chairman reported that she had spoken with the Monitoring Office at Mendip District Council and that the Clerk had had a similar conversation. The NALC / SALC version of the Members' Code of Conduct was acceptable and the recent letter from the Monitoring Officer had sought to clarify why some Council's still had references to prejudicial interests. Cllr Killen said that Mendip District Council had retained the concept in its Code of Conduct as it was felt to offer good guidance to councillors. The Chairman re-stated that the important concept was of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) which had become a matter for criminal investigation; if there was doubt, any other interests should be treated as though they were a DPI. The Monitoring Officer had suggested some training on this topic and a session would be arranged for the August meeting of the Council.

At a vote (all in favour) it was resolved to adopt the Code of Conduct.

b) **To adopt Standing Orders**

At a vote (all in favour) it was resolved to adopt the Standing Orders

c) **To Dissolve the Sheep Fair Committee**

The Committee had been in abeyance for some time as there was no interest in attempting to hold a Fair or volunteers for the Committee.

It was resolved, unanimously, to dissolve the Sheep Fair Committee with immediate effect.

d) **To close the Sheep Fair Account and transfer funds to a new reserve account for "the promotion or preservation of the Rural Nature of the Parish"**

It was felt that the funds in the Sheep Fair Account should be held for the preservation and promotion of the rural nature of the Parish. The Clerk suggested that the funds be transferred to a new reserve account to be called the "Priddy Parish Council Preservation Account"

It was resolved unanimously to close the sheep fair account and transfer the funds to the new "Preservation" account, with the same signatories as the Parish Council current account.

e) **To note arrangements for the Implement Sale on 24th September, 2016 and confirm arrangements for Rural Crafts Fair**

Cllr Dyke confirmed that a brief meeting of volunteers had been held in respect of the Rural Crafts Fair and plans were in hand. The Church would run the Refreshment Tent and Bar. The Implements Sale itself would take place on the main section of lower Green.

The arrangements were noted.

f) **To consider the need for a Housing Needs Survey and the requirement for Affordable Housing in the Parish**

Cllr Butcher said that if the Council believed that the only development which should be permitted was of affordable housing, a Housing Needs Survey would be a key element in the approach to planning. Cllr Killen said that there was provision in the local plan which would permit development in areas otherwise not scheduled for development if there was need demonstrated by a Housing Needs Survey. The Chairman stated that Cllr Coles had been in contact with Community Council Somerset who were offering support (financial and practical) in undertaking this type of survey. Cllr Butcher undertook to speak to Cllr Coles. It was noted that affordable housing could equally apply to older people as young persons and families.

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g) **Parish Newsletter**

The title of the Newsletter was changed to "Going Electronic" to reflect the fact that future Newsletters would be circulated electronically unless a paper copy was specifically requested. **The content of the draft Newsletter was agreed (with the proviso that the Chairman would confirm the reference to the Wildflower Group with Mrs Glenda Collier).**

KG

PPC16/113 **Police Matters**

None from the Police.

Cllr Butcher reported a suspicious "highways" lorry, the driver of which was asking for information about the Folk Festival.

PPC16/114 **Council Reports**

a) **Somerset County Council**

There was no report as Cllr Harvey Siggs was not present. The Clerk confirmed that written reports were still not being received from Cllr Siggs PA.

b) **Mendip District Council**

Cllr Killen reported that it had been a busy month for Mendip District Council, with the Referendum on EU membership (polling stations and counting) and the Glastonbury Festival. Staff had been stretched but had responded well.

Mendip District Council would be involved in the debate over devolution of powers and fund to the South West. It was felt that whilst devolution would be supported, there would be little interest in having an elected Mayor.

The transfer of "back office" functions to Capita continued, with some (such as Land Charges which might happen in August), being transferred ahead of plan.

Cllr Killen was encourage to note that the fly-tipping reported by Cllr Bath had been removed before she had a chance to photograph it. He offered his continued support on this and other matters.

PPC16/115 **Financial**

a) **Clerk's Remuneration** – the payment of the Clerk's Remuneration and PAYE from February to June were agreed and cheques for £712.80 and £178.20 respectively were raised (signed by the Chairman and Cllr Wilkinson).

b) **Strimming [Cole Major] (£200)** – the payment in respect of the invoice for strimming received from Cole Major was agreed and a cheque raised (signed by the Chairman and Cllr Wilkinson)

There had been a little confusion as to the areas which were to be strimmed and Cllr Maine was asked to identify the areas on a plan for consideration at the next Council meeting. The Clerk confirmed that he had requested the next strimming be undertaken at the end of August.

PPC16/116 **Matters of Report**

a) **PARC Committee**

Wednesday 20th July was noted as the next meeting of the PARC Committee.

b) **Broadband**

Cllr Wilkinson reported that he had attempted to contact six or seven companies in connection with broadband provision. One company had responded and this had been a fairly positive response. There was to a meeting with AB Internet and he undertook to supply councillors with more information by email.

BW

c) **Temporary Signage**

Cllr Wilkinson was concerned about the number of temporary notices that had been left around the Parish after the cycle event at the weekend. It was believed that, on the highway, no permission was required. The Clerk was asked to contact the organisers of the event.

WNN

d) **Fire Signs**

Cllr Bath said that she was continuing to liaise with Forest Enterprises and the Fire Brigade about fire warning signs, after the recent fires in the Parish.

PPC16/117 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

An Extra-Ordinary meeting would be held on Wednesday 20th July at 7:30pm

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 3rd August, 2016 at 7:30pm

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 8:59pm

Signed
(Chairman)

3rd August, 2016

William Newton Newey
12th July, 2016
parish.clerk@priddyparish.org

Final Draft

Initialed