

# PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2017

**Present:** Cllrs Kate Greet (Chairman), Alan Butcher, Chris Dyke,  
Robin Maine, Barry Wilkinson (Vice-Chairman)

**In attendance:** William Newton Newey (Clerk)  
Cllrs Tom Killen and Harvey Siggs (items 17/58a to g and 17/061 only)  
2 members of the public (1 for items 17/58a to g and 17/061 only)

PPC17/050

## **Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

PPC17/051

## **Public Forum**

Nil.

PPC17/052

## **Declarations of Interest**

*Members are required to act in accordance with the Priddy Parish Council Code of Conduct adopted 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 (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.*

PPC17/053

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

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2017 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

PPC17/054

## **Chairman's Report**

- a) **Co-option to Casual Vacancies** – nobody had offered themselves for co-option and the matter would be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- b) **Spring Clean** – the Vice-Chairman reported that this had been attended by four adults and a number of children. While not a large number of people had attended, Cllr Dyke felt that quite a bit of rubbish had been collected. Cllr Butcher noted that the Spring Clean had been at the start of the school holidays and it was agreed that an alternative date should be identified in future.
- c) **Verges and Verge Protection** – A meeting with Mr Neil Corp of Somerset Highways had been arranged for 09:00 on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April.

PPC17/055

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

- a) **Noticeboards**  
The Clerk reported that the old Parish Council noticeboard had been collected from outside the New Inn. The Clerk and Cllr Maine had met Mr Charley Roberts-Arnold at Nordrach to agree the location for the noticeboard. At the same time, the Clerk had given the key to the Bus Shelter noticeboard to Mr Roberts-Arnold, who was going to expand the space available for notices.
- b) **Sheep Fair Plaque**  
There was no further information on this item.
- c) **Dark Lane**  
Cllr Butcher had agreed with Mr Tom Owen that the works to improve drainage at the top end of the lane would take place on 11<sup>th</sup> April.  
*Cllr Maine left the meeting having declared an interest.*
- d) **Arrangements for Mowing and Strimming the Village Green**  
The Clerk said that one quote had been received for the Mowing of the Village Green (upper and lower) and one for the strimming of the Village Green and other areas.  
**It was resolved that the contract for Mowing the Village Green be placed with RP & S Maine, for three years (as per the published specification).**  
**It was agreed that the contract for strimming the Village Green and other areas be placed with Mr Cole Major, for three years (as per the published specification).**  
*Cllr Maine re-joined the meeting.*
- e) **Greenhill Post Box**  
The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Royal Mail stating that the post box at Greenhill would be replaced.

The Clerk was requested to enquire about the times of collections from post boxes in Priddy.

WNN

PPC17/056

### Planning

- a) **2017/2077/FUL** – Conversion and extension of detached garage into dependent relative accommodation - Cold Comfort Wells Road Priddy Wells Somerset BA5 3AZ The consultation on this application appeared to have been re-issued but no documents had been received. As the new consultation period was until 18<sup>th</sup> May, further discussion of the application was deferred to the May meeting of the Council
- b) The appeal against refusal of planning permission in respect of an extension to main house Higher Eastwater Farm East Water Lane Priddy Wells BA5 3AX (2016/2989/HSE) was noted. It was further noted that, as householder appeal, the Inspectorate would not accept further submissions but would allow previous submissions to be withdrawn. **It was agreed that no action would be taken.**
- c) The approval, with conditions, of planning application for a rear single storey extension at 4 Pelting Drove Priddy Wells BA5 3BA (2017/0024/HSE) was noted.

PPC17/057

### Finance Committee

- a) The Minutes of the Finance Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> March were noted.
- b) **Postage for Housing Needs Survey**  
**The recommendation of the Committee that postage of the Housing Needs Survey, at a cost of £127, be undertaken by Community Council Somerset was agreed.**

PPC17/058

### Parish Council Matters

- a) **Housing Needs Survey**  
Cllr Butcher reported that the survey was ready for distribution except for a statement from the Chairman. The Chairman read the statement which she had prepared. The statement was agreed by Council. **A budget of £50 was agreed to provide an incentive for the return of the Survey.**  
Cllr Wilkinson agreed to approach the Victoria Inn about a voucher for a meal for two. The Survey would be distributed before the Annual Parish Meeting.
- b) **To note progress on progress on Local Plan Part II: Local Green Spaces and Sports Provision**  
The information from Mendip District Council was reviewed. It was noted that the Church was St Lawrence's, not St Michaels, and that there was a curve in boundary on the plan showing the Village Green which excluded an element of the Green in front of the New Inn. The Clerk was asked to report these to the District Council.  
It was further noted that Priddy Pool, Coxton End Lane and Granny's Garden, suggested by the Council, had not been included.
- c) **Wireless Broadband**  
Cllr Wilkinson said that there was little that he could report. Installation work by Voneous had and was being undertaken in the Parish. There had been some confusion with Highways as to the scheduling of works to provide the fibre connection. It was noted that the works needed to be completed by the end of June to qualify for the CDS (Connecting Devon and Somerset) voucher scheme.  
Cllr Wilkinson told the meeting that Gigaclear, who were working with CDS to provide superfast broadband, had moved Priddy from "Under Review" to "Network Design".
- d) **Upper Green Signage**  
The temporary signs on the Upper Green had been successful in stopping inappropriate parking and it was agreed that these be made permanent. Cllr Butcher agreed to obtain a quote for the new signs.  
The cones would be removed for Upper Green as it was now the School holiday and there were no large bookings for the Village Hall.
- e) **Priddy Friendly Society Club Day Liaison Committee**  
The Liaison Committee would consist of the Chairman, Mr Mike Brown, Mr Stephen Main and Mr Mike Garfield. The Clerk confirmed that the Council's insurance would cover the event, if the Council were the controlling authority. The insurance brokers' advice and requirements would be made available to the Committee.

KG

BW

WNN

Cones and fencing would be used to mark out an area on the upper Green in which races and other children's activities would be held. It was confirmed that Mr Barry Payne held insurance for his Bouncy Castle.

- f) **To agree arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 26th April, 2017**  
The presentations were agreed as: Broadband (Cllr Wilkinson), Housing Needs Survey (Cllr Butcher) and Countryside, Customs and Conflicts (Dr Stephen Banks of Reading University).  
The Chairman would arrange the cheese and wine, and Cllr Dyke the soft drinks, tea and coffee. A budget of £100 was set for the Annual Parish Meeting.  
Volunteers were requested to help set up the display boards in the Village Hall [6:45pm].
- g) **To authorise the signing of a deed granting of an additional easement in respect of the existing access to New House for the proposed new dwelling next to New House, Priddy Green for the consideration of £22,000**  
**The signing of the deed was agreed unanimously, with the chairman and Vice-Chairman as signatories and the Clerk as witness.**

KG  
CD

PPC17/061

## **Council Reports**

### a) **Somerset County Council**

Cllr Siggs reported that he had asked Highways to check the signage and road markings at the Castle of Comfort Junction (PPC17/43d) and these had been confirmed as being correct but were under review. Cllr Butcher noted that the road markings were much worn. Cllr Siggs replied that this was part of the review.

The County Council would be again operating a small Improvement Scheme (up to £50,000) for Highways and the Council was invited to submit suggestions for areas of improvement. Cllr Siggs urged the Council to adopt an approach which identified a problem but left the solution to the Highways Department.

The end of the financial year had seen the County Council with a balanced budget, after a small amount of transfers from reserves and the contribution from business rates.

The financial year 2017 to 2018 would continue to be challenging and there would need to be further savings such as bus subsidies. Cllr Siggs noted that bus subsidies did not affect Priddy as it did not have a bus service; the Chairman corrected the observation to say that there was a well-used bus service once a week.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked Cllr Siggs for his work for the county council constituency and hoped that he would continue to enjoy his role as a ward councillor on Mendip District Council.

### b) **Mendip District Council**

Cllr Killen reported that schemes to generate incomes streams from borrowed funds were beginning.

Fly Tipping had been particularly bad on the boundary with BANES (Bath and North East Somerset) and North Somerset, following the strengthening of regulations at re-cycling and waste centres in these authorities.

*The meeting was briefly adjourned as Cllrs Siggs and Killen, and a member of the public left the meeting.*

PPC17/059

### **Parish Path Liaison Officer**

No report

Cllr Butcher said that he had been contacted by a councillor at East Harptree about a track on private land at Smitham's Hill which had been stated as public footpath.

PPC17/060

### **Police Matters**

- a) The February and March Crime Reports for Wells Rural Team area were noted. The dates for the Mobile Police Station visiting Priddy were also noted and the Clerk confirmed that they would appear on the website.

PPC17/062

### **Financial**

- a) The Budget Statement and Bank Reconciliation that the Clerk had tabled were noted.
- b) Council noted and ratified the payment made as a deposit made to Community Council Somerset for the Housing Needs Survey (£500)
- c) The payment of the invoice from the Village Hall Committee was agreed and a cheque for £60.00 was raised.
- d) The reimbursement of the Clerk for the cost of a battery for the Phone Box Defibrillator was agreed and a cheque for £293.55 was raised.

PPC17/063 **Matters of Report**

Nil.

PPC17/064 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 7:30pm (Annual Meeting of the Council)

The meeting closed at 8:20pm

Signed .....  
(Chairman)

3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2017

William Newton Newey  
17<sup>th</sup> April, 2017  
parish.clerk@priddyparish.org

Final Draft

Initialed