

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 5th December, 2018

Present: Cllrs Chris Dyke, Mark Leach, Robin Maine, and Barry Wilkinson (Vice Chairman)

In attendance: William Newton Newey (Clerk)
Cllr Mike Pullin (Somerset County Council) to item PPC18/176)
Cllr Tom Killen (Mendip District Council) from item PPC18/179 to 175b
One member of the public.

PPC18/172 **Apologies for absence**
Cllrs Alan Butcher and Gilad Oren. Cllr Wilkinson took the Chair

PPC18/173 **Declarations of Interest**
Members are required to act in accordance with the Priddy Parish Council Code of Conduct adopted 6th 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.
Cllr Maine in respect of item PPC18/182d

PPC18/174 **Public Forum**
No matters were raised

PPC18/175 **Council Reports**
b) **Somerset County Council**

Cllr Pullin reported that gritting of roads had been re-instated for 2018/2019 and that county council grit bins would be refilled. It was noted that the item was on the agenda later in the meeting and the plan attached did not show the bins in Priddy Parish. Cllr Pullin said that he would check on this matter.

Cllr Leach noted that there had been a good response form the Highways Department in respect of repairs to potholes. Cllr Pullin said that there was central government funding to cover this expenditure.

In response to a question from Cllr Leach, Cllr Pullin said that he believed the County Council would receive a report on the possibility of a unitary authority for Somerset in January.

PPC18/176 **Police Matters**

There was no report.

Cllr Leach noted that there had been a burnt out vehicle at Charterhouse for two weeks. As Cllr Pullin thought this was an issue for Mendip District Council, the Clerk was asked to contact the Council.

PPC18/177 **Acceptance of the Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th November, 2018 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

PPC18/178 **Planning**

a) **2018/2497/FUL** Demolition of existing garage and creation of two storey rear extension to the existing dwelling Ubley Warren House Burrington Road Charterhouse Cheddar BS40 7XW

It was noted that previous application had been refused. It was also noted that the extension was of considerable size but in keeping with the original property.

At a vote (three votes in favour and one abstention) the meeting resolved to support the application.

b) **2018/1015/HSE** Erection of curtilage garage outbuilding - New House Priddy Green Priddy Cheddar BA5 3BB

The Clerk read the minute from the Parish Council meeting of 6th June, 2019 at which it had been resolved not to support the application. It was noted that officers had recommended approval and that the matter would be considered at the January meeting of the Mendip District Council Planning Board. It was further noted that the Chairman would attend on the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

Clerk's Report and Continuing Business from Previous Meetingsa) **Mendip Farmers' Hunt**

The Clerk reported that he had received responses to his email sent in response to concerns raised over the Hunt. It was restated that any questions of illegal activity should be referred to the Police. It was agreed that no further action be taken.

b) **Advance Notice of Road Closure**

It was noted that there would be further closures of the A371 and roads on the edge of the Parish, similar to the closure in place at Draycott. This was for Gigaclear to lay fibre optic cable and the closures were being made use of by other utility companies.

c) **To arrange a meeting of Personnel Committee (Clerk's Appraisal)**

The Clerk undertook to arrange this with Cllrs Butcher, Maine and Wilkinson.

d) **Bus Shelter Roof**

The Clerk had spoken with the contractor who was to undertake repairs within the week, though, given the inclement nature of the forecast, it was thought this might be a little delayed.

e) **Deer Leap Car Park Grass Cutting**

The Clerk had spoken with the gentleman who had been cutting the grass and strimming around the car park. The AONB had confirmed that they would pay expenses if he were to sign up as a volunteer. Cllr Leach said that other people, known to the original person, were also carrying out some tasks, such as repairing dry stone walls, at Deer Leap.

f) **Dursdon Drove**

Cllr Leach confirmed that the gate had been removed from the Drove. He had also spoken with the new owners of the farm who had indicated that they would like to replace the gates, which would be locked open except when stock was being moved. Cllr Leach had invited them to write to the Council.

g) **Car Parking on the Village Green**

Some issues had been resolved. It was thought that there was little more that could be done but continued vigilance was required.

h) **Old New Inn**

The Clerk had written to the owner of the Old New Inn saying that Council did not want at site visit between 18th and 24th December. As requested, the Clerk had suggested a meeting of interested parties in January but had had no reply.

Council Reportsb) **Mendip District Council**

Cllr Killen said that he was to meet with the owner of the Old New Inn to discuss the development of the site.

Wells would have a Christmas Market between 19th and 22nd December and there would be a similar market at Shepton Mallet between 14th and 16th December. There would be free car parking in Mendip between 19th and 24th December and on 1st January.

Cllr Killen reported that there was enough provision to accommodate all rough sleepers in the district. Mendip District Council Officers were in contact with rough sleepers but often the offer of accommodation was declined.

Gritting of roads had been reviewed after discussions between Mendip District and Somerset County Council. Some of the roads that were not to be gritted were in use as diversionary routes for road closures.

There was a further discussion of the burnt out car at Charterhouse. Cllr Killen identified the location and Cllr Leach said that the AONB were aware of the car's presence.

Finance Committeea) **The minutes of the meeting held on 21st November, 2018 were noted**

b) It was noted that the budget for 2019 / 2020 did not include a provision for road gritting. It was agreed to leave further consideration but to ask the County Council to make its intentions for the winter of 2019 / 2020 clear at an earlier stage in the year.

The Budget for 2019 / 2020 as prepared by the Clerk and recommended by the Finance Committee was adopted.

c) **The outline budget projections for 2020 / 2021 and 2021 / 2022 prepared at the same time as the 2019 / 2020 budget were noted.**

- d) **It was resolved that project funding for Priddy Pool be reduced to £319**
- e) **It was resolved that Nine Barrows Triangle finger post be refurbished and re-sited at an estimated cost of £500**
- f) **It was resolved that the refurbishment and re-siting of the Bristol Plain finger post be included in the 2019 / 2020 budget at a an estimated cost of £1,000**
- g) **It was resolved that That Financial Regulation 7.4 (in relation to a confidential cash book to record payments to staff) be rescinded.**
- h) **It was resolved that a gratuity of £50 be paid to the Internal Auditor.**

PPC18/181

Parish Council Matters

a) **Parish Path Liaison Officer**

Mr Mark Gratton introduced himself. A local resident, he described himself as an avid walker who had visited Priddy to walk before becoming a resident. He was also a gardener and had been a volunteer ranger with the AONB.

It was resolved to support Mr Gratton's appointment as Parish Paths Liaison officer for Priddy.

WNN

b) **Welcome Pack**

This had been suggested the South West Waste Partnership's offer of material to go into a pack. The idea received general support and it was thought that an A5 format, including a copy of the PEW Magazine, might be good to give to people moving into the Parish. The collecting of information might also provide material for the Parish website. The Clerk would explore the matter.

WNN

c) **Business Rates Relief on Public Toilets [Falmouth Town Council]**

Falmouth Town Council were lobbying to ensure that there was business rate relief on public toilets.

WNN

It was resolved to support the campaign.

d) **Request for Grant from Citizen's Advice Bureau**

It was resolved to defer this request to the January meeting of the Finance Committee
A request for funds had also been received from Mendip Community Transport

WNN

e) **Connecting Devon and Somerset Broadband User Survey**

Cllr Wilkinson could not understand the need for a fresh survey. It was noted that Gigaclear were about a year behind in the plan for Connecting Devon and Somerset. Cllr Leach asked about Truespeed Cllr Wilkinson explained that they were offering an alternative service. The Truespeed model required a set number of households to sign up and that approximately two thirds of the required number households in Priddy had signed up but it appeared that Truespeed were also overstretched. It was suggested that any contact from Truespeed be directed to the editors of the PEW magazine.

f) **Parish Paths Consultation [Somerset County Council]**

It was suggested that Mr Gratton might look at this consultation and make comment to the Council in advance of the January meeting of the Council.

MG

g) **Provision of roadside grit/salt 2018/19 [Somerset County Council]**

Cllr Maine would check the number and condition of the bags of grit stored at the Village Hall. The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council about the fact that no grit bins were shown in Priddy Parish.

WNN

h) **Mendip Hills AONB Management Plan 2019 - 2024 Consultation**

Councillors were asked to send comments to the Clerk in advance of the January meeting.

Cllrs

PPC18/182

Financial

a) **Bank Reconciliation**

The Clerk explained that the bank had made a correcting entry to cancel the error generated by an incorrect payment. £100 had been received as compensation from the bank as it had taken a year for to correctly rectify their error.

The bank reconciliation was noted.

The following payments were authorised and cheques signed

b) **Registration Fee to the Information Commissioner (£40.00)**

c) **Refurbishment and re-siting of Noticeboard at Nordrach and Sheep Fair plaque at Hurdle Stack [Charley Roberts-Arnold] (£480.00)**

- d) **Mowing of the Village Green [RP & S Maine] (£192.00)**
- e) **Clerk's Remuneration for October to December, 2018 [HMRC (£115.20)] [WD Newton Newey (£461.30)]**
- f) **Hire of the Village Hall (£65.00)**

PPC18/183 **Matters of Report**

- a) **Car Wheel on Village Green**
Cllr Dyke said she would remove the wheel abandoned on the Green opposite the Causeway. CD

PPC18/184 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**
The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 9th January at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 20:40

Signed
(Chairman)

9th January, 2018

William Newton Newey,
13th December, 2018