

Priddy Parish Council

Minutes the Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 4th October, 2017 at 7:30pm in Priddy Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Kate Greet (Chair), Chris Dyke, Barry Wilkinson, Robin Maine and Alan Butcher. Also in attendance Cllr Tom Killen. In the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Butcher took the minutes.

PPC17/158 **Apologies for absence:** William Newton Newey (Parish Clerk)

PPC17/159 **Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr Maine declared an interest in item 17/163c

PPC17/160 **Public Forum**

Three members of the public were present.

Sylvia Hobbs spoke about Townsend Pool and whether it could be tidied up and reinstated. There was some discussion about its origin and works that had been previously undertaken.

PPC17/161 **Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 6th September, 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record with an addition to 17/152a "It was agreed to investigate the next steps in providing affordable housing in Priddy."

PPC17/162 Chairman's Report. Cllr Greet noted the previous minutes regarding Townsend Pool and it was agreed to review the works required and seek local knowledge in order to bring the pool back to its previous state.

PPC17/163 **Clerk's Report**

a) **White Lining in Pelting Drove**

As requested, the Clerk had written to Mr Chris Betty stating that his reply was not satisfactory as far as Priddy Parish Council was concerned. As agreed, I asked that Mr Betty make reply to Cllr Mike Pullin as Somerset County Council divisional councillor. No replies or further communications had been received.

b) **Mendip Farmers' Hunt Kennels**

As requested, the clerk had written to Cllr Tom Killen as Mendip District Council ward councillor about the reply received from Mr Simon Snartt. No reply had been received. There has been no further communication from Mendip Farmers' Hunt.

Cllr Maine left the room at this point

c) **Village Green Kerb Clearance**

A quotation had been received from R, S and P Maine of £150 + VAT for this work which was accepted.

Cllr Maine returned to the meeting.

d) **Verge Protection**

Specification for Village Green at Manor Farm . Cllr Butcher had prepared a specification and it was agreed to seek quotes to kerb approx. 50 metres from the edge of the diary apron to the wall of Bay Tree Cottage site with dropped kerbs as necessary. Cllr Butcher to finalise and forward to the clerk.

e) **Housing Needs Survey**

It was agreed to hold a public consultation before the next parish Council meeting on 1st November starting at 7pm. Email and website to advertise consultation and the Clerk to be asked to prepare suitable posters.

PPC17/164 **Planning:**

Applications will be available for inspection for fifteen minutes before the meeting commences.

a) **Mendip Planning Board** – 27th September . Cllr Greet advised on the outcome of the planning board re: Cold Comfort which had been approved. KG

b) To note outcome of recent planning applications. These were noted.

PPC17/165

Parish Council Matters:

a) **Registration of Pincross**

This was still in hand awaiting SCC to contact Cllr Butcher.

AB

b) **Application for a Grant from Priddy Folk Festival**

It was agreed to seek a grant of £500 toward the works to Townsend Pool.

c) **Rural Fun Day**

This had been a success with the exception of the car boot sale, various organisations reported that they had raised funds at the event. The accident with the tent which was caught by a gust of wind was in the hands of the insurers. Cllr Dyke reported that an auctioneer had indicated that they would like to take on the implement sale in 2018.

CD

d) **Top Green Signage**

Cllr Butcher presented a draft of the sign in alternative colours and it was agreed to use a dark green lettering on a white background.

AB

e) **Nordrach Finger Post**

In hand with Somerset Forge.

AB

PPC17/166

Police Matters

Lucy Bagowitz presented a report (attached)

PPC17/167

Council Reports:

a) **Mendip District Council**

Cllr Killen reported that there appears to be a need to review and update the local plan in the light of the need for the construction of 650 houses per annum over coming years. This is likely to effect the status of all existing settlement designations. He noted that the Public Space Protection Orders are likely to be approved on Monday 11th October giving wider powers against such things as dog fouling and anti social drinking. He commented on the number of empty properties in the district with Mendip looking to ways to bring these back into use by way of grants, etc. He pointed to an economic initiative in establishing partnerships in local towns between employers, colleges and schools and the district council to improve economic development. He responded to the email regarding the letter from the enforcement officer noting it was poorly phrased in a blunt manner. This had been passed onto the portfolio holder for comment and whilst he couldn't comment on planning issues he asked that the clerk pass on details of the various planning issues connected with the Hunt Kennels. He hoped that a meeting could be convened between all parties to resolve these issues. Finally, he advised that the Mendip address database was being updated to remove the use of Cheddar alongside Priddy addresses.

TK

b) **Somerset County Council** – no report.

MP

PPC17/168

Financial

a) To agree payment for Strimming [Cole Major] (£200.00) - agreed

b) To agree a payment for the use of the Village Hall for Council meetings (£120.00) - agreed

c) To agree a payment for the Housing Needs Survey [Community Council Somerset] £2,435.00 - agreed

d) To note Audit by External Auditors – held over until next meeting.

e) To agree payment of External Audit Fee [Grant Thornton LLP] (£120.00) – agreed and a cheque signed, clerk to forward when all information to hand.

f) To receive a Bank Reconciliation – this was noted.

PPC17/169

Matters of Report

a) **Priddy Pre-School**

Cllr Dyke acquainted the Parish Council with the current problems of the pre-school where pupil numbers had fallen to a very low level making the pre-school unsustainable. There were suggestions that the pre-school would close in the very

near future. This could have a detrimental effect on intake to the school and also the breakfast club which catered for children before the official school start time. Currently there was need for new chairman and committee members to take the group forward. There was to be a meeting on Thursday 5th October and an open meeting was proposed after this date to discuss the future. Councillors agreed to circulate information on behalf of the group and Cllr Killen asked to be kept informed.

c) **Mendip Farmer Hunt**

Cllr Butcher asked if the hunt had sought permission to use the village green for their opening meeting. To date it was understood that no such request had been received. Previously they had normally contacted Cllr Maine but had been advised in recent years to write to the Parish Council

PPC17/170 **Date of Next Meeting:**
Wednesday 1st November, 2017

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

William Newton Newey, Parish Clerk
parish.clerk@priddyparish.org.