

# PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

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

**In attendance:** William Newton Newey (Clerk)  
Cllr Tom Killen (Mendip District Council from item ppc18/168k)  
One member of the public.

PPC18/159 **Apologies for absence**  
Cllr Gilad Oren

PPC18/160 **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.*  
Nil

PPC18/161 **Public Forum**  
It was noted that the grass was being cut and strimmed around the Dearleap Car Park. A parishioner had spoken to the person undertaking the works who came from Wells and said that he was doing it voluntarily but would welcome some reimbursement in terms of fuel and transport costs. Further discussion of this was deferred to Matters of Report.

PPC18/162 **Council Reports**  
b) **Somerset County Council**  
There was no report as Cllr Pullin was not present.

PPC18/163 **Police Matters**  
There was no report.  
It was noted that new Policing arrangements for the area from an Inspector in Yeovil had been circulated to Councillors. It was further noted that Wells Police Station would be moving to share the site of Wells Fire Station.

PPC18/164 **Acceptance of the Minutes of Previous Meetings**  
The minutes of the Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

PPC18/165 **Planning**  
**2018/2547/CLE** Certificate of Lawful Existing Use for the stationing of two residential Caravans, Byways Burrington Road Charterhouse Cheddar Bristol  
It was noted that the application related to two of three caravans on the site. As this was believed to be a matter of purely legal determination, the Council resolved to make no comment and to leave the matter to the decision of the Mendip District Council Planning Department

PPC18/166 **Clerk's Report and Continuing Business from Previous Meetings**  
a) **Pincross Licences**  
The Clerk reported that he and the Chairman had not been able to locate the most recent version of the licenses.  
b) **Parish Website**  
The Chairman felt that the Council should consider what was required and what it desired from a website. The fundamental need was to comply with the Transparency Code's requirement to publish Parish Council information. Problems had been encountered in the past with trying to maintain a community website, not least the need for community organisations to keep information up to date. Cllr Dyke said that the loss of the Village Hall calendar from the website had been noticed, it having been removed due to the transparency of booking details within Google. Cllr Wilkinson said that more up to date calendar widget were available for more modern CMS  
The Clerk said that he found the current content management software (CMS) dated and noted that Joomla and Wordpress were the most commonly used CMS. Paying for a

developer would have be the subject of cost benefit decision, paying for expertise as opposed to a longer time period for an in house development.

**It was agreed that the current website be overhauled in the next few months.**

**It was further agreed to convene a meeting of Parish organisations to discuss the need for and nature of any community website.**

An advert for the meeting would be placed in the PEW (parish) Magazine and closer links with the PEW would be investigated. Councillors were asked to explore links with those they knew in community organisations. The Clerk would investigate hosting alternative CMS with Krystal.

The Clerk was asked about the Parish email distribution list. This had dwindle to 24 addresses after the consent review required by GDPR / Data Protection Act 2018. 5 more addressed had been added as a result of slips completed at the Implement Sale.

c) **Bristol Motor Club Event: 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2018**

It was noted that this event would be taking place on Ubley Drove.

PPC18/167

**Events Committee**

a) **To note the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018**

The minutes were noted.

The Bonfire and Fireworks had been very successful and attended by more people than expected. This was thought, in part, to be due to the pyrotechnics company having put the event on their Facebook page.

d) **The Battle's Over Beacon**

People were being asked to arrive at 6:30pm on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November. There would be reading and short silence at 6:50pm with the Beacon being lit, as part of the national chain, at 7:00pm

PPC18/168

**Parish Council Matters**

a) **To receive a report on works at Townsend Pool**

Cllr Wilkinson reported a successful day working on the Pool, which he felt was looking better. Thanks to all who had helped and Cllr Maine for removing the brush which Cllr Wilkinson noted would form part of the Battle's Over Beacon. Further works would be required in the spring, including the use of a digger to remove stumps. There appeared to be clay already present in the Pool and Cllr Wilkinson thought it worthwhile putting stones on the edge of the Pool to prevent damage by vehicles. The end of the drain feeding the Pool had been identified and would be rodded to unblock it.

BW  
WNN

**A vote of thanks was made to the AONB Volunteers.**

b) **To receive a report from Priddy School in respect of plans for Priddy Pool**

The Clerk had received no report

c) **To discuss cessation of Mobile Library stop in Priddy**

The cessation of the Priddy stop was lamented. An email received by the Clerk noted that as a couple had left the Village, usage had dropped below the three people required to meet the County Council's criteria.

WNN

It was noted that the offers of lifts to local libraries had been made and that details could be supplied.

d) **To consider repairs to the Bus Shelter roof**

The Chairman noted that the plywood of the roof was delaminating. He thought this might be because of the roof covering had not been taken over the edges of the roof.

The Clerk was asked to contact the contractor who had made and erected the bus shelter about remedial works.

e) **To consider repairs to the Causeway and re-surfacing the footpath**

The Chairman noted some damage to the retaining wall on the edge of the highway, which he was willing to repair. He had also noted that the surface of the causeway was becoming overgrown and that the surface needed renewing.

**It was agreed that there would be a call for volunteers to clear and resurface the causeway and that the Council would purchase some suitable gravel.**

f) **To note Open Spaces Society draft strategic plan for the period 2019-2024.**

The draft strategic plan was noted without comment.

g) **To note the Somerset Association of Local Councils [SALC] Annual General Meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2018**

The Clerk was asked to send apologies as nobody could attend.

**It was agreed that Cllr Leach be the Council's representative for SALC.**

- h) **To authorise the use of the Village Green by Priddy Folk Festival: 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**The use of the green was agreed.**

- i) **To agree date of Implement Sale: 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2019**  
**The date for the event on the Village Green was agreed**

- j) **To consider revision of Village Green Byelaws**

The Clerk had circulated the new model Byelaws. The model byelaws would need to be edited and adapted in respect of Priddy Village Green and then submitted to the Home Office.

**It was agreed that the Clerk and the Chairman would produce a draft of revised Byelaws for consideration by the Council.**

- k) **To note presentations from Mendip District's Council's Parish Forum held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2018**

The presentations were noted.

PPC18/169

#### **Financial**

- b) **To receive a Bank Reconciliation**

The Clerk had circulated a reconciliation to councillors. The reconciliation still included 79p Natwest Bank had still to refund in respect of their error in November 2017. The Clerk had been assured by the Bank that the reconciliation difference should have finally been cleared by the December reconciliation. The reconciliation was signed by Cllr Maine.

PPC18/162

#### **Council Reports**

- a) **Mendip District Council**

Cllr Killen said that there was a review of the Parish Forum, Parish Bulletin and the interaction between the district council and parish / town Councils. The desire for more Planning Training, including district as well as parish councillors, had been identified.

Mendip District Council had taken steps to strengthen the Enforcement Team in its Planning Department; the team would be more visible. Steps had also been taken in respect of enforcement and fly-tipping. Cllr Leach had noted the tipping of single vehicle tyres at Stockhill Forrest.

The Investment strategy continued with the purchase of commercial property to produce an income stream. Amongst the latest elements was the Saxovale site in central Frome, where it was hoped there would be a mixture of commercial and housing use.

Cllr Wilkinson asked about Gigaclear and the delivery of broadband. Cllr Killen said that Gigaclear's plans had been disrupted as Carillion had been one their contractors. The target for completion by the end of 2019 had been revised to Spring of 2020. Giga clear had created a new base in Taunton and communications were improving.

PPC18/170

#### **Matters of Report**

- a) **Finger Posts**

The Chairman drew the meeting's attention to two finger posts. That at Bristol Plan which had been knocked over and required two finger posts, a new section and re-siting. An estimate of £900 had been received for these works. The second post at Nine Barrows Lane triangle which was leaning. It was suggested that this post needed to be removed, shot blasted, re-painted and re-siting.

These items were to be included on the agenda of the Finance Committee.

- b) **Somerset Waste Partnership Briefing**

The Chairman had been interested to read that aerosol cans could be included in kerbside recycling. There was a request to remove caps and nozzles before putting these items in the recycling boxes.

- c) **Mendip Famers Hunt**

The Clerk had received a number of emails in respect of the Hunt following its opening meet on the Village Green

It was agreed that a response be made by the Clerk, stating that the use of the Green was not unlawful and that what happened when the Hunt left the Green was neither the responsibility or under the control of the Parish Council.

d) **Dearleap Car Park**

It was thought that the car park was the property of Somerset County Council but that it had been maintained by the AONB. It was established that the car park was in the parish of Priddy.

**The Clerk was asked to contact the person who had been cutting the grass and strimming the area and offer a contribution in respect of fuel transport.**

WN

e) **Oil Pollution- Swildon's Hole**

Cllr Wilkinson reported that there was evidence, including strong fumes, of pollution by oil in Swildon's Hole. On a previous occasion the source of pollution had been traced to a leak in the School's heating oil tank. He asked that people check their tanks for any leaks.

WNN

f) **Archaeological Site**

Cllr Wilkinson reported that there had been further interference with the dig site of Worcester University. This had been discovered during the University's autumn visit and appeared to deliberate damage of a previously dug site.

g) **Clerk's Annual Review**

It was noted that the Clerk's review was due in December and it was agreed that a date for a meeting of the Personnel Committee would be set at the Finance Committee.

PPC18/171

**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 20:40

Signed .....  
(Chairman)

5<sup>th</sup> December, 2018

William Newton Newey  
10<sup>th</sup> November, 2018  
parish.clerk@priddyparish.org