

PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 2nd October, 2019

Present: Cllrs Alan Butcher (Chairman), Chris Dyke, Juanita Glass, Mark Leach (Vice Chairman) and Rachel Thompson MBE

In attendance: William Newton Newey (Clerk)
Cllr Mike Pullin (Somerset County Council) [from PPC19/149b to PPC19/139a]
Five members of the public

PPC19/136 **Apologies for absence**
Cllrs Alan Adams and Lucy-Rose Andrews

PPC19/137 **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 Glass declared a personal interest in PPC19/143c

PPC19/138 **Public Forum**
Mr Barry Wilkinson confirmed that the Phone Box Defibrillator was functional after its recent use. Mr Wilkinson's offer to continue monitoring the Phone Box Defibrillator and making reports to the South West Ambulance Service Trust (as part of their accreditation scheme) was gratefully accepted. The Clerk confirmed that a spare set of pads would be ordered.

PPC19/139 **Council Reports**

b) **Mendip District Council**
There was no report as Cllr Killen had apologised for not being present as he had to attend another meeting.

PPC19/140 **Police Matters**
The report received on 1st October from PCSO N Housley was noted. The Clerk was asked to seek further detail on the reported suspicious vehicle on a farm track in Priddy and the two traffic collisions on Plummers Lane. WNN

PPC19/141 **Parish Paths Liaison Officer**
There was no report from the Parish Paths Liaison Officer.
The nature of ladder styles and their suitability to the type of visitor who came to Priddy was raised by Cllr Thompson who had received comment from a local campsite. The Clerk was requested to ask the PPLO to raise the matter with Somerset County Council. WNN

PPC19/142 **Acceptance of the Minutes of Previous Meetings**
The minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2019 were signed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

PPC19/143 **Planning**

a) **AONB's response to 2019/1957/FUL** Conversion of existing barn to dwelling and demolition of adjacent barn. Ubley Drove Farm Ubley Drove Charterhouse Cheddar BS40 7XN

The response from the AONB was noted and that the response was counter to the support which the Parish Council had given to the application. Concern was expressed over the nature of the AONB response which referred to planning policies such as dark skies but did not seem to take into account socio-economic factors relating to the viability of rural communities. It was also felt that rather than seeking mitigation of material concerns, which was the current national policy, the AONB responses sought outright rejection of applications. It was also noted that the AONB responses had been forwarded to the Parish Council after it had considered most cases.

It was resolved that the Clerk should write to Cllr Nigel Taylor, Chairman of the Mendip Hills AONB Board, expressing the concerns of the Council. WNN

b) **2019/2157/FUL** Extension to agricultural building, silage pit and slurry store. Dale Farm Dale Lane Priddy Cheddar BA5 3BQ

At a vote It was resolved unanimously to support the application.

The Clerk was asked to include the following comment in the response of Mendip District Council: the application would improve the rural environment, contribute to the economy and farming heritage of the area.

c) **2019/2198/HSE** Rear extension Glen View Wells Road Priddy Cheddar BA5 3AU

At a vote (four in favour and one abstaining) It was resolved to support the application

- d) **2019/2164/FUL** Re-development of existing Stone Barn to form a single residential dwelling and associated landscaping. Plot 1 At Home Farm Nordrach Lane Priddy Cheddar Somerset

It was noted that this was adjacent and similar to an application considered at the previous Council meeting. It was also noted that a similar response had been made by the AONB.

At a vote was resolved unanimously to support the application.

The Clerk was asked to add the following comment to the notification of support to Mendip District Council: the design was felt to be good and a good use of a redundant agricultural building.

- e) **2019/2304/VRC** Application to remove condition 3 (restriction of occupancy) of planning approval 2016/2111/HSE (Demolition and replacement of an existing outbuilding with a single storey annexe) to enable the occupation of the residential annexe as a self-contained dwelling house. Ground Floor Flat Minery House Hill Farm Road Priddy Cheddar Bristol

It was noted that the property was on the boundary of Priddy and East Harptree parishes. As with other applications, there was concern about the address shown on the application and its correctness.

At a vote it was resolved unanimously to support the application.

- f) **Planning Cases Decided**

The outcome of the following cases was noted:

2019/1238/LBC Enlarging the main gateway into the farm, and re-instate the original stone gate post, re-build wall Chancellors Farm Plummers Lane Priddy Wells BA5 3DD
Approved with conditions

2018/2050/FUL Appeal Decision

Appeal Ref: APP/Q3305/W/19/3226386

The Old New Inn, Priddy Green, Priddy, Cheddar BA5 3BB

Appeal Dismissed. Further discussion of this case was deferred to Matters of Report.

2019/1673/HSE Proposed single storey side extension

Greenacres Old Bristol Road Chewton Mendip Cheddar BS40 6DD

Approved with conditions

2019/1761/FUL Proposed new detached equipment storage shed, extension and modification of gas storage compound and relocation of displaced storage shed.

Caravan Park Mendip Heights Townsend Priddy CHEDDAR BA5 3BP

Approved with conditions

PPC19/144

Clerk's Report

- b) **Heavy Goods Vehicle Signage: Wells Way / Wallace Lane junctions with Western Lane**

The Clerk reported that he had contact Customer Services at Bath and North East Somerset as the promised reply from Traffic Management had not been received.

Cllr Dyke queried the placement of the pictographic signs on Nine Barrows Lane. The Clerk undertook to contact Somerset County Council Highways as this work had been instructed.

WNN

- b) **Bus Shelter**

The Chairman had obtained prices for materials for the roof and noticeboards. The Clerk noted the general condition of the Bus Shelter and Cllr Leach suggested that the structure would benefit from a coat of wood preservative.

It was resolved to set a budget of £250 to cover roof repairs, noticeboard improvement and wood preservative.

The Clerk would order the materials in the name of the Parish Council.

WNN

- c) **Welcome Pack**

Consideration of this topic was deferred as Cllr Andrews was not present.

PPC19/145

Events Committee

- a) **The minutes of the Events Committee held on 18th September, 2019 were noted**
b) **It was resolved that a village bonfire and fireworks party organised in conjunction with Priddy Friendly Society be held on the Village Green on Tuesday 5th November.**
c) **It was resolved to grant permission for the Friendly Society to place a Christmas**

tree on the Green next to the Hurdle Stack and to decorate the tree and Hurdle Stack with lights.

- d) **It was resolved that the Parish Council would hire the Village Hall for a Tea Party (after the ceremony to mark the World War Commemorative tree planting) and a 1940s themed Dance to be organised by the Friendly Society.**

PPC19/139 **Council Reports**

a) **Somerset County Council**

Cllr Pullin told the meeting that £2,000 was available to each County Councillor to put forward up to four grant proposals, between 1st September and 30 November 2019, to improve the lives of local communities. The focus of the scheme was to empower communities and groups to take responsibility for local action, help people to become better integrated in their own communities and to reduce pressure on local services. Papers relating to the grant scheme had been sent to the Clerk that evening. It was agreed that consideration of an application for a grant would be on the agenda for the next Council meeting,

Winter gritting of roads was to be re-instated and Somerset Highways would fill grit bins. Cllr Pullin advised that if new grit bins were purchased, they would be filled but that bags of grit would not be left at the roadside. It was agreed that the purchase of a bin for Rookham be included on the agenda of the next Council meeting.

WNN

WNN

PPC19/146 **Parish Council Matters**

a) **Planning Process**

There was a brief discussion of a policy and process document and its purpose.

It was resolved to adopt the new policy.

b) **Public Meeting 13th November**

It was confirmed that the meeting would focus on Climate Emergency / Green Initiatives and Community Led Housing. The merits of different approaches taken by local district and unitary authorities was debated.

It was resolved to offer tea, coffee and biscuits for the meeting which would start at 7:30pm.

Cllr Glass undertook to produce a poster and to submit it to the PEW magazine.

JG

c) **Large Scale Ordnance Survey Map**

Consideration of this matter was deferred to the November meeting of the Council.

d) **Bristol Airport Expansion**

The Chairman noted that Bath and North East Somerset Council had made a formal objection to the outline application to expand the airport. While Priddy was some distance from the airport, any increase in the capacity of the airport would result in wider air lanes approaching the airport; there was the potential for more flights over Priddy. The impact of the airport on air quality, rural nature of the locality and relation of airport expansion to the Climate Emergency were debated. On the latter point, Cllr Leach noted that it had been argued that the increase of regional airports might lessen journeys and environmental impact overall as there would be less need to travel to national hub airports. The Chairman drew the meetings attention to the airport's website and the website set up by those opposing expansion. He asked councillors to consider the topic before a discussion at the next Council meeting.

All

e) **Priddy Folk Festival Grant**

The Clerk had obtain a price for a Cardiac Science Powerheart G5 automatic, external defibrillator and lockable case (similar to that in the Phone box on the Lower Green) of £1,503 excluding VAT. He noted that there would be a small additional cost for fixing the case and providing an electrical supply to the case (heating and lighting). The outside of the Village Hall was agreed as a suitable location for the new defibrillator.

It was resolved to make an application for £1,000 to Priddy Folk Festival as a contribution to the purchase and installation of the Defibrillator and Case.

WNN

f) **Defibrillator and First Aid Training**

It was noted that after the recent incident in which the defibrillator had been used, there had been requests for training. The Chairman had spoken to the South West Ambulance Service Trust who had not been able to provide any support in respect of training. The Chairman said that he would contact the individual in Draycott that had been approached in the past. The training was likely to be basic life support including the use of the defibrillator rather than full First Aid Training.

AB

g) **World War Commemorative Tree Planting**

The Chairman noted that an approach needed to be made to the Church about the use of glebe land to the back of the churchyard. This was felt to be a good location, where access could be easily made and that there would be a pleasant view as well as the planting itself.

The type of tree to be planted was discussed and it was felt that something fast growing but not overly large would be preferable to oaks. Field maples, sorbus and elms were mentioned and it was agreed that costs for larger saplings would be obtained for the next meeting of the Council.

As had been noted, the planting would be marked by an event to coincide with the 75th Anniversary of VE Day On 8th May 2020

h) **Mendip Farmers Hunt**

The 2018 Boxing Day meet had resulted in a number of emails, some not very pleasantly worded, being sent to the Parish Council. A Freedom of Information Act request had also been made and the Parish Council's response posted on a public website. It was noted that refreshments, including alcohol had been sold at the Boxing Day meet and that there was a concern about traffic congestion and stewarding.

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had replied to the Hunt's requests to hold their Opening (2nd November) and Boxing Day Meets on the Priddy Village Green, drawing their attention to the Village Green Bylaws and Council's Policy on the use of the Green by local, not-for-profit organisations which covered sales and stewarding of events. The policy also referred to appropriate insurance and it was felt that both insurance documents and liquor licences were made available for inspection by the Clerk. After a discussion, it was agreed to treat the two meets as two separate requests; agreement might be made to the Opening Meet while clarification was sought about the Boxing Day meet.

It was resolved grant permission for the Hunt's Opening Meet on 2nd November while reserving any permission with respect to the Boxing Day meet until clarification was obtained from the Hunt.

WNN

i) **Somerset Association of Local Council Annual General meeting**

It was agreed that the Clerk would attend the annual general meeting on behalf of Priddy Parish Council.

WNN

j) **Training**

The Chairman noted that attendance at training was listed amongst the management actions in the Council's Risk Assessment.

The next training session for Chairman was on 4th December, which was scheduled as a meeting of the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the December meeting of the Parish Council be moved to 11th December to allow the Chairman and Cllr Leach (Vice Chairman) to attend.

The Clerk was asked to book the training.

PPC19/147

Financial

a) **Bank Reconciliation**

The reconciliation had been circulated to councillors and was signed by Cllr Glass. The Clerk noted that the annual wayleave had been received from Western Power Distribution but had not been banked.

The following payments were authorised:

b) **Hire of Village Hall April to September 2019 [Priddy Village Hall] £63.00**

c) **Village Green Mowing [RP & S Main] £576.00**

The Clerk was asked to query why the area at Pincross had not been cut for some time.

d) **Clerk's Remuneration [HMRC] £123.20 and [WD Newton Newey] £496.80**

e) **Clerk's Expenses July to September [WD Newton Newey] £20.86**

PPC19/148

Matters of Report

a) **CPRE Somerset Annual General Meeting (18th October 2019)**

The date, time and place of the meeting were noted.

b) **The New Inn**

As had already been noted, the appeal against refusal of planning permission by Mendip District Council had been dismissed by the Planning Inspector. There was now a concern about the future of the New Inn and the possibility of it being left semi-derelict or being sold to a developer. It was felt that the Council should be proactive in securing a future of the New Inn, though it did not fulfil the criteria to be registered as an Asset of Community

Value.

After discussion, it was suggested that Cllr Thompson would approach the current owner of the New Inn and that the Clerk could subsequently write a letter asking if the owner would like to talk with the Council at a time and location convenient to all.

RT
WNN

c) **Malicious Communications**

Cllr Leach wished it noted that he was concerned to hear that malicious communications were again circulating in the parish and had been directed to the owner of the New Inn.

d) **Somerset Rivers Authority**

The Clerk informed the meeting that he would be circulating the Annual Report of the Somerset Rivers Authority.

e) **Gigaclear**

The Clerk had received an email from Gigaclear requesting a meeting with the Council. The email noted that there had been significant changes in respect of the Connecting Devon and Somerset Project and that Gigaclear were "taking the opportunity to re-plan of some sections of the network which will better enable us to deliver this essential service." It was noted that all Connecting Devon and Somerset Project contracts with Gigaclear had been cancelled as they were unable to fulfil contracts within due time.

PPC19/115 **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 6th November, 2019

The meeting closed at 9:27pm

Signed(Chairman)

6th November, 2019