

## COUNCIL MINUTES

A Meeting of the Parish Council held on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020**  
at **8:00pm** by Zoom Virtual Platform

**Present:** Cllrs Alan Adams, Juanita Glass, Mark Leach (Vice-Chairman),  
Rachel Thompson MBE

**In attendance:** William Newton Newey, Parish Clerk, eleven members of the  
public

PPC20/093 **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Andrews, Butcher and Dyke

PPC20/094 **Declarations of Interest:** Nil

PPC20/095 **Public Forum**

Members of the public attending were invited to speak declined to do so.

PPC20/096 **Clerk's Report**

a) **Speed Limits**

The Clerk drew the meeting's attention to the literature search that he had undertaken. This included relevant sections from the Department for Transport circular 01/2013 relating to speed limits and the proposed introduction of a 30mph speed limit in Priddy in 2010/2011. The Clerk noted that literature search extracts showed that discussion in relation to the speed limit had lasted a year and concluded with the framing of a question for a parish poll at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2011. He reported that in the subsequent parish poll in May 2011 a very significant majority had voted against the introduction of a 30mph speed limit in Priddy village and a small minority had supported it. The literature search was available on the parish website.

There were no questions or comments in relation to the literature search.

PPC20/097 **Parish Council Matters**

a) **Children's Road Safety Campaign**

Cllr Leach outlined the proposal for a Children's poster competition to produce posters to address the subject of road safety including perception of speed in the village. It was proposed that eight or nine posters (estate agents board size and style) would be produced. Cllr Leach thanked all those who had been involved in devising the competition and noted involvement of Gill Flurry, Lisa Edwards and James Head. The cost of the competition would be £275 to include the cost of posters and prizes. The closing date for entries would be the end of September and would be judged by a panel, each parish councillor nominating a judge, at a meeting to be convened by the Clerk. It was suggested that additional signs could be sponsored by individuals at £25.00 each.

**On the proposal of Cllr Adams, seconded by Cllr Glass, the arrangements for the poster competition / campaign and budget of £275 were agreed nem con.**

The Vice Chairman then spoke about contacts which had been made in relation to traffic calming measures. This include the Somerset County Council Roads Department and Road Safety Officer. Cllr Leach and Cllr Adams had made contact and met with the Road Safety Officer from Avon and Somerset Constabulary. The Officer had responded to their enquiries by saying that he would set up Speed Indicator Displays (SIDs) in the village and that these could be attached to recording equipment. These would be in place for 10 days. The Road Safety Officer had thought it unlikely that a speed limit would be implemented in the Village as there had been few accidents, it would not be a policing priority and Somerset County Council, as traffic authority, had no funds for such a project.

Discussion than turned to other traffic calming measures such as the walls to

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the gateway stones.

It was noted that there had been a minor road traffic accident in the village in the week before the meeting.

Cllr Adams referred to the results of the speed survey undertaken ten years previously as part of the discussion of speed limit in 2010 / 2011. He said he would be interested if the SID data recording would show a similarly low level of speed through the village. As there was evidence that drivers responded to SIDs; he wondered if the Parish Council might purchase some SIDs, that were a relatively low-cost item, which could then be deployed where and when the Council thought appropriate.

Cllr Leach believed that there was also evidence that drivers responded to clean and correct signage and that this would help with better driving through the Village.

Cllr Glass noted that the gateway stones on the Wells Road were located near the Hunters Lodge Inn and that this was some considerable distance from the edge of the village centre.

Cllr Adams noted that a local village had introduced street lights as a means of ensuring a 30mp limit without the need for repeater posts.

Cllr Thompson reminded the meeting that the gateway stones were located on the verges of the highways and had been approved by Somerset County Council as the Highways Authority. She recalled that the Highways Authority had agreed to the walls to the stones on Pelting Drove but had not agreed to the walls at Townsend or Wells Road. Somerset County Council would need to be consulted before further gateway walls were built.

There was a brief debate as to whether there were more young families in the village than had been the case when a speed limit was last proposed in 2010 / 2011.

Cllr Thompson noted, in respect of street lighting, that the village was a protected area of darkness as part of the AONB. She felt that it was important to concentrate on traffic calming measures.

b) **Strimming**

A request that the area in front of the boundary walls of St Cuthbert's Farm and the New Inn should be strimmed. The Clerk reported, that in accordance with the specification for strimming, these areas were only strimmed once a year.

**The Clerk was requested to obtain a cost for inclusion with the regular strimming.**

The Clerk said that the contract for strimming (and mowing the Village Green) were to be re-tendered in 2020 but that this had not happened due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. He opined that it would be best to add the areas on an ad hoc basis until the end of the season.

PPC20/098 **Financial:**

**To authorise the following payments**

- a) Major Maintenance for Strimming of the Village Green and other Areas £230.00  
The invoice was not available and so payment could not be authorised.

PPC20/099 **Matters of Report**

a) **Road Safety Poster Campaign**

Cllr Thompson requested that the Highways Authority were consulted before posters were sited on the verges of road. Cllr Leach said that the posters were all to be placed on private land.

b) **Flagpole**

Cllr Glass said that she had been asked if the Council would reconsider moving the flagpole from outside Manor Farm and closer to the Hurdle Stack.

**It was agreed that this would be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.**

c) **Misuse of the Village Green by Motor Vehicles**

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Cllr Glass wondered if the surveillance camera could be mounted on the Hurdle Stack as it had been reported that the surface of the Green had been damaged by drivers of 4x4 vehicles doing handbrake turns.

**It was agreed that this would be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.**

d) **Priddy Village Hall Defibrillator**

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator had been installed on the Village Hall. Cllr Adams volunteered to undertake the checks on the defibrillator to ensure it was in fit for purpose and could be registered.

PPC20/100 **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday **2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020**

This meeting would also be held virtually on the Zoom platform

Signed .....  
(Chairman)

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

The meeting closed at 8:43pm.

William Newton Newey, Parish Clerk

21<sup>st</sup> August 2020