

Minutes of the meeting of Priddy Parish Council held on 6th July 2011 in the Long Room of The Hunters Lodge Inn, Priddy.

Due to a fire at the village hall on 5th July 2011, it was not possible to use the hall for the Parish Council meeting, the venue was changed at short notice and Notices posted to advise of the change.

**Present:** Cllrs Alan Hutfield (chair), Rachel Thompson, Sharon Sparkes, Liz Turley, Kate Greet, Rick Tobiassen, Richard White; also in attendance Harvey Siggs, Tom Killen, PCSO Linda Vincent and Alan Butcher(Clerk)

**35 (1) Apologies for absence:** none, all present.

**36 (2) Declarations of Interest:** Kate declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 6c of the agenda (minute 40c)

**37 (3) Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st June 2011:**

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

**38 (4) Public Forum:** the chair adjourned the meeting to allow public participation and questions:

- a Some 6 members of the public were present.
- b Roger Dors (in attendance) asked that any changes to the Village Greens and Highways Committee took account of the importance of the village greens to the area.

**39 (5) Matters arising from the Meeting held on 1st June 2011:**

- a *Year end 2010 Audit and fee:* Moore Stephens had responded negatively to the offer made by the council regarding the fee for the y/e 2010 Audit. It was agreed to take the matter forward to their Peterborough office, the clerk to draft and circulate a letter for comment. The clerk also noted that he had had email correspondence regarding the y/e 2011 Audit.

Clerk

- b *Peacock damage:* Rachel had spoken to "the owner" who had responded that she was not, in fact, the owner and that the birds were wild. It was agreed that options for the capture and removal of the birds and whether they could be considered "a nuisance" should be investigated. Clerk to advise complainant of actions being considered.

Clerk/all

signed..... 3rd August 2011

- c *Traffic Matters - Miners Arms crossroads:* Harvey Siggs advised that there were rumble strips in place on the approaches to the junction and that it was not a problem of signs or visibility but of drivers failing to take sufficient notice and care. Sharon felt that the rumble strips should be made larger. Harvey advised that there was no possibility of the junction being staggered.
- d *Traffic calming:* Alan H, Rachel, Kate and Liz had met with Somerset Highways (Tom Hayward) who had advised that gateways consisting of plastic fencing panels with advisory signs could be placed near the village stones at Townsend and Pelting Drove and near the entrance to Lower Pitts farm. Additionally, the white lining could be amended. Tom to advise costs for this work.

**40 (6) Financial:**

- a A cheque for £162.72 in respect of the clerks salary and expenses for June 2011 was agreed and raised.
- b A cheque for £17.06 in respect of the reimbursement to the clerk for printing and laminating maps was agreed and raised.
- c A cheque for £130.00 in respect of stone wall repairs by Mike Brown (Coppermine Ltd) was agreed and raised.
- d A cheque for £288.00 in respect of grass cutting by D B Gibbons was agreed and raised.
- e A quarterly financial report had been circulated by the clerk, it was agreed to hold a separate meeting to review confidential budgets and financial matters All

**41 (7) Planning:**

- a A Planning Contravention Notice regarding the fence at Pincross had been issued.
- b The clerk advised that permission had been granted to Will Simmons for the conversion of redundant farm buildings - application 2011/0667

**42 (8) Agenda Items:**

- a *Group Buying of Fuel:* information about this was still being collected, the matter to be carried forward. Agenda
- b *Reclaim of VAT:* all the information had been passed to Rick by the clerk, Rick to complete and submit claim. Rick
- c *Feedback from training sessions:* it was agreed to discuss various ideas at a separate meeting All
- d *Parish Online mapping:* Richard to evaluate and report to next ordinary meeting on 3rd August 2011 Richard
- e Civil Contingencies, emergency planning: clerk to arrange for template from Som LA CC unit to update village contacts and for a visit from members of the unit regarding civil emergencies in September/October. Clerk

signed..... 3rd August 2011

**f Matters of Report and Emergency Items:**

Rachel advised that she had reported fly tipping at the end of Eastwater Lane to Mendip DC.

**g Sheep Fair Committee report:** Sharon advised that she had attended the last meeting on 29th June 2011. The police were to prepare a letter for travellers regarding length of stay and use of facilities provided. Mendip DC were worried about the driving of traps in the horse field and the RSPCA were concerned about the selling of puppies. A person with a CRB check was required to deal with any lost children. Martin Edwards had spoken to Dorothy Gibbons about where funds from car parking should be placed, Richard who was involved via the PCC suggested a meeting to resolve the process for the distribution of car park monies as figures being quoted in the Sheep Fair Accounts did not show that the monies from the 2010 fair had been divided between three village accounts. Richard, Rick and Alan B to arrange a meeting. The next SFC meeting is on 10th August 2011.

Richard/Rick/Clerk

**h Greens and Highways Report :** the minutes of the last meeting had been circulated. Alan H advised that he had asked Martin Edwards for a quote to strim around the notice board at Nordach and the stones at Pelting Drove and Townsend.

**i Scope and Terms of Reference and changes to Greens and Highways Committee:** The Terms of Reference for a new committee entitled the Parish Amenity, Recreation and Countryside Committee to replace the existing VG&H had been circulated. The committee would look at a wider area than just the village greens with an expanded Parishwide remit. The chairman would be a parish council member. In response to a question from the clerk, Rachel advised that the intended process for the co-option of non council members would follow that used by the Parish Council and that the vacancies would be advertised. Prop Alan, sec Rachel that the Terms of Reference for the new committee be adopted, all agreed and the Terms of Reference were adopted with immediate effect. The clerk advised that the current Financial Regulations referring to the VG&H committee would require amendment.

Clerk

**j Somerset County Council update:** Harvey Siggs advised that the Electoral Commission were currently reviewing existing electoral wards, there would be consultation with Parishes and the process would take approximately 6 months. He also advised that SCC would be looking to find another £15m of savings in the coming year.

signed..... 3rd August 2011

**k Mendip District Council update:** Tom Killen advised that there was a proposal that a group be set up to look at rural isolation. There was currently an accommodation review in progress with staff moving to remote working. MDC were awaiting details about future budgets from the government. He also advised that there was to be a Folk Festival at Ebborways Farm in September.

**l Police Community Support Officer:** enquiries were proceeding about the village hall fire with three lads being questioned.

#### **43 (9) Correspondence:**

MDC Parish Information Bulletin  
AONB updates  
AONB Annual Review  
SCC Consent for motor event 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September  
Clerks and Councils Direct publication  
Came and Company/Aviva Insurance information  
SCC Libraries information (fwdd)  
Bus services timetable  
Clerks and Councils Direct publication

Signed..... 3rd August 2011

The meeting closed at 9.50pm  
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