

## PRIDDY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2012

**VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: PRIDDY VILLAGE HALL @ 7.30pm**

		<u>Present:</u> Councillors Alan Hutfield (Chair), Rachel Thompson, Kate Greet, Sharon Sparkes, Liz Turley, Richard White; also in attendance Tom Killen and Alan Butcher (clerk)	
	1	<u>Apologies for absence</u> were received from Rick Tobiassen.	
	2	<u>Public Forum:</u> The meeting was adjourned to allow public participation. Four members of the public were present.  The Clerk read a letter from Tracey Brookes regarding the aggressive behaviour of the peacock in Pelting Road toward a pony being ridden along the road which had resulted in a near accident and great distress for the rider. It was agreed that the birds should either be confined or removed from the area. Rachel to speak to the owner to seek an agreement for the removal of the birds, Mendip DC to be contacted to see if the birds constituted a nuisance.	RMT
	3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There were no declarations.	
	4	<u>Resolutions relating to the conduct of the Meeting.</u> None	
	5	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2012 were agreed and signed as a true record.	
	6	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meetings:</u> <b>a: Fly tipping:</b> all fly tipping had now been cleared. The Chair thanked Barry Payne for removing the bed in Nine Barrows Lane. <b>Litter Clearance Event:</b> This had been organised for 11 <sup>th</sup> March, the equipment had been booked and the event advertised.	Clerk

		<p><b>b: Emergency Planning:</b> The collection of information was nearing completion, contact details were in hand and the formulation of a management team proceeding. The draft document to be circulated in due course. A location where the completed plan could be lodged to be agreed.</p> <p><b>c: Housing Needs:</b> The survey had been completed and sent to Mendip DC.</p> <p><b>d: Affordable Housing:</b> The new occupiers had now moved in and all formalities were completed.</p> <p><b>e: Top Green damage:</b> A letter from the school was read out indicating that they had taken steps to introduce a “one way” system. It was noted that a small minority still drive onto the grassed areas. Concern was expressed about the erosion to the road running down behind St Johns Cottage and it was agreed to seek a quotation for kerbing the missing section between the existing kerbs and St Johns Cottage.</p> <p><b>F: Consent to use village greens/events calendar:</b> A draft letter prepared by the clerk was agreed with the addition of wording requiring “adequate stewarding arrangements”. The calendar of events was in preparation.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
	7	<p><u>Police Report.</u> Linda Vincent and Spencer Scott Page were in attendance. They advised people to be on their guard and look out for suspicious vehicles. They advised on Operation Relentless which had taken place dealing with rural crime and looking for suspicious vehicles and individuals as well as advising on insecure vehicles and the like. An increase in the level of thefts of animals was noted as well as thefts of heating oil, vehicles and scrap metal.</p> <p>A specialist crime reduction officer was now available to give advice on personal and home security from her base in Shepton Mallet.</p>	
	8	<p><u>Council Reports:</u></p> <p><b>a: Mendip District Council:</b> Tom Killen advised that the budget had been balanced and that there would be no increase in council tax or compulsory redundancies. The focus of the council had moved to a more outward looking approach with Business development moving up the agenda. Improved broadband would be coming to the area in 2014.</p>	

		<p>He hoped for more Parish engagement via the Rural Forum. Mendip would be receiving a new homes bonus which would be invested for the future and also used for some “Legacy” and community projects. An initiative had been started dealing with “high contact” families in the area</p> <p>In response to a question he advised he had no knowledge of the situation with the “wood craver” at Townsend following the recent fire which had destroyed his caravan.</p>	
9	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p><b>a; Queens Diamond Jubilee:</b> Arrangements were well in hand and it was confirmed that a beacon will be organised for the evening of 4<sup>th</sup> June.</p> <p><b>b: Village Gateways – recommendation from PARC Committee:</b> It was agreed that the options being considered by the PARC Committee would be discussed at the next meeting and a public consultation arranged at the Annual Parish Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012.</p> <p><b>c: Youth Provision:</b> the clerk had provisionally arranged a meeting with Jeff Brown from Somerset Youth Service on 27<sup>th</sup> March to discuss options. It was also noted that Cllr John Osman may be able to advise. Clerk to email final arrangements for the meeting in due course</p>	<p>LT</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>	
10	<p><u>Committee Business:</u></p> <p><b>a: PARC Committee – Recommendations to the Parish Council:</b></p> <p>i) Village gateways – see above.</p> <p>ii) Bench in memory of Nobby Clark and Diamond Jubilee Tree outside New Inn. There was some discussion on the suitability of siting a tree on the village green. A proposal to accept the PARC recommendation was lost 2 in favour, 3 against. The PARC committee to consider the proposals and location further.</p> <p>iii) Approval of PARC Project List: this had been circulated and Alan H summarised each proposed project. It was agreed to ask the PARC Committee to show the list of items by priority.</p> <p>The proposed refurbishment of the fingerpost signs was discussed in more detail. Originally the AONB were proposing to refurbish three signs around the Parish</p>	<p>PARC</p>	

		<p>but had now agreed with Somerset County Council to refurbish 7 signs through the village in a similar style to signs which had been refurbished on Exmoor which included the addition of a location and AONB collar. Correspondence with the AONB indicated that an immediate decision was required and that the Parish Council would have little say in the style adopted. Kate was unhappy with the proposals and wished the posts to be refurbished in the original style. Rachel was concerned about the idea of “conformity” but felt that it would be better for the signs to be refurbished rather than not. Tom Killen agreed to speak to Harvey Siggs about the options open to the Parish Council. It was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the matter further.</p> <p><b>b: Sheep Fair Revenues Advisory Committee:</b>  i) Terms of Reference - deferred</p> <p><b>c: Sheep Fair Committee Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012:</b> The clerk reported briefly on the meeting; committee members had been confirmed for the 2012 fair. He had raised the matter of costs against income generated and would be reviewing costs before the next meeting. The committee agreed that the surplus from the 2011 fair should be held in reserve rather than distributed.</p>	<p>TK</p>
<p>11</p>		<p><u>Planning:</u>  Applications will be available for inspection for fifteen minutes before the meeting commences.</p> <p>a: Application 2012/0336 – Replacement of existing bungalow with dwelling house and car port at The Lodge, Ubley Drove, Blagdon BS40 7XN for Ms S Rogers, Oldfield House, West Town, Backwell BS48 3BQ.</p> <p>No negative comments had been made and it was agreed to approval the application.</p>	

12	<p><u>Financial:</u>  <b>a: Clerks salary and expenses for February:</b> £173.05 was agreed and a cheque raised  <b>b: Account for youth club monies:</b> Still awaiting the completion of formalities with the Natwest Bank.  <b>c: SALC Subscription for 2012/13:</b> £147.58, agreed and cheque raised.  <b>d: SLCC Subscription for 2012/13:</b> £61.00, agreed and cheque raised.  <b>e; Village Hall Hire:</b> an invoice for £76.00 had been presented. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p>	
13	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> all email correspondence received has been circulated to councillors, any further correspondence will be available at the meeting. Additionally items were circulated including:  Somerton Motor Club event  Closure of Dale Lane for road works  Boundary Commission draft report on electoral changes.  Sundry magazines</p>	
14	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u> The clerk had circulated a booklet about Neighbourhood Planning which had been introduced in the Localism Act. He advised that the matter would be included on the Agenda for the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> April.</p>	Agenda
16	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u>  The next scheduled meeting is on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2012.</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Alan Butcher  
Parish Clerk  
23<sup>rd</sup> March 2012  
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