

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 16th May 2016 in the Village Hall, Priston.

- 1. Attendance and Apologies** – Councillor Pattison presided, Councillors Davies, Hassard, Hopwood, Lawton and Lippiatt, and the Parish Clerk, Mrs Christine Hunt were present. Whilst welcoming Councillors and village residents Mrs Anderson, Reverend Blewett, Mr Bottle, Mrs Broomfield, Mrs Callan, Mrs Cross, Mr Girdlestone, Mr Hughes, Mr Hunt, Mrs Pattison, Mr Perriton, Mr Wilkinson and District Councillor David Veale the Chairman commented that this meeting ends the old year and a new year would commence with the Ordinary Parish Council which would follow. Apologies received from Councillor Whybrow.
- 2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting** held on Monday 18th May 2015, having been distributed by email to Councillors, published on the Priston Website and on the Parish Council Noticeboard, were accepted and agreed as a true record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.
- 3. Chairman’s Report for the year ending 31st March 2016**
Councillor Pattison commenced his report by advising that, at the local elections in May 2015, Mrs Clare Cross and Mr Gathorne Girdlestone did not stand for re-election and Mrs Fiona Hassard and Mrs Clare Lawton were elected in their place. He thanked Clare and Gathorne for their support to the Parish Council. In November Mrs Christine Hunt had announced that she would retire at the next AGM and Mrs Louise Callan had applied for the vacancy and would take over in May.
Village Design Statement - The Chairman continued by congratulating the Working Party which had produced an excellent draft document which was based on the results of the previous year’s questionnaire. The cost of developing the VDS had been less than expected which had led to a small decrease in the precept for the year 2016/2017.
Planning had been a relatively quiet year with responses being sent to Planning Services on just two applications: Parcel 5856 High Street and Truespeed Cabinet, Church Farm Lane.
The Chairman advised that the Parish Council was still negotiating with Highways for a solution to reduce the flooding by the dairy on the Farmborough lane and also that Truespeed were in the process of installing cabling which should mean that superfast broadband is available to the whole of Priston village.
The Chairman concluded his report by thanking Mr Bottle and Mr Wilkinson for looking after the Priston Website and the Defibrillator and also the Parish Clerk and all Councillors for their good work and support over the past year.
Councillor Pattison’s full report had been placed on file and published on the Priston Website.
- 4. Financial Report**– The Clerk presented and reported on the Parish Council’s finances for the year ended 31st March 2016 advising the year had commenced with an opening balance of £4,572.13 including a balance of £142.27 in the PRIDE/Defibrillator account. A precept of £6,210 had been received, plus £40 Council Tax Support Grant and VAT of £30.93 reclaimed. There was a balance at the bank at 31st March 2016 of £5,742.81 including one unrepresented cheque in the sum of £233.91. Typed copies of the accounts were distributed to councillors and attending residents and would be published on the Priston Website.
- 5. Election of Chairman** – At this point in the meeting, Councillor Pattison formally vacated the Chair which was taken by Councillor Hopwood who requested nominations for the Office of Chairman for the coming year. Councillor Pattison was formally proposed by Councillor Lawton, seconded Councillor Hassard and agreed. As there were no other nominations Councillor Pattison was duly elected to this office.
- 6. Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Chairman** – The official Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by Councillor Pattison and witnessed by Councillor Hopwood.
- 7. Election of Vice Chairman** – Councillor Hopwood was formally proposed by Councillor Davies, seconded by Councillor Lippiatt and agreed unanimously.

9. **Appointment of Clerk** – Councillor Pattison reminding the Council that Mrs Hunt had made the decision not to be reappointed for the coming year proposed that Mrs Louise Callan, who had applied for the position, be appointed, seconded Councillor Hopwood and agreed unanimously.
10. **Appointment of Footpath Representative** – Councillor Whybrow had expressed a willingness to serve in this capacity and was formally proposed Councillor Hassard, seconded Councillor Hopwood and agreed that Councillor Whybrow be appointed for the coming year.
11. **Appointment of Village Hall Representative** – Councillor Hassard was formally proposed by Councillor Davies, seconded Councillor Pattison and agreed..
12. **Appointment of Roads and Highways Representative** – Councillor Lippiatt was formally proposed by Councillor Lawton, seconded Councillor Hopwood and agreed.
13. **Appointment of Representative to Priston AED Project** – Proposed Councillor Pattison, seconded Councillor Lippiatt and agreed that John Wilkinson, who indicated his willingness to continue in this capacity, be appointed for the coming year.
14. **Signing of Cheques** – Agreed the Chairman and Vice-Chairman continue as two of the signatories. Councillor Lawton expressed her willingness to act as third signatory. The Clerk to arrange the necessary documentation with the National Westminster Bank.

There being no further business for discussion at the Annual General Meeting, the Chairman declared the meeting closed and proceeded with the first meeting of the new term.