

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Priston Parish Council
Held at 7 pm on Monday 3rd May 2021 on Zoom

Present: Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Peter Hopwood, Vicky Pai, Robert Davies, Bruce Clarke, Fiona Hassard, John Lippiatt, B&NES Councillors Neil Butters and Matt McCabe, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk), together with Richard Bottle, John Wilkinson, Robin and Aylet Anderson, Penny Rogers and Peter Brookes, Martin Blewett.

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2019 were approved and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:** None.
4. **Chairman's Report for the year ending 31st March 2021:** Due to COVID no Annual General Meeting was held last year, and this report covers 2 years.
Parish Council - The Council has remained the same, and meetings have continued thanks to Zoom.
Parish Clerk – Louise Callan resigned as Parish Clerk, and was replaced by Jocelyn Nichols in July 2019.
Priston Cricket Field - I am supporting a plan, put forward by an anonymous "white knight" from the village, that, should it succeed will secure use of the field for the village in perpetuity.
Planning – The Piggeries, Marksbury lane – An application to convert the ruins at the Piggery into a home was supported, and has been approved.
Fonthill Cottage. The application for an extension and a garage with a new drive was supported, and has now been approved.
Church Farm. An application to build 3 detached houses on the site of the barns was objected to for a number of reasons, including being outside the Housing Development Boundary and not following the Priston Village Design Statement.
4 Hill View. The Parish Council objected to the application to convert the garage and shed to form accommodation for occasional visits by relatives and Air B & B tenants. The application has been withdrawn.
New Farm. An application to build a dog training facility was supported with some reservations, but has been withdrawn.
Highways and footpaths – The road outside the dairy has been resurfaced. Watery Lane continues to suffer, and is waiting for dry weather to repair the culvert and pothole. B&NES "Fix my Street" app is proving very useful.
A number of stiles have been replaced with kissing-gates, and horse gates put on bridleways. The Parish Council has recommended that the change to the footpath past the sewage works requested by the landowner be approved. The Priston Lane triangle has been seeded and planted with a rowan, and is looking more presentable. A number of our finger posts have been refurbished by Penny Rogers and her team of volunteers.
Emergency Planning and PEG – The Parish Emergency Guidance was re-visited, and it was decided instead to create a WhatsApp group – the Priston Emergency Group or PEG – designed to alert villagers to a local emergency.
Defibrillator – A third defibrillator has been provided by an anonymous donor, and placed at Pressbarrow Farm, and a further one has been installed at Wilmington, with funds raised locally. Many thanks to John Wilkinson for his continuing support to this project.
COVID – A year ago the Parish Council set up the Coronavirus Action Team – Priston, or CAT-P to ensure that advice and support was available to our vulnerable villagers during the lockdown. In the event most

support was quietly supplied by neighbours, but I am very grateful to my team for the god advice they continue to provide.

Priston Website - Once again thanks to Richard Bottle for maintaining the website, and for redesigning the interface to meet Government accessibility requirements.

Climate Emergency – in January the Parish Council followed B&NES lead and declared a climate and ecological emergency. Penny and Peter Brooks, the organisers of PAGE, have been asked to take the lead for the Council, and have had a first meeting, and an event for the whole village is planned for 9th October.

Thanks - Finally thank you to our Parish Clerk Jocelyn Nichols, and all of our Councillors for their good work and support over the past year.

5. **Financial Report for the year ending 31st March 2021:** The Parish Council started the year with £4,335 in the bank and finished with £7,066. The precept was £6,700 and gross expenditure was £6,814.
6. **Election of Chairman:** Cllr Pattison was proposed by Cllr Hopwood and seconded by Cllr Pai. Cllr Pattison was elected unanimously to the position.
7. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Chairman:** Cllr Pattison accepted the position and signed the Acceptance of Office.
8. **Election of Vice-Chairman:** Cllr Hopwood was proposed by Cllr Pattison, seconded by Cllr Clarke. Agreed unanimously.
9. **Appointment of Internal Auditor:** Cllr Hopwood proposed and Cllr Pattison seconded the nomination of Robin Anderson as the internal auditor. Agreed unanimously.
10. **Appointment of Footpath Representative:** Cllr Hassard agreed to try this role for the coming year. Agreed unanimously.
11. **Appointment of Village Hall Representative:** Cllr Pattison will discuss this role with the new chair of the Village Hall Committee, David Hassard.
12. **Appointment of Roads and Highways Representative:** Cllr Lippiatt agreed to continue in this role, and it was agreed unanimously.
13. **Appointment of Representative to Priston AED Project:** John Wilkinson agreed to continue to act in this capacity until a replacement can be found. The role will be advertised in the Link and Loop.
14. **Appointment of Climate and Ecological Emergency Representative:** Penny Rogers and Peter Brookes agreed to take on this role.
15. **Any other business:** None.

Signed:

Position:Date: