

Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 4 July 2022

Present: Cllr Doug Pattison (Chair), Cllrs Vicky Pai, Peter Hopwood, Robert Davies, Bruce Clarke, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk) and Richard Bottle

Parishioners were asked if there was anything they wished to be raised at the meeting: No issues were raised.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllrs John Lippiatt, Fiona Hassard and Penny Rogers. B&NES Councillors Matt McCabe and Neil Butters
- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters arising: Action: Vicky will invite our village agent to our next meeting.** Clerk has chased Highways about signs at the top and bottom of Watery Lane warning that it is unsuitable for HGVs. She wrote on 19 March, had a reply saying the matter had been passed to Traffic Management on 21 March, chased a response on 10 May and again on 2 July.
Action: Doug to ask Bath & West Community Energy to talk after the Saturday café about local electricity generation some time in September.
- 4. Chair's Report:** Clerk had investigated % pay rise and been sent the NALC pay scales. **Action: Clerk will ask other clerks what spinal point they are paid,** then Doug and Peter will meet with her to discuss the pay rate (13 July 9am).
A parishioner has asked that the greenery around the post box, water trough etc be cut back and a site visit confirmed this needs doing, also the walnut tree on the green has low branches which need pruning. Once this is done the water tap should be changed to allow drinking bottles to be filled from it. **Action: Clerk will contact David Franklin and ask if the trees can be cut back, and get Charlie Samler to prune the walnut tree. Vicky and Doug will discuss the tap with Adam from Marksbury.**
The Jubilee celebrations went well, thanks and well done to all involved. **Action: Clerk will write to thank the pub on behalf of the council.**
- 5. Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £10,729.49 on 17 June. Items of expenditure on the financial report were noted. If we spend as per the approved budget, and forecast expenditure, we would end the financial year on 31 March with about £6,177. The gritter has been added to this year's budget. **Action: John to order gritter.**
An email has been received from a Wilmington resident about the 1 Wilmington planning application, which unknown to us was extended in the 1980s. **Action: Clerk will respond that no doubt planning will be aware of this.**
Our tree planting project has appeared in the Bathavon Forum Nature Recovery Project survey.
We will respond to the new chair of B&NES Shaun Stephenson McGall, with an invitation to visit Priston, maybe at the festival or our next meeting. It would be good to raise his awareness of our frustration with the lack of attention planning give to our comments on applications.
- 6. To review and sign the 2022 Councillors' Register of Interests: Action: 1 outstanding Councillor will update their forms for publishing on the website.**
- 7. Roads and Highways:** Nothing reported
- 8. Planning:** - Bruce has looked at outstanding applications and there are 6. No further action is required from us currently. Of interest is an application for a solar farm near the New Inn Farmborough. The local plan update is progressing and Robert will keep us up to date with changes which are likely in the Autumn.
- 9. Flooding:.** No new issues.
- 10. Climate and ecological emergency:** Catherine Rose has started to plan for a jumble sale. Simon Barnes is planning to plant more trees. Doug's talk by Bath and West Community Energy might have extra appeal with the cost of energy rising.

11. Footpaths: Concern has been raised by Dunkerton parish council on behalf of walkers using PROWBA20/6, and from Priston parishioners, that the 5 bar gate next to the stile is locked, and the stile is hard to climb. Sheila Petherbridge (B&NES footpath officer) has agreed to replace the stile with a self closing gate. In the meantime it is possible to slip the chain over the gatepost and the gate will open.

12. External meetings: Bruce and Jocelyn will attend the Parish Liaison meeting on 13 July.

13. Any other Business: The Community Infrastructure Levy we are likely to receive was discussed, and we would really like to buy or rent some land for a playground, or allotments. **Action: Clerk will investigate what other parishes have used the money for, and put CIL on future agendas.**

14. Date of next meeting: Monday 5th September 2022 in the village hall.

Signed

Date

JN 5 July 2022