

**Draft Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting held at Priston Village Hall on  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.00 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Peter Hopwood, John Lippiatt, Cllr Robert Davies, Fiona Hassard, John Whybrow, Claire Lawton and Louise Callan (Clerk).

**Matters raised by Members of the Public:**

**1. Apologies:** Cllr David Veale

**2. Minutes of last meeting:** Taken as read, approved and signed.

**3. Matters Arising:** There had been correspondence with BANES planning and the police about the new railings at Beech Tree Barn in Marksbury. The only action recommended was to look into the original planning permission to find out whether there were any conditions regarding the height of the boundary wall. **Action: Clerk to write to home owner and Doug Pattison to find out more about the planning consent.** The Clerk had written to the landowner about the overhanging bush at the top of Priston Lane, but it has not been cut. **Action: Howard Jones agreed to look into having it trimmed.** A yew bush is growing out into the High Street from one of the gardens. **Action: Clerk to ask home owners to trim back.**

**4. Chair's Report**

Nothing additional to report.

**5. Clerk's Report**

The bank balance stood at £7,783.05 on 17<sup>th</sup> March. Payments of £458 were made for the Clerk's salary, £113.79 relating to the defibrillator, £51.03 ALCA sub and £35 to Midsomer Norton dial a ride. The expected payment of £160 for salary processing was agreed. The clerk is going to meet with other village groups and a data protection expert from BANES to discuss implementing GDPR and will create a parish council email list. The precept forms had been returned to BANES. BANES are trialling a new website called Fix My Street to report issues with highways.

**Action: Clerk to make payment and attend meetings.**

**6. Planning: – Walnut Tree Hill.** The retrospective application to retain the shipping container was reviewed by the Chair of the Development Control Committee. Despite a number of planning policy reasons to turn down the application, the decision was delegated back to the planning officer. He approved the application to allow the container to remain. Peter Hopwood and Doug Pattison both met with the Head of the Planning Committee, Cllr Sally Davis, but these meetings could not change the outcome. Priston PC has been rigorous and consistent in its duty to follow planning procedure and it was felt that there has been a serious breach of planning policy by BANES. The officers' decisions appear arbitrary and inconsistent.

The issue of the garden wall surfaces will be discussed at the Development Control Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> April. The PC is seeking agreement on the exact material to be used and the extent to which it will be implemented (i.e. on all the retaining walls, according to the schedule of materials from March 2015). The application to discharge the condition on the drainage was rejected by BANES. It was agreed to raise a formal complaint to BANES about the procedures for making planning decisions. Letter to be sent to the Leader of the Council, Chief Exec of BANES and copied to MP, Jacob Rees-Mogg. **Action, Doug Pattison, Fiona Hassard and Peter Hopwood to write a letter.**

**7. Annual Parish Meeting:** This was a success with around 35 villagers attending. Doug Pattison presented to the village along with a number of representatives from local organisations.

**8. Armistice Day Event –** Claire Lawton is continuing to liaise with Mike Taylor on organising a 45 minute event to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the end of the First World War. This will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November in the village hall.

**9. BT Phone Box.** Bob Hunt is working on repairing the door. It was agreed to turn the box into a flower display.  
**Action: Doug Pattison to liaise with Bob Hunt and the gardening club regarding the repairs, troughs and plants to fit.**

**10. Planning** – The application to remove the agricultural tie on Mead Cottage had been rejected. The 2 storey extension on Willow Barn was accepted by the Development Control Committee. The application to increase the roof height to accommodate more insulation on the new build at The Milking Parlour was accepted.

**11. Highways** – The purchase of a small grit spreader was discussed. **Action: John Lippiatt to put forward a proposal with costings at the next meeting.** There are several large potholes in the lanes around the village. The potholes around the village had been reported to BANES and the Highways Officer had notified the Clerk that all the lanes are on the list for repair. **Action: Clerk to chase up to find out what the likely timescale is to be.** Everyone encouraged to report deep potholes that require emergency filling immediately to BANES via the website. The Flooding officer suggested to the clerk that the parish clears out the ditch on Priston Lane which is full and overflows when full. If an owner of a nearby field would agree for the debris to be left there it would be more cost effective than BANES clearing it and it could be tackled more quickly. **Action: John Lippiatt to look into getting a digger and the options for dispersing the debris.** It was also requested that a small channel was dug on Priston Lane.

**12. Footpaths and Bridleways:** Doug Pattison had asked Stephen Jones to put down the scalplings that were supplied to fill in the bridleway. It was agreed that this should be deferred until the weather had improved.

**15. External meetings:** Due to poor weather, no-one attended the Parishes Liaison Meeting or ALCA.

Dates of future meetings:

<b>ALCA</b>	<b>Parishes Liaison</b>	<b>Bathavon Forum</b>
Wed 9 May	Wed 12 July	TBC
Wed 19 Sept	Wed 24 Oct	

**16. Any other Business:** The seat around the Walnut Tree is now wobbling. **Action: Robert Davies to find out whether the repair will be carried out by a villager or look into another supplier.**

**17. Date of next meeting:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May.

Signed .....

Date .....