

# Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 13 March 2023

**Present:** Cllr Doug Pattison (Chair), Cllrs Peter Hopwood, Robert Davies, Fiona Hassard, Vicky Pai, Bruce Clarke, John Lippiatt, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk), Richard Bottle, Penny Rogers, Guy Davies, Helen Burns, John Wilkinson.

A parishioner raised concern over the reduction in bus services. The parish council has written to B&NES about the issue, and our need to ensure the hill continues to be gritted. We await more news from WECA about the on demand minibus service.

1. **Apologies:** B&NES Councillors Neil Butters and Matt McCabe
2. **Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
3. **Matters arising:** Fiona has checked if the bridge over the stream from Priston Mill to Inglesbatch is rotting, it's OK at the moment, but she will keep an eye on it. Vicky will discuss gritting practicalities with John, but driving should be in the daytime and on demand. **Action: Clerk will check insurance for the gritter and liaise with John.**  
The defibrillator pads have now been replaced, and all the defibrillators are up to date.
4. **Chair's Report:** Neils has agreed to give a short talk on building the Millennium Dome at the annual parish meeting.  
It looks like we will have 3 vacancies for councillors at the election.  
Peter agreed to liaise with the village hall committee about the events to celebrate the Coronation.
5. **Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £12,383.81 on 1 March. Items of expenditure on the financial report were noted. The gritter has recently been purchased at £1,649 + VAT. If we spend as per the approved budget, and forecast expenditure, we would end the financial year on 31 March with about £9,000. The Draft budget was discussed, and it was agreed that we would offer £125 sponsorship to the Flower Festival.
6. **Roads and Highways:** We should continue to report the many potholes to 'Fix my Street'. The wide pavement at the top of Watery Lane is causing difficulty for farm vehicles. **Action: Clerk will liaise with Highways and Tunley Parish Council about the issue.**  
Thanks to Howard Jones for placing cones around the slipping wall at Hill View. **Action: Clerk will liaise with Highways about the wall slippage and the dead tree falling over a wire further up the lane.**
7. **Planning:** - Robert will complete the consultation form about the local plan for the parish Council, following any comments from Councillors.
8. **Flooding:** Nothing to report.
9. **Climate and ecological emergency:** The B&NES parish tree giveaway of 1000 whips were planted by 4 working parties of over 20 volunteers. Richard has collated photos on the website. It's great that we have planted lots of trees over the last few years. We will check their progress in the summer, and keep an eye out for any future offers of trees.  
Following our 2121 weekend Aylet's 'Lose it, like it' scheme is working well, and Catherine Rose has organised a jumble sale for the afternoon of 1 April in the hall.  
There was enthusiasm for talks and the BWCE talk was well attended and enjoyed. Joe Haseley, Future Farming Advisor for the Duchy, will talk on National Capital on Wednesday 26 April at 7.30pm. The Parish Council will pay for any costs associated with this talk.
10. **Footpaths:** The sign at the footpath by Rockhill has been repaired, and also a new replacement waymark sign at Rockhill Drive has been installed. John Whybrow and Fiona are liaising with the farmer about the electric

fence, which is difficult to cross, on the footpath to Inglesbatch.

- 11. **External meetings:** There is an election briefing on 14 March. Robert agreed to attend the Parish Liaison on 15 March.
- 12. **Any other Business:** The mud and water on the road outside the Piggeries is dangerous. **Action: Doug will talk to the site manager and Clerk will write to the project manager.**
- 13. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 7pm in the village hall, including AGM.

Signed .....

Date .....

JN 14 March 2023