

The following are the DRAFT Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Priston Parish Council which was held on Monday 14 May 2007 in the Village Hall Priston, commencing at 7.00pm. These have not yet been approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

The Retiring Chairman Councillor Bowyer presided. The re-elected Councillors Cross, Hughes, Lippiatt, Nokes and Whybrow and the Parish Clerk were present as was the new Parish Councillor John Wilkinson. The Chairman welcomed village residents Mr Bottle, Mr Broomfield, Mr Hunt, Mrs Hunter-Jones and Miss M Nokes.

1. **Apologies** received from District Councillor Victor Clarke.
2. **The Declaration of Acceptance of Office: Councillors** were signed and witnessed by the Clerk.
3. **Code of Conduct** – The statutory declaration of acceptance of the Code of Conduct was signed by Councillor Wilkinson.
4. **Retiring Chairman's Report** –
Councillor Bowyer reported on the activities of the Parish Council in the preceding year, mentioning the condition of local roads and planning applications which had been considered. Councillor Bowyer concluded by speaking of her sixteen years as a Parish Councillor including two years each as Chairman and Vice-Chairman. She stated that she had enjoyed her years with the Parish Council and also thanked the electors of the parish who had voted for her and the councillors with whom she has worked and also the Parish Clerks, Gwenda Bendall and Christine Hunt.
The retiring chairman's report would be placed on file for future reference.
5. **Election of Chairman** – In response to Councillor Bowyer's request for nominations to fill this office, Councillor Hughes was proposed by Councillor Cross, seconded Councillor Whybrow and agreed unanimously.
6. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office: Chairman** – Councillor Hughes signed the formal declaration which was witnessed by the Clerk.
7. **Election of Vice-Chairman** – Councillor Cross was proposed to this office by Councillor Nokes, seconded Councillor Whybrow and agreed unanimously.
8. **Appointment of Clerk** – Councillor Hughes proposed that Mrs Hunt be re-appointed, seconded Councillor Cross and agreed unanimously.
9. **The minutes of the Annual General Meeting** held on 15 May 2006 were read, confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.
10. **Matters Arising** –
Telephone Box – Noted that a decision had been made by the Secretary of State that the Gilbert Scott telephone box was not of sufficient importance to warrant listed building status.
The Granary – No further action with regard to this building.
Footbridge over brook, Priston Mill – repairs were expected to be carried out in the coming months.
Emergency Plans – Amendments to be made to the information contained in the Emergency Plans. This item to be placed on the agenda of July's ordinary meeting.
11. **Financial Report** - The Clerk presented accounts for the year ended 31 March 2007 copies of which were distributed to all present. Noted an end of year balance at the bank of £286.80 with no cash in hand. The formal adoption of this report was proposed by Councillor Hopwood, seconded Councillor Lippiatt and agreed. Mrs Hunt was again thanked for the efficient and comprehensive manner in which the accounts were presented.

12. **Appointment of Footpath Representative** - Councillor Hughes proposed and Councillor Cross seconded that Councillor Whybrow be reappointed for the coming year.
13. **Appointment of Village Hall Representative** - Councillor Whybrow was asked if he would be prepared to again undertake this duty for the coming year and on his affirmation was formally proposed by Councillor Hughes and seconded Councillor Cross.
14. **Signing of Cheques** - Councillors were in unanimous agreement that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should continue as signatories on behalf of the Parish Council. It was again not felt necessary for there to be a third signatory as had been recommended by the Internal Auditor. Arrangements would be made for a new mandate form to be completed.
15. **Any other business** – Mr Broomfield wished to express the appreciation of the electors of Priston to the Parish Council for its work on behalf of the parish and paid special tribute to Mrs Bowyer for her contribution during her term in office.

There being no further business for discussion at the Annual General Meeting, Councillor Hughes declared the meeting closed at 7.35pm and continued by presenting a pair of cut glass vases and a bouquet of flowers to Mrs Bowyer in appreciation of her service to the Parish Council and the community. This gift was paid for by her fellow councillors and the clerk.