

An ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council was held on Monday 2 December 2002 in the Village Hall, Priston.

Mr Hughes presided, Mrs Bowyer, Mr Jones, Miss Nokes, Ms Seymour and Parish Clerk were present. The Chairman welcomed Mr Bottle and Mr Broomfield to the meeting.

1. **Apologies** received from Mr Hopwood, Mr Perriton and District Councillor Mrs Todd
2. **Minutes** The minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - (a) Noted an acknowledgement had still not been received in response to letters written to Messrs H and S Jones as agreed at meeting of 22 July. Mr Owain Jones to pursue with relevant members of his family.
 - (B) The pothole at the junction of Summerlea had been rectified.
 - (C) Inter-village quiz - Mr Hughes reported that, due to a misunderstanding with the arrangements, this event had been taken over by the Village Hall committee.
 - (D) Cluster Meeting - Miss Nokes advised of discussions and information imparted at the meeting held on 23 September.
 - E) Footpath at Rockhill - On behalf of Mr Perriton, the Clerk advised that B&NES had reviewed the footpath and were in the process of obtaining quotations for its reinstatement. Noted that the residents of the two properties at Rockhill had resurfaced the lower area themselves.
4. **Correspondence -**
 - (a) Noted receipt of a letter from the Wansdyke Bridleways and Byways Association regarding (1) the condition of BOAT BA15/19 (aka Muddy Lane) and (2) a wicket gate and its gatepost on the byway between Priston Mill and Inglesbatch. The Clerk to contact the Public Rights of Way Officer regarding the first item and Mr Peter Hopwood the second.
 - (B) Documentation issued by Community Action on behalf of the Rural Transport Partnership for Bath and North East Somerset and North Somerset had been circulated to all councillors. No comments or feedback to be sent to the Partnership Officer.
5. **Financial Report -** The Clerk reported a balance at the bank of £479.17 and a petty cash balance of £6.36p. Mrs Hunt requested the formal approval of councillors to renew membership with the Cam Valley Wildlife Group in the sum of £5 and also renewal of her annual subscription with the Society of Local Council Clerks (£25). Both these renewals were agreed.

The payment of the Clerk's salary was discussed and it was agreed unanimously that Mrs Hunt should receive payment before the end of the year and not hold in abeyance until 31 March 2003 in anticipation of funds being available at that time.
6. **Audit Update -**

The Clerk advised that the Audit for the year ended 31 March 2002 had been completed with the auditors who had, with effect from 1 September 2002, formally abbreviated their name to "Mazars". Their invoice in the sum of £50 plus VAT had been settled.
7. **Freedom of Information Act -**

All documentation relating to the Freedom of Information Act had been circulated to councillors and it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should complete relevant forms as appropriate on behalf of Priston Parish Council and return before the deadline of 31 December 2002.

8. Priston Colliery -

Mr Hughes reported that Ms Karin Renshaw had met with Mr Perriton and Mr John Arnold of Tunley at Priston Colliery. She had been very interested in the site and hoped that it could be designated as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest. Mr Jones volunteered to contact Ms Renshaw to pass on to her information in his possession.

A letter received from Mr Richard Lovegrove, dated 1 October 2002, was read to the meeting and would be placed on file.

Following discussions during which various points of view were raised and the Chairman advised that Camerton have a similar scheme, it was agreed unanimously to proceed with enquiries into the possibility of Priston Parish Council purchasing the piece of land, currently owned by Mr Lovegrove.

9. Priston Website -

Mr Bottle reported that a small committee had been organised to set up the Website which would give a brief history of the village and a calendar of events, facilities, activities in the village, notices etc, links with the District Council and other villages. He felt that it would be a useful addition to Priston life. An article is planned for inclusion in The Link. Mr Bottle concluded by volunteering to give a demonstration after the next meeting of the Parish Council. This suggestion and Mr Bottle's report were accepted with thanks.

10. Planning Applications:

(I) Land Adjacent to Hill Farm House - Noted a Planning Committee Meeting had been held on 20 November at which Mr Taylor spoke on behalf of the residents, Mrs Bowyer on behalf of the Parish Council and District Councillor Mrs Todd gave her support. The decision at this meeting was deferral to a site meeting which had been held on the morning of 2 December. The next Planning Committee Meeting was scheduled for 20 November.

(ii) Stable Block, Blind Lane, Tunley - Application rejected. Noted that a building had been erected on the other side of the colliery.

11. Any other business -

(I) Pot holes were reported at the lower end of High Street. The Clerk to contact the Action Line to request repairs.

(ii) Reported that trees have been felled in Priston Wood. The Clerk to contact the appropriate department of B&NES.

12. Date of next meeting Agreed the next meeting be held on Monday 10 February 2003 commencing 7.00pm. Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.