

DRAFT

An ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council was held on Monday 9 February 2004 in the Village Hall, Priston

Councillor Hughes presided, Councillors Bowyer, Cross, Nokes, Whybrow and Parish Clerk were present. The Chairman welcomed village residents Mr Broomfield, Mr Putnam and Mr Rowbottom and Councillor Mrs Todd.

1. **Apologies** were received from Councillor Geake.
2. **The minutes** of the meeting held on 8 December 2003 were read. An objection was made to the use of the words "outspoken comments" in item 3(b) and, after discussion, it was agreed that "outspoken" be deleted. The minutes were then agreed by Councillors and signed by the Chairman as a true record of proceedings.
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - (a) The Clerk was requested to contact British Telecom as the **Telephone Box** has not been cleaned for some considerable time.
 - (b) **Mill Lane** - Councillor Hughes reported he had spoken to Mr Hopwood who had agreed that if the Highway Department wished to erect a sign he would not raise any objections. The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the Area Traffic Engineer (Traffic and Safety) and read his letter in reply which would be placed on file.
 - (c) **Chinook Helicopters** - The Chairman advised that he had been in contact with the landowner and an open-ended agreement exists with the RAF. The Clerk read the letter she had received from the RAF Police in response to complaints made by residents of Priston.
 - (d) **The Batch, Tunley** - As no response had been received from the landowner it was felt to be possible that the letter written on 30 December had been lost in the post. The Clerk to write further enclosing a copy of the original letter.
4. **Correspondence -**
 - (i) Letter from **Avon and Somerset Police** requesting financial support towards the employment of Police Community Support Officers. Regret not able to assist and Clerk to advise accordingly.
 - (ii) Noted receipt of letter from Mrs Seymour explaining her decision to resign and thanking the Chairman, Clerk and fellow Councillors for their support. A response would be sent by the Chairman and Clerk.
 - (iii) The Clerk advised of and read letters she had written as requested at the previous meeting.
5. **Forthcoming Election** - Noted that an election is to be held on Thursday 26 February and that no charge would be made by Bath and North East Somerset Council on this occasion.
6. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported a balance at the bank of £541.20 and cash of £3.46p.
7. **Precept for 2004/05** - The Clerk prepared forward budget figures for consideration and, after discussion, it was agreed to again request a precept of £1,500.
8. **Annual Parish Meeting** - Noted that a Parish Meeting had not been held in recent years. It was agreed that a meeting be arranged to which all organisations in the parish would be invited and be given the opportunity to discuss what they have been doing and advise of their future plans. This would be an informal meeting, open to all residents, and be held on Monday 10 May, commencing 8.00pm. Agreed that a letter be sent to all organisations and also that light refreshments would be available.
9. **Memorial to J Nokes and C Fry** - Mr Rowbottom provided a simple model of the proposed seat which would be made of seasoned oak and have galvanised steel legs. Councillors were impressed

with the design and agreed that the seat be made and installed. Suggested that the families be contacted to be given the opportunity to indicate their wishes for the memorial plaques to be fixed to the bench. It was hoped that the bench would be in place by May Day. It was also suggested that a short paragraph be placed in the Link to enable villagers to be aware of what is happening. The model would be passed to Mr Bottle to digitise for the Website.

10. **Former Skittle Alley, Ring O'Bells** - Councillors were advised that the Chairman and Mr Rowbottom had spoken at the Enforcement Meeting held on 10 December. It had been admitted at that meeting, by The Planning Control Services Manager, that there was an undoubted discrepancy between the building shown on the plans and that built and they were still unable to determine the reason for this. Unfortunately the Planning Services do not regard this discrepancy to warrant action being taken under the enforcement policy. Whilst the decision has been accepted we are still not satisfied with the outcome. The Clerk was requested to write to the Area Team Manager to request clarification of what is deemed a "minor amendment" as promised in his letter of 10 October 2003.
11. **Priston Website** - Councillor Bowyer advised of recent additions to the Website which included a map of the footpaths within the Parish, minutes of the December Parish Council Meeting and details of forthcoming events.
12. **Footpaths and Bridleways** - Councillor Whybrow reported on three items relating to The Mill, ie a new kissing gate has been installed, work to the bridge below the mill was being held over to the next financial year and the enforcement officer was awaiting an archaeological report on the culvert.
13. **Planning Applications:**
Former Skittle Alley - Consent form received in respect of conservatory.
Greystones, 31 Priston - Planning application received in respect of change of access.
14. **Any other business :**
 - (a) Councillor Mrs Todd advised that she had been contacted by a resident in Wilmington who was concerned that emergency services were not able to find them. Mrs Todd had liaised with the Traffic and Safety Engineer and arrangements were being made for new signposts to be erected. It was also possible to issue every household with their individual grid reference which could be given to the emergency services if, and when, the need arose. The Clerk to make enquiries and, if possible, obtain the necessary information.
 - (b) **Local Plan** - Noted that the Parish Council will have the right to represent its objections at the next stage of the Inquiry.
 - (c) **Potholes** - Councillor Bowyer reported bad road surfaces on the hill at Priston Wood and also between the former piggery and New Farm. The Clerk to contact the Highways Inspector.
 - (d) **Village Hall AGM** - Noted the need to elect a representative of the Parish Council to the Village Hall committee. The Clerk was requested to represent the Parish Council.
 - (e) **Priston Church of England Educational Charity** - Councillor Hughes advised that his four year term of office as Trustee was due to expire. Following his offer to stand again if the Parish Council so wished, the Chairman was unanimously re-elected.
15. **Date of next meeting** Agreed as Monday 15 March 2004. The Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday 17 May commencing 7.00pm and followed by an ordinary meeting.

There being no further business for consideration the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm and thanked Councillors and village residents for their attendance and participation