

The following are draft the minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 7 February 2005 in the Village Hall, Priston. These have not yet been agreed and approved by the Parish Council.

Councillor Hughes presided, Councillors Bowyer, Cross, Lippiatt, Whybrow and Parish Clerk were present. The Chairman welcomed residents Mr Bottle and Mr Broomfield.

1. **Apologies** received from Councillor Geake and District Councillor Mrs Todd.
2. **The Minutes** of the meeting held on 6 December 2004 were read following which the Chairman pointed out that the Certificate of Lawfulness for an Existing Use (item 3(ii)) was in respect of the existing stables at Church Farm not the Horse Arena. After this amendment had been noted the minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - (i) **Computer** - No further progress had been made with supply of computer.
 - (ii) **Street Names in Priston** - The Map had been returned to the Geographical Information Systems Team at B&NES showing the full length of High Street and Blind Lane, Wood Lane, Rock Hill etc.
 - (iii) **Contract of Employment** - The Clerk had received a booklet giving details of conditions of Service and Contracts of Employment for Clerks. Agreed she should liaise with the Internal Auditor to compile a Contract of Employment appropriate to herself.
4. **Correspondence -**
 - (i) **Housing Development Boundary** - Noted receipt of Inspector's Report in respect of changes to the boundary;
 - (ii) **Freedom of Information Act** - The documentation received had been circulated to all Councillors and it was agreed to abide by the provisions of the Act;
 - (iii) **Parish Sweeping Scheme** - The Clerk read correspondence between herself and the Head of Leisure and Amenity Services which would be placed on file.
5. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported a current balance at the bank of £965.10 and cash balance of £1.36p. The Clerk informed the Council that she intended to write a cheque for the second half of her salary during the next month to enable the cheque to clear the bank before the financial year end.
6. **Precept Requirements 2005/2006** - The Clerk prepared forward budget figures for the coming financial year noting that to date £1,256 had been spent and there could be a balance of approximately £700 remaining in the Council's account at year end. As had been suggested at the previous meeting the Clerk had made a calculation of hours worked during the year. At this point the Clerk was asked to withdraw from the meeting. Councillors discussed her annual salary and were in agreement that it should be brought more into line with the National Minimum Wage and taking into consideration possible increase in time spent on Council's business with a computer with internet access and the Freedom of Information Act. It was therefore agreed that the salary be increased to £1,500pa and a precept of £2,100 be requested taking into consideration the increase in salary and the balance remaining in the account.
7. **Annual Parish Meeting - 4 April 2005** - Following suggestions from Councillors, the Chairman volunteered to contact Mike Chapman, Archaeologist and Local Historian to ascertain his availability to give an illustrated talk at this meeting.

8. **The Countryside Agency (Map of Registered Common Land and Open Country)** - The map recently received did not indicate the common land within the parish and the Clerk had contacted the Countryside Agency to request an amendment. She had been advised that unfortunately this was not possible as the map had only recently been issued. Councillor Hughes to check original maps held within the parish archives to enable a formal application for amendment to be made.
9. **Priston Website** - Mr Bottle reported that photographs had been added to the Website from recent events within the parish, it was now possible receive via email, updates to the Website; a new section had been added of Priston family history and information added for residents who wish to install Broadband. Mr Bottle concluded by adding that suggestions and contributions from any individual or group are always welcome.
10. **Footpaths and Bridleways** - Nothing to report.
11. **Planning Applications:**
 - Priston Mill Farm** - Use of barns as longterm storage - Noted receipt of refusal form from Planning Services. The Chairman advised that the applicant had resubmitted his application with further information regarding use of the highway.
 - Pressbarrow Farm** - Erection of two barns - Noted the receipt of consent form from Planning Services.
12. **Any other business** -
 - (i) **Pantomime** - Congratulations extended to the Cricket Club for an entertaining and well produced pantomime.
 - (ii) **Publication of details in The Link** - The Clerk advised that the editors of the Link had suggested the publication of all village committees. Confirmation that this was acceptable was requested from councillors; Ex directory telephone numbers would, obviously, not be included.
 - (iii) **Heaters in Hall** - Adverse comments were made regarding the heating in the Village Hall and the Clerk was requested to write to the Village Hall Committee to express Councillors' dissatisfaction. Noted that the heaters are intended as directional heaters and are, at present, not serving any useful purpose.
13. **Date of next meeting** - Agreed the next meeting be held on Monday 4 April 2005 commencing 7.00pm prior to the Annual Parish Meeting.

There being no further business for consideration the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.05pm and thanked Councillors and village residents for their attendance and participation.