

**The following are the DRAFT minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 5 February 2007 in the Village Hall, Priston. These have not yet been approved by Councillors as an accurate record of proceedings.**

Councillor Bowyer presided, Councillors Cross, Hughes, Lippiatt, Nokes, Whybrow and Parish Clerk were present. Councillor Bowyer welcomed village residents Mr and Mrs Broomfield, Mr Hamilton, Mr Kettley, Mr Taylor and Mr Toghill and the District Councillor Mrs Rosemary Todd.

Prior to the formal business of the meeting, Councillor Bowyer invited residents who attended to address the meeting. There followed extended dialogue on the siting and size of the proposed dwelling which Mr Hamilton had applied to build between Willow Rise and Edgehill. The applicant responded amicably to the comments made advising that amended plans had recently been submitted taking into consideration points of concern raised by the Parish Council and neighbours.

1. **Apologies** received from Councillor Hopwood.
2. **The Minutes of the meeting** held on 4 December 2006 were read, confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising:**
  - Footbridge: Priston Mill** – The Clerk was requested to write to the Enforcement Officer with Public Rights of Way to request that the necessary work be carried out in the next financial year.
  - Ash Tree, Church Farm** – The Clerk read the letter written as requested at the previous meeting and the response received. Councillor Hughes reported it had not been possible to obtain an estimate from the electricity authority for the shutting down of the power while the work is carried out, however, the arboriculturalist had been given permission to proceed.
  - Priston Lane/Wood Lane** – The Clerk advised of her meeting with the Highways Inspector and that he had again inspected the roads. She hoped that the potholes in Priston Lane/Wood Lane and also Mill Lane and the Farmborough Road would be repaired in the very near future.
  - Tyres Adjacent to Public Right of Way, Treatment Works** – The Clerk reported that the Enforcement Officer from Public Rights of Way had visited and had advised that, as the tyres were not obstructing the footpath but on private land, he could not arrange their removal at no charge. Agreed not to pursue this matter at the present time.
  - No.1 Summerlea, Erection of double garage and relocated vehicle access** – Noted advice from Planning Services that the applicant had formally appealed against their decision.
4. **Correspondence** – The Clerk read a letter from Mrs Broomfield requesting the Parish Council's support to arrange for a preservation order on two walnut trees on land above the site of the proposed single dwelling. Mr Hamilton confirmed that he had no objections to a representative from the District Council inspecting the trees and that he would not cause the trees to come to any harm. The Clerk to contact the appropriate officer with the request that the trees be inspected.
5. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported the current balance at the bank was £717.63 with no cash in hand. The long awaited "Local Council Administration" by Charles Arnold Baker had been received at a cost of £53.45.
6. **Precept 2007/2008** – As in previous years the Clerk had prepared projected figures for the coming year copies of which were distributed to councillors and villagers. Information had been received from ALCA and Bristol Water advising of their charges for the coming year. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the final quarter of her salary, Broadband charges and reimbursement of petty cash would be deducted from the current balance at the bank. This would leave a balance of less than £300. The Clerk declined the suggestion that her salary be increased this year. Noted the Parish Council was committed to pay half the charges for the work to the Ash Tree at Church Farm. After consideration and discussion it was agreed unanimously to request a precept

for the coming year of £2,900, an increase of £100 on the previous year.

7. **Annual Parish Meeting: Monday 2 April** – After discussion it was agreed the Clerk contact Cam Valley Wildlife Group in the hope that they would be able to give an illustrated talk, if this was not possible agreed to contact The Duchy of Cornwall Estate. If neither of these were available, Councillor Todd undertook to arrange a guest speaker. Out of pocket expenses would be paid to the speaker and light refreshments provided as in previous years.
8. **Priston Website** – Noted Mr Bottle was currently out of the country on business and the report received from him was read and would be placed on file.
9. **Footpaths and Bridleways** – Discussed at item 3 above.
10. **Planning Applications:**
  - Hill Farm – Reserved matters application for single dwelling (Resubmission) Amended** plans and accompanying correspondence were currently being circulated.
  - The Old Skittle Alley – Erection of Garage to side** – New planning application received on this day.
11. **Date of Next Meeting** - Monday 2 April commencing 7.00pm to be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting.
12. **Any other business:**
  - (i) **Garden Store, Hill Farm** – Councillor Bowyer reported she had been approached by several concerned residents regarding a structure recently built at Hill Farm. The Clerk had been requested to make enquiries at Planning Services and been advised that Building Regulations were not needed. Councillor Todd advised that she was also arranging for an Enforcement Officer to visit to ascertain if Planning Permission should have been sought.
  - (ii) **B&NES Group ALCA meeting** – Councillor Bowyer reported briefly on a recent meeting which she had attended with the Clerk.
  - (iii) **Local and Parish Elections: Thursday 3 May** – Councillor Bowyer informed the meeting that she had recently spoken to all members of the Parish Council and wished it to be minuted that she would not be standing for re-election at the forthcoming Parish Elections. She continued by stating that she felt very privileged to have served for 16 years on the Parish Council and concluded by thanking Councillor Hughes and Councillors for their support during her two years in office as Chairman and also during her term as Vice-Chairman in the previous two years. The current councillors were urged to speak to electors of the parish who might be interested in becoming Parish Councillors. Nomination forms were expected to be delivered to the Clerk in mid-March.
  - (iv) **Parked vehicles reducing width of road and visibility** – Councillor Lippiatt spoke of the concern of parents as vehicles are being parked in the area of the small green. The Clerk to contact a member of the Highways Department who is responsible for traffic and safety.
  - (v) **Large vehicles on Mill Lane** – In response to concerns expressed by Councillor Nokes, the Clerk was requested to speak with Councillor Hopwood.
  - (vi) **Ring-and-Ride** – Councillor Todd reported that attempts were being made to promote the recently introduced scheme and hoped that all residents who did not have access to a private car would take advantage of this service.

There being no further business for consideration Councillor Bowyer declared the meeting closed at 8.40pm and thanked Councillors and village residents for their attendance and participation.