

The following are the DRAFT minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 2 July 2007 in the Village Hall, Priston. These have not yet been approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

Councillor Hughes presided, Councillors Hopwood, Lippiatt, Whybrow, Wilkinson and Parish Clerk were present. Councillor Hughes welcomed village residents Mr Kettleby, Mr Taylor and Mr Toghill and District Councillor Victor Clarke.

1. **Apologies** received from Councillors Cross and Nokes.
2. Whilst reading the **Minutes of the meeting** held on 14 May 2007 the Clerk advised of a typographical error in item 15, Any Other Business (i) Councillor Nokes had referred to Local Verges, not Local Hedges. This had been amended and the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising: Ash Tree, Church Farm** – The account had been received and the Clerk would arrange for payment.
4. **Correspondence** – The Clerk read a note of thanks from Mrs Bowyer who had been most appreciative of the gift given to her by Parish Councillors. A letter received from the Returning Officer for B&NES regarding a review of polling districts and places was read and it was agreed that a “nil return” was appropriate.
5. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported a balance at the bank of £1,649.98 after payment to ALCA £54.48 and Bristol Water £32.34. Mrs Hunt continued by advising of problems, which had become apparent with the recently signed mandate at NatWest Bank. When these problems have been resolved she planned to make payments as follows: The Link (£50), Village Hall (£75), Internal Auditor (£50), her salary for the first quarter of the financial year (£375), reimbursement of broadband charges (£38.97) and petty cash (£15).
6. **New Code of Conduct** – A resolution was passed to adopt the Revised Code of Conduct, which became effective on 3 May 2007, including paragraph 12(2). The resolution was formally proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded Councillor Wilkinson and agreed unanimously.
7. **Registers of Interest** – The Registers of Interest to comply with the New Code of Conduct were completed by all Councillors and passed to the Clerk for action and filing.
8. **Emergency Guidance (Issue One)** – After discussion, during which some amendments were commented upon, it was agreed to circulate a copy of the Emergency Guidance to all councillors and this item be placed on the agenda of the next meeting for further discussion and decisions.
9. **Priston Website** – No report available.
10. **Footpaths and Bridleways** - No report.
11. **Planning Applications:**
 - Arum House** – Alterations to existing window and relocation of door and new porch – Noted receipt of consent form.
 - Hill Farm** – Removal of existing boundary wall and erection of new wall – Noted receipt of consent form.
 - Hill Farm** – Erection of Implement Shed (Retrospective) – No decision from Planning Services.
 - 3 Summerlea** – Erection of conservatory – new planning application received.
 - 1 Summerlea** – Erection of double garage – new planning application received.

12. Date of next meeting - Monday 17 September commencing 7.00pm.

13. Any other business:

- (i)** District Councillor Clarke advised he would investigate the queries raised at the previous meeting regarding the Hedge Fund Investments and inform the Parish Council as appropriate at a later meeting.
- (ii)** Accepting Councillor Whybrow's proposal that it would be more appropriate for a councillor, who was already a member of the Village Hall Committee, to fulfil the role of Village Hall Representative, Councillor Hughes suggested that Councillor Cross be approached on her return from holiday.
- (iii)** Councillor Hopwood, referring to the trimming of the tree at Church Farm, commented that an adjacent tree was also in need of attention. It was also noted that the trees overhanging the wall of the manor have increased in size. Councillor Hughes to speak to the residents as appropriate. Councillor Wilkinson commented that the walnut tree on the village green was also in need of attention.
- (iv)** On the invitation of Councillor Hughes, village residents Mr Kettleby and Mr Toghill addressed the meeting with regard to the erection of a wooden fire escape, without planning permission, at the rear of the Ring o'Bells public house. After extensive dialogue it was agreed that (a) it would not be appropriate for the Parish Council to contact English Heritage to request the possible listing of the hostelry and (b) the clerk to contact the B&NES Enforcement Officer to ascertain the current situation with regard to his investigations into the non-submission of a planning application. Concluding these discussions Councillor Hughes volunteered to follow up with English Heritage, as an individual, possible listing as he holds the documentation from their previous investigations of properties in the village.
- (v)** The Clerk advised (a) that she had a quantity of leaflets relating to the changes to the bus station and bus stops in Bath and (b) top dressing of Priston Hill and Priston Road was scheduled for early August.

There being no further business for consideration Councillor Hughes declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm thanking Councillors and residents for their attendance and participation.