

**The following are the DRAFT minutes of an Ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 in the Village Hall, Priston. These have not yet been approved as an accurate record of proceedings.**

Councillor Pattison presided and Councillors Cross, Davies, Girdlestone, Hopwood, Lippiatt and Whybrow and the Parish Clerk were present. The Chairman welcomed the large number of village residents in attendance for this meeting and the following Annual Parish Meeting and District Councillor David Veale.

1. No **apologies** had been received.
2. **Minutes of the ordinary meeting** held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 having been distributed by email to Councillors, were approved as an accurate record of proceedings and the minute book signed by the Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising:** (i) **Projector Screen** – The Chairman to continue to make enquiries regarding the purchase of a suitable screen for Council use. **Action: Chairman**  
(ii) **Royal Garden Party** – Noted that our nominated representatives had again not been successful.  
(iii) **Grit Bin** – Councillor Lippiatt advised that a further grit bin had been ordered.  
(iii) **Precept** – Acceptance of request for precept had been received.
4. **Correspondence:** (i) **Local Flood Representative** – Mrs Anderson confirmed her agreement to continue in this capacity. The Clerk to advise BANES accordingly. **Action: Clerk**  
(ii) **St John Ambulance: request for financial support** – To be considered at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**  
(iii) **The Pensions Regulator:** Passed to Councillor Davies for investigation of the arrangements to be made for our Parish Clerk. **Action: Councillor Davies**  
(iv) **Joint Local Access Forum: offering membership** – Passed to Councillor Davies for consideration **Action: Councillor Davies**
5. **Financial Report** - The report distributed by email to Councillors, and published on the Priston Website, was read to the Council. Noted cheques written since the previous meeting: reimbursement to the Clerk in respect of two large print cartridges, settlement of invoice from Green Thumb for treatment of the Village Green in January and also stationery purchased for use at the VDS Public Meeting. The Clerk's salary plus reimbursement (i) towards half cost of Broadband for three months January to March, (ii) engineer's visit including new modem and (iii) incidental expenses: hall heating etc for the whole of the financial year. Total payment to the Clerk as at 31<sup>st</sup> March to be approximately £900. The balance at the bank as at 31<sup>st</sup> December was £5,588.07 including £417.50 in the defibrillator account following recent fundraising. The Clerk continued by reporting that after 1<sup>st</sup> April she would be remitting £48.10 as annual membership to the Avon Local Councils Association and also donation of £35 to Midsomer Norton and Radstock Dial-a-Ride as previously agreed.  
In conclusion the Clerk advised she had recently received information of a course, organised by ALCA, regarding External Audit. The fee for the two hour course being £15. Agreed the Clerk attend. **Action: Clerk**
6. **Parish Council Elections** – The Council was reminded of the forthcoming elections and the need for existing Councillors, who were standing again for nomination, to complete forms for submission by the deadline of 4<sup>th</sup> April.
7. **Village Design Statement** – Councillor Cross reported that several meetings of this sub-committee had been held and a questionnaire prepared which would be distributed to residents in May. Prizes had been awarded to the young people whose designs had been selected for inclusion in the questionnaire.
8. **Defibrillator** – Noted the fortnightly checks continue to be carried out, copies of which are filed by the Clerk. Mr Wilkinson had prepared a report for the Annual Parish Meeting regarding the possible replacement of the current defibrillator for which fundraising would be necessary.
9. **Footpaths and Bridleways** – Councillor Whybrow advised that two stiles had recently been replaced with kissing gates.
10. **Roads and Highways** – Councillor Girdlestone advised he had nothing new to report.
11. **Priston Website** - The report submitted by Mr Bottle, advising of updates since the previous meeting, had been distributed by email to Councillors and published on the website, was accepted and a copy placed on file.
12. **Planning Applications** – None currently under consideration.
13. **Meetings attended outside the parish** –  
**ALCA Group Three** (Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January) - The Clerk reported briefly on this meeting which she had attended with Councillor Davies. This included the information that (i) the “How to be a Good Councillor” course can be held “in house” at a cost of £200 for up to twelve persons which can also include the Clerk. A considerable saving on the current charge of £60 per person and (ii) several laptops had been acquired which it was intended could be distributed to smaller parish councils.

**Parishes Liaison** (Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February) – Councillor Cross had distributed her report by email to all Councillors.

**14. Date of next meeting:** The next scheduled meeting is the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May commencing 7.00pm followed immediately by the first Ordinary Meeting of the new Parish Council.

**15. Any Other Business:** (i) Noted that the West of England Strategic Housing Market Assessment was not yet available as a draft for comment but, when it is, the Parish Council should review its contents.

**Action Councillor Davies**

(ii) Councillor Hopwood extended thanks to those residents he has seen litter picking, as individuals, in the parish and also the PAGE group for their efforts to keep the local roads clear of litter