

The following are the DRAFT minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 17th November 2014 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 village residents Mrs Anderson, Mr Barnes, Mr Bottle and Mr Wilkinson and District Councillor Veale.

Prior to the commencement of the formal business of the meeting, Mrs Anderson asked the situation with regard to the highway wall at the lower end of the village and also with regard to broadband. The former would be reported under item 4 and the District Councillor reported on the current situation regarding broadband advising the Parish Council that he would keep Councillors informed.

1. There were no **apologies**.
15. At this point in the meeting, the Chairman proposed discussions commence with **item 15 – Planning**. An application in respect of the erection of a single storey extension at Village Farm had recently been received. The drawings and other relevant documentation were displayed via laptop to enable all present to be aware of the proposed changes to the property. It was noted this application was being considered in accordance with the Parish Council’s Planning Checklist, the relevant policies of the Local Plan 2007 and the recently approved Core Strategy. Councillor Cross reported on the discussions of the Council’s Planning Sub-Committee and drew attention to the relevant policies appropriate to this application. Following discussion the Parish Council agreed to formally support the application and the Clerk to advise the Case Officer to this effect.
Action: Clerk
2. **Minutes of the ordinary meeting** held on 8th September 2014 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) **Parish Ranger Scheme** – The Chairman advised he had spoken with members of the PAGE group who had expressed interest in taking on some of the roles of the Parish Ranger.
(iii) **Highways** – The Clerk read from emails received from the Highways Inspector with regard to outstanding repairs to pot holes etc.
(vi) **Rural Broadband** – The Clerk advised of the response she had received from Wansdyke Telecom following the request.
(v) **Stone at top of Priston Hill** – This had been painted white as agreed to draw attention to its existence.
4. **Correspondence:** (i) **Rural 20mph Speed Limit Programme** – Noted the detail shown on a recently received map indicating the extent of the mandatory 20mph speed limit and that the Marksbury lane had not been included. The Clerk to write to request this road also be included, from the current advisory sign, and also to suggest that the signage be painted on the road instead of posts at regular intervals in the village. The Chairman suggested Councillor Gridlestone be the point of contact with BANES’ Officers in regard to this.
Action: Clerk
(ii) **Land opposite Tunley farmhouse** – The Clerk had written to the resident of the adjacent property advising that no support could be given to her in this respect.
(iii) Noted that no response had been received from the Case Officer in respect of two emails sent raising queries with regard to Parcel 5856. The Clerk to forward these to the District Councillor who volunteered to make enquiries on behalf of the Parish Council.
Action: Clerk
(iv) **Priston Brook Retaining Wall** – The Clerk informed Councillors she had been advised the wall had been routinely inspected on 15th September and that it was hoped necessary repairs would be carried out before the end of the financial year.
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: Clerk’s salary and reimbursements for the three months July to September totalling £773.25, Cam Valley membership £5 and Green Thumb for special treatment of the Village Green £50. The precept, including Council Tax Support Grant, totalling £2,750 had been received and also a payment of £182 to the defibrillator account following recent skittle evening. The current balance at the bank was £3,452.45. The Clerk to arrange payment of her salary for the three months October to December, and reimbursement of half of the broadband charge, at the end of December. Agreed to make payments to the Link and Village Hall in the sum of £50 and £75 respectively.
Action Clerk

6. **Request for Funding for Father Christmas** – Councillor Lippiatt registered his interest in this item. The Chairman advised he had received a request for financial support towards Father Christmas’ expenses. After brief discussion it was agreed to donate £60 to this very worthwhile cause. The Clerk to make the necessary arrangements. **Action: Clerk**
7. **Village Design Statement** – Councillors Cross and Davies spoke on this initiative and Councillors agreed that a public meeting be held on Saturday 22nd November to enable residents to be involved in the process. The possibility of meeting with a BANES’ Conservation Officer was also being considered.
8. **Litter bin** – The Chairman advised that after speaking with members of the Village Hall committee it had been agreed there was no other appropriate site for the litter bin than as at present. It was commented that the litter bin is currently used for the disposal of dog waste and, after discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Cross, seconded Councillor Hopwood and agreed to arrange the purchase of a suitable bin which could be sited near the telephone kiosk. Initially the Clerk contact the Highways Department for advice on emptying and costs involved. **Action: Clerk**
9. **Lorry Traffic in parish lanes** - The Chairman reported that, at a recent Parishes Cluster meeting which he had attended with the Clerk, it was reported that, to prevent large lorries from using inappropriate narrow lanes, these roads could be removed from the Sat.Nav. systems. Councillors Girdlestone and Hopwood were requested to give thought to this and to whether we should apply to have some of local roads deleted from the lorry Sat.Nav maps. **Action: Cllrs Girdlestone and Hopwood**
10. **Archiving of Planning Documentation** – The Chairman felt there is no longer any need for the Clerk to retain hard copies of planning documentation as applications received by Planning Services since July 2005 have been digitally stored by them. Mr Bottle offered to give consideration to local digital storing. It was, however, felt appropriate that some paperwork should be retained. The Chairman offered to assist the Clerk to sort documents currently filed and retain only those felt to be necessary. **Action: Chairman, Clerk and Mr Bottle**
11. **Defibrillator** – The report prepared by Mr Wilkinson was accepted. Noted £182 had been paid into the defibrillator account as a result of the fundraising skittle evening. Mr Wilkinson advised that he had been making enquiries as to costs involved in replacing the current defibrillator with a “second generation” model. The cost of this would be £1,100 plus VAT, the total cost including a new cabinet would be £2095 +VAT (the cabinet cost £995 + VAT) and a pack of ancillary equipment would be £290. It is possible the existing defibrillator could be resited elsewhere in the village.
12. **Footpaths and Bridleways** – Councillor Whybrow advised he had nothing to report to this meeting.
13. **Roads and Highways** – Councillor Girdlestone’s report, advising some potholes had received attention and others remarked by the Highways Department, had been distributed to Councillors by email, published on the Priston Website and a copy placed on file.
14. **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.
16. **Meetings attended outside parish** – Councillors reported briefly on the meetings they had attending as representatives of the Parish Council.
17. **Schedule of meetings for 2015** – The Clerk had prepared a list of meetings for the coming year as customary, ie 26th January, 23rd March (Ordinary plus Annual Parish Meeting) 12th May (Annual General and Ordinary Meeting), 13th July, 7th September and 16th November. The Clerk to liaise with regular users of the Village Hall and the Booking Manager prior to publication. **Action: Clerk**
18. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 26th January 2015 (to be confirmed) commencing 7.00pm
19. **Any Other Business:** (i) **Annual Parish Meeting in March 2015** – Councillor Cross proposed Mr Hughes be asked to provide a slide show of photographs of Old Priston. The Chairman to contact him in this respect. **Action: Chairman**
- (ii) **Grit Bin, Priston Lane** – Councillor Cross requested the grit bin purchased for siting in this area be installed before the end of November. Agreed. **Action: Councillor Lippiatt**
- (iii) **Surface water, bottom Priston Hill** – Comments were made on the surface water in the area of the bridge over the stream, which could freeze causing dangerous road conditions in the winter, and the non-effective culvert on the bridge. After brief discussion it was agreed the Clerk take no action to contact Highways on this problem until some photographs have been taken of this in flood and also the drainage pipework installed by the Highways Department to take surface water into the stream.