

The following are the DRAFT minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 17 September 2007 in the Village Hall, Priston. These have not yet been approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

Councillor Hughes presided, Councillors Cross, Lippiatt, Whybrow, Wilkinson and Parish Clerk were present. Councillor Hughes welcomed village resident Mr Broomfield.

1. **Apologies** received from Councillor Nokes and District Councillor Clarke.
2. **Minutes of the meeting** held on 2 July 2007 were read, confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - Emergency Guidance** – Following the circulation of the current document to Councillors it was agreed further discussion would be appropriate and that three or four councillors form a sub-committee to consider the information published. Relevant information to be distributed to all persons listed and others who might be involved in an emergency.
 - Village Hall Representative** – Councillor Cross was now acting as Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee.
 - Trees** – (a) Councillor Hughes reported on his meeting regarding trees overhanging the wall of the Manor and (b) suggested that consideration of work to the walnut tree on the village green be left until the autumn.
 - Ring O’Bells/English Heritage** – Councillor Hughes confirmed the Ring O’Bells had not been considered for listing several years ago and commented that the downstairs area had been completely altered in recent years rendering an application for listed status inappropriate.
 - Fire Escape, Ring O’Bells** – The Clerk advised of communications with the Enforcement Officer.
4. **Correspondence** – The Clerk advised that (a) the tree preservation order on land east of Hill Farm had been made permanent; (b) a communication had been received from Radstock Police Station advising of Beat Surgeries and offering a marked Police Vehicle to visit the village every four weeks on a Friday, 12.30-13.30hrs; and (c) of correspondence with Transportation and Highways regarding the surface dressing of Priston Hill. It was agreed the Clerk should again write to the Highways’ Network Manager to enquire as to who had been responsible for ensuring that the potholes and patches had been effectively repaired prior to the surface dressing and also to accept the Police offer of a vehicle to visit.
5. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported a balance at the bank of £443.50 and that the second instalment of the precept (£1,450) was due on 1st October. She continued by advising that since the last meeting she had settled the account with the Tree Surgeon in the sum of £334.50, after receiving a cheque for £143.50 from the Parochial Church Council. The Parish Council’s insurance cover with Zurich had been renewed in the sum of £410.13. The Clerk advised that an invoice of £50, plus VAT, had been received from Mazars, the external auditors, with the returned accounts after their certification. Renewal of membership (£5) with Cam Valley Wildlife was due and finally she wished to write a cheque for the second quarter of her annual salary plus three months Broadband charges. The settlement of these amounts was formally approved by the Council.
6. **Priston Website** – The Clerk read the brief update which she had received on the current contents of the website.
7. **Footpaths and Bridleways** – Councillor Whybrow advised that the expected repairs to the footbridge at Priston Mill had not yet been put out to contract but that the finances were definitely available for the current year.

- 8. Planning Applications:**
Hill Farm – Erection of Implement Shed (Retrospective) – Application refused and applicant given until 1st October, by enforcement officer, to arrange removal.
3 Summerlea – Erection of conservatory – Noted receipt of consent form.
1 Summerlea – Erection of double garage – No decision received from Planning Services.
The Poppies – Two storey extension – No decision received from Planning Services.
1 Hill View – Erection of rear extension - No decision received from Planning Services.
- 9. Date of next meeting** - Monday 3rd December commencing 7.00pm.
- 10. Any other business:** The Clerk regretted to report that the monitor of the parish council's computer had developed a smell of burning and, after consulting Mr Bottle and, on his advice, had made the decision to dispose of it for safety reasons. A replacement monitor is currently on loan from Mr Bottle. There followed a brief discussion on the need to purchase a monitor or possibly a new computer.

There being no further business for consideration Councillor Hughes declared the meeting closed at 7.53pm and thanked Councillors and village resident for their attendance and participation.