

The following are the DRAFT minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 15th September 2008 in the Village Hall, Priston. These have not yet been approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

Councillor Hughes presided, Councillors Hopwood, Pattison, Whybrow, Wilkinson and Parish Clerk were present. The Chairman welcomed village resident Mr Bottle and District Councillor Clarke.

1. **Apologies** received from Councillors Cross and Lippiatt.

2. **Minutes of the meeting** held on 14 May 2008 having been distributed to all councillors electronically, as agreed at the previous meeting, were accepted as an accurate record of proceedings and the minute book was signed by the Chairman.

3. **Matters Arising:**

(i) **Speeding vehicles** – Noted receipt of a letter from the Area Traffic Engineer advising that an Automatic Traffic Count survey would be undertaken on the straight section of High Street to determine vehicle speeds and volume.

(ii) **Pavement** – The new Highways Inspector had advised that he hoped to arrange necessary repairs in the near future.

(iii) **Telephone Kiosk** – No response had yet been received regarding the application for listing of the Gilbert Scott kiosk. Information had been received that decommissioned telephone boxes scheduled for removal could be “adopted” by parish councils for £1 or alternatively “sponsored” for the sum of £500 per year, paid to British Telecom, who would maintain the kiosk. After extended discussion it was agreed to arrange to adopt the box for £1 to retain the street scene.

(vi) **Road repairs** – A new gully and channelling had been installed at the bottom of Priston Hill which it was hoped would improve road drainage.

4. **Correspondence** –

Forthcoming tenders for supported bus services – the email and attachments received had been circulated to all councillors. No comments or observations to be returned to the B&NES Public Transport Officer who had originated this item of correspondence.

5. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported a balance at the bank of £439.73 and that the second half of the precept would be received on 1st October.

The Clerk advised that she would shortly be writing a cheque for the second quarter of her annual salary and reimbursement of the usual expenses.

The insurance premium, renewable on 9th September, in the sum of £422.77 had recently been remitted to Zurich Insurance.

Noted the annual subscription to Cam Valley Wildlife Group in the sum of £5 was due. Agreed to remit as usual.

The Clerk continued by reporting that the Annual Return had been approved and returned from the external examiners and that she had paid their standard charge of £50 plus VAT. Two items had been drawn to the Council’s attention. (1) The Council should ensure that the risk assessment is completed and approved on an annual basis, and (2) a set of Standing Orders/Financial Regulations should be prepared. The Chair accepted Councillor Pattison’s suggestion that a local accountant be requested to draw up a set of Standing Orders on behalf of the Parish Council. Photocopies of Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Return would be displayed on public noticeboards to comply with the regulations.

6. **Regional Spatial Strategy** – Councillor Pattison reported enthusiastically on a meeting held at Keynsham Town Hall on 11th September to discuss the RSS. District Councillor Clarke had also attended and had spoken at this meeting. He provided his report for distribution to the Parish Councillors.

Noted that a meeting has been arranged for 2nd October, at Keynsham Town Hall, to discuss the response by B&NES to the proposed changes to the draft Regional Spatial Strategy.

A meeting had also been arranged for Monday 6th October in the Village Hall to receive the report

prepared within the parish on the implications of the RSS and building in the green belt. Notice of this meeting to be placed in The Link and on village noticeboards.

7. **Priston Website** – Mr Bottle read his report on the current contents of, and recent additions, to the Priston Website and was again thanked for his support.
8. **Footpaths and Bridleways** – Councillor Whybrow reported that the replacement footbridge over the brook at Priston Mill had been installed but was not yet open to the public.
9. **Planning Applications:**
 - 9 Summerlea** – Erection of single storey extension – application refused by Planning Services.
 - The Poppies** – Erection of First Floor Extension – noted applicants’ decision to withdraw application.
 - Long Barn** – Conversion of Byre to Studio and Double Garage – Decision not yet received from Planning Services.
10. **Date of next meeting** - Monday 1 December 2008 commencing 7.00pm.
11. **Any other business** - Councillor Wilkinson advised that arrangements were in hand to hold a First Aid Course at Priston Mill and also the fundraising to cover the cost of the purchase of a defibrillator.

There being no further business for discussion the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10pm and thanked Councillors and village resident for their attendance and participation.