

Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 17 January 2022

Present: Cllr Doug Pattison (Chair), B&NES Councillor Matt McCabe, Cllrs Vicky Pai, Robert Davies, Fiona Hassard, Bruce Clarke, Peter Hopwood, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk), together with Richard Bottle and Howard Jones

Parishioners were asked if there was anything they wished to be raised at the meeting: The need for a grit box on Watery Lane was discussed.

Western Power are unable to assist B&NES in supplying more electric vehicle charge points, except for 20 in Charlotte Street, because power in the grid is inadequate. It will be upgraded in 2023.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr John Lippiatt, Penny Rogers.
- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters arising:** There is a locked gate near the redundant kissing gate in the valley which Howard Jones will rectify.
- 4. Chair's Report:** It was agreed that in the spring a mock orange tree would be purchased for Bob's garden in recognition of Christine's long service as clerk.
- 5. Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £10,064.58 on 5 January. We have received a grant of £250 towards refurbishment of our fingerposts, and items of expenditure on the financial report were noted. If we spend as per the approved budget, and forecast expenditure, we would end the financial year on 31 March with about £5,400.
The draft budget for next year was examined, and it was agreed we would ask for a 6% increase in the precept.
- 6. Roads and Highways:** Potholes which were reported to 'Fix My Street' were speedily fixed.
- 7. Planning:** - The parish council supports the extension to the curtilage of the Roost (Bramble Barn).
- 8. Flooding:** The GPO manhole on Watery Lane is still flooding water onto the road. **Action: Doug will report on Fix my Street.**
- 9. Fingerposts:** There is an inner sleeve in the main cast-iron post at the Wilmington junction, which is kinked, in order to fix it before fitting our new signs we need some mild steel or cast iron pipe 80 mm outside diameter. **Action: Clerk to inform Penny we could pay for some pipe.**
- 10. Climate and ecological emergency:** The Forum in October is having results: Aylet has started her Lose It Like It email to help people recycle large items and Catherine Rose will be holding a jumble sale in the spring. Simon Barnes has a tree grant from the Woodland Trust and is waiting to hear when he will be given the trees. Louise will then put out a call for volunteers to help plant 800 trees. The Duchy of Cornwall has a Natural Capital adviser who is working on Duchy-owned land in this area. He has agreed to someone from the Duchy giving a presentation to the village about his work. After the talks scheduled by the council about domestic heating and a community energy project we can arrange a date.
- 11. Footpaths:** Nothing to report
- 12. Queen's Platinum Jubilee:** John Wilkinson has kindly agreed to organise lighting the brazier on bank holiday Thursday. **Action: Doug and Vicky will write an article for the Link to encourage volunteers to help with arrangements.**

13. External meetings: Bathavon Area Forum is on 8 February at 6pm and Doug can attend. ALCA B&NES is on 19 January 7.30pm. The net zero webinar on 20th January will be attended by Peter.

14. Any other Business: Bruce was thanked for offering to run the oil consortium.

15. Date of next meeting: Monday 14th March 2022 in the village hall.

Signed

Date

JN 18 January 2022

DRAFT