

Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

held at Priston Village Hall on Monday 18th March 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Peter Hopwood, John Whybrow, Claire Lawton, Robert Davies and Louise Callan (Clerk).

1. Apologies: John Lippiatt, Fiona Hassard

2. Minutes of last meeting: Agreed and signed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising: Further to the issue of strong chemical smells coming from the Opticolour factory at Priston Mill, it was reported that matters are in hand to follow up with the company regarding the use of cleaning solvents. One of the councillors asked for further assurances that the use of the solvents will be discontinued. **Action: Cllr Hopwood to follow up.** The Clerk had been in contact with BANES to have the 20 mph sign that has gone missing replaced and the Highways Department has now agreed to do this. **Action: Clerk to check that the sign is replaced.** A Union Jack Flag has been bought for the church. Information about entrance gates to the village to be passed to Cllr Lawton. **Action: Clerk**

4. Chair's Report: The ditch to the stream on Watery Lane was still to be dug. **Action: John Lippiatt to handle this.** There was no progress on the Emergency Plan. **Action: All councillors to review the plan and bring their views to the next meeting.** There had been no further action on the purchase of a grit spreader. Two Councillors, John Whybrow and Claire Lawton had indicated that they would not stand for re-election and they were thanked for their contribution. The parish council had received a complaint that the tiles used on new-build Milking Parlour should have been reclaimed Roman Clay Tiles, but modern tiles had been used. The developers of the building had acknowledged that they had deviated from the plans, but had tried without success to liaise with BANES Planning about the matter. The new tiles do have some black variation in them and it was agreed by the council that they were acceptable and the council would not pursue the matter further with Planning Enforcement. A thank you letter had been received from the Village Hall for the £2,000 donation towards the refurbishment costs.

5. Clerk's Report: Financial Report: The bank balance stood at £5,536.7 after the donation to the Village Hall was paid. (See financial report for full breakdown of expenditure.) The clerk briefly explained that councillors had to complete and hand in their forms for re-election. **Action: Clerk to assist where necessary.** The mobile library bus is to be renewed and the service will continue to run. Timsbury Hub library (in the YMCA near the Co-op) is proving to be a useful and successful venture and Priston villagers looking for local library services are encouraged to use it. The Newcomers' Party is to take place in the Village Hall.

6. 2019 Annual Parish Meeting: It was decided not to combine this meeting with the party for new residents on March 23rd. It would take place on Thursday 11th April at 7 pm in the Village Hall, with an environmental theme. **Action: Clerk to organise. Doug Pattison to approach speakers.**

7. Village Hall Noticeboards: The church had decided that they wished to continue with their current noticeboard. The Village Hall Committee had decided that they would replace their existing board, but the proposed style of noticeboard was not agreed. **Action: Clerk to find alternatives and present to next meeting** for purchase and erection on the village hall once it has been renovated.

8. Recycling plastic packaging: Two recycling bins will be put in the Village Hall Car Park for residents to recycle crisp packets and flexible plastic biscuit wrappers. This packaging is not collected by BANES but can be recycled if collected and sent to Terracycle. PAGE (Penny Rogers) co-ordinating.

9. WECA Transport Consultation/Rural Transport: Cllr Davies had attended the WECA Transport Meeting. It was felt that proposals for the West of England did not focus on rural transport. A rural transport users' group has been set up. On a more local level the 179 bus service will not be removed until a solution has been found as a replacement or alternative.

10. Flooding: A log has been removed by the Bendalls and John Lippiatt under the dipper on the Marksbury Road. This has much improved the flow of water under the road. BANES have offered a grille to prevent further debris from going under the road, but the landowner's agreement is still required. **Action: Peter Hopwood to pursue with the Bendalls.**

11. Highways: The Clerk had written again to BANES to ask whether the parish council could pay for a sign (unsuitable for HGVS) for the top of Watery Lane but had not received a response. **Action: Clerk to pursue.** The clerk had written to landowners about the trees overhanging Watery Lane, and the Gardners said they would check the situation. **Action: Clerk to pursue.**

12. Footpaths: The stile near the Owl Barn is to be supplied by BANES and replaced with kissing gate. A bridle gate will be added to the Watery Lane entrance to the field beyond the cricket club over the coming months.

13. External meetings: Louise Callan had attended the Parishes Liaison Meeting, where there had been a focus on the forthcoming elections on May 2nd and the achievements of BANES over the past four years. It was also noted that Parish Councillors and Parish Councils are expected to carry out a number of formal actions in the event of the death of a leading public figure, e.g. Royalty. Further information awaited from BANES.

14. Any Other Business: A request of sponsorship was made by the Church Flower Festival and it was agreed to donate £100.

15. Date of next meeting: Monday 13th May 2019 in the Village Hall.

Signed

Date