

## Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

Held on Zoom on Monday 3 May 2021 following the AGM

**Present:** Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Peter Hopwood, Vicky Pai, Robert Davies, Bruce Clarke, Fiona Hassard, B&NES Councillors Neil Butters and Matt McCabe, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk), together with Richard Bottle, John Wilkinson, Robin and Aylet Anderson, Penny Rogers and Peter Brookes

Parishioners were asked if there was anything they wished to be raised at the meeting. No issues were raised.

- 1. Apologies:** None
- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters arising:** Doug has obtained permission from the Jones family for installing a trash screen in the Priston Lane culvert. The large pothole has been filled in. The gate by the ford at Priston Mill is in the process of being fixed.
- 4. Chair's Report:** The sale of the cricket field is still ongoing. There are 6 family members involved in the sale, so progress is slow. The PC will be kept informed.
- 5. Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £10,156.49 on 27 April. The items of expenditure on the financial report were noted, and it was agreed to include £1,100 in the budget for the gritter, which still had not been purchased, as the supply company ceased trading. The clerk will email Neil for any B&NES contacts who may assist with our purchase. If we spend as per the approved budget, and forecast expenditure, we would end the financial year on 31 March with about £5,200.

The updated Asset Register was approved.

- 6. To consider, approve and sign the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement:** The internal auditor has completed the audit report. After all agreeing the statement, and the certificate of exemption, the chair and the clerk signed the Annual Governance Statement which will be published on the website.
- 7. To consider, approve and sign the 2020/21 Accounting Statement:** Receipts and payments for 2019/20 and 2020/21 were considered and approved. The chair and clerk signed the Accounting Statement which will be published on the website.
- 8. To consider and approve 2021 Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment:** Councillors have read and approved the updated documents. Financial regulations have been changed at point 20 to take out the reference to investments.
- 9. To review and sign the 2021 Councillors' Register of Interests: Action: Councillors will update their forms for publishing on the website**
- 10. To agree dates for public access to accounts:** The notice of public rights will be advertised commencing on Monday 14 June 2021 and ending on Friday 23 July 2021.
- 11. Roads and Highways:** The speedy responses from 'Fix My Street' were praised again, and that the Highways Inspector patches potholes himself. Marksbury Lane is still flooding and needs jetting. **Action: John will report on 'Fix My Street'. If this doesn't work, he will let Neil know.** Marksbury Lane junction road markings have not been changed as agreed. **Action: Bruce will email the details to Neil for this to be chased.**

**12. Planning: a) Planning Application Reference: 21/01722/FUL** New Farm, Marksbury Lane, Priston, Change of use of agricultural land to a mixed agricultural and sui generis use for the training of canines (Resubmission) 9 April 2021. Bruce had prepared a suggested response and this was discussed and agreed with the added inclusion of concern about the lack of facilities.

**b) Church Farm housing development** – The application has been withdrawn, with the possibility of resubmission in a different form.

A large solar farm is being considered by the New Inn at Farmborough.

Robert had attended a useful webinar on the BANES Local Plan partial update consultation. We are pleased that we may have more control over infill building than previously. There will be further discussions and consultations.

**13. Flooding:** Aylet, as flood warden, has been discussing Watery Lane with Jim McEwen, Drainage Engineer, Highways Maintenance & Drainage, Environmental Services from Bath & North East Somerset Council, He has been really helpful.

The Wessex Water talk at our annual meeting was very useful. **Action: Doug and Jocelyn will obtain clarity on how we report shared sewers, which are now the responsibility of Wessex Water.**

**14. Climate and ecological emergency:** PAGE held a meeting on 3 March to plan our response to the emergency. We have booked the Village Hall for 9 October to advertise our plans and encourage parishioner involvement. 20 trees were planted in Nailwell, and No Mow May has been advertised. There will be a survey at the end of May assisted by the Plant Life charity. The churchyard is leaving some grass uncut.

The ecological impact of Green Thumb maintaining the village green and Priston Lane triangle was discussed.

**Action: The clerk will ask Green Thumb for their ecology statement.**

**15. Footpaths:** A new horse gate has been installed by the cricket field and riders are happy now it has been moved to improve access. B&NES going ahead with rerouting the footpath which skirts the sewage works.

**16. External meetings:** Doug and Jocelyn will attend ALCA on 25 May.

**17. Any other Business:** Matt and Neil reported on their changing roles at B&NES, which will be announced, following a reshuffle.

**18. Date of next meeting:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 possibly in the village hall.

Signed .....

Date .....

JN 4 May 2021