

Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 14 November 2022

Present: Cllr Doug Pattison (Chair), Cllrs Peter Hopwood, Robert Davies, Fiona Hassard, Vicky Pai, John Lippiatt, Bruce Clarke, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies:** B&NES Councillor Neil Butters and B&NES Councillor Matt McCabe.
- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters arising:** The Bath & West Community Energy talk before the Saturday café about local electricity generation on 15 October was a success, and individuals can purchase shares in the company. Solar could be considered for the village hall.

John has sourced a gritter which costs £1,483.56 including VAT. The invoice is awaited.

- 4. Chair's Report:** The water to the drinking tap has been turned off as there is a leak in the water trough. The garden club will arrange planting in the spring.

We have received £5,073.22 community infrastructure levy for the Pottern works.

It was agreed that Ruth Summers be appointed as Nominative Trustee of Priston Church of England Educational charity, to replace Tim Hughes.

- 5. Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £11,726.35 on 1 November. 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 £4,100, plus the £5,073 CIL. It was agreed that a new laptop can be purchased for the clerk to use. The pay increase from 1 April 2022 of £1,925 on all scale posts will be implemented, making an increase for the clerk of £32 a month.

The final deadline for the consultation from the Boundary Commission is 5 December. **Action: Clerk to ask Aylet to remind people using the loop.**

- 6. Roads and Highways:** The new road to Farmborough is unfortunately starting to crack. The drains by the farm are being cleared out by John. **Action: Clerk will report blocked drain on Marksbury Road to 'Fix My Street' in the hope that the Clean and Green team will clear it.** The road to Radstock will be closed this weekend for stabilising work.
- 7. Planning:** - The application has been permitted to convert Mill Cottage from a 3 bed to a 5 bed house. We are expecting another application from Wilmington, as currently only the garage works are approved. Holt Farm works are progressing.
- 8. Flooding:** Doug had investigated the dam in the stream reported by Louise Callan. The gradient is such that water will continue to flow.
- 9. Climate and ecological emergency:** We have responded to the B&NES parish tree giveaway, asking for trees for hedging near the standing stone, and to replace those which did not survive at Village Farm. We await delivery of our 1000 free whips hopefully in February.
- 10. Footpaths:** **Action: Fiona will report to B&NES that the bridge over the stream from Priston Mill to Inglesbatch is rotting.**
- 11. External meetings:** Bruce and Jocelyn will attend the Parish Liaison meeting on 16 November.
- 12. Any other Business:** The Village Hall Committee is organising a village social on 4 March, and games will be organised for the Coronation on 6 May.

In the new year we will draft information for parishioners about standing for election to be a councillor, as the current councillors' four year term ends in 2023.

13. Date of next meeting: Monday 16th January 2023 7pm in the village hall.

Signed

Date

JN 15 November2022