

Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

Held on Zoom on Monday 7th September 2020 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Peter Hopwood, Vicky Pai, Robert Davies, Bruce Clarke, John Lippiatt and Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk). Howard Jones, John Wilkinson and Richard Bottle also attended.

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

- 1. Apologies:** Fiona Hassard, Matt McCabe
- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters arising:** Batteries and pads have been replaced in our defibrillators. A third defibrillator will be placed on the farm wall opposite Holt House, it will have a movement sensor light and will be lit inside. Defibrillator training will soon take place in the village hall. Hemlock can be eradicated by spraying with 24D in spring. **Action: John will spray areas of concern next April.**
- 4. Chair's Report:** The pub is very busy on Friday and Saturday evenings, and social distancing regulations are not always followed. **Action: Doug will highlight that there have been complaints to the publicans.** Green Thumb are providing a quote for adding the small triangle to the grass they service for us.
- 5. Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £5,633.39 on 21 August. The items of expenditure on the financial report were noted, and if we spend as per the approved budget we would end the financial year on 31 March with £2,104. The budget was discussed and it was agreed to reduce the forecast expenditure on water and the website to £150 each. We are unlikely to work on more fingerposts this year, so that budget can be removed, and we will be spending less on village hall hire, so we can reduce this budget to £100. With these changes the carry forward to next year could be £3,483.

2020 Councillors' Register of Interests have now all been received.

B&NES has declared an Ecological Emergency. It was agreed that we would consider declaring a climate emergency. **Action: Doug and Jocelyn will investigate what this involves.**

The Link wish to thank the retiring treasurer for his service by planning a tree in the village. Congratulations to Vicky, who is the new treasurer for the Link.

£349.20 has been paid to Came (Hiscox) to renew our insurance.

We need to consider where to keep our old minute books and other documents, and whether we could scan them to enable easy access. **Action: Establish how many records there are before next meeting.**

- 6. Roads and Highways:** The road outside the dairy has been tarmacked. Action: The clerk will write to thank Highways for the work. Priston Hill is still planned for resurfacing soon by Highways.
- 7. Planning:** a) New Farm dog training – **Action: John will alert Castle Farm to the application.** The parish council supports the application, and welcomes the diversification of use of the farmland, but has concerns about light pollution in a dark valley, and asks that consideration be given to minimising the light pollution. **Action: Clerk will prepare a response for checking by Bruce and sending to planning.**
b) Church Farm housing development – An open meeting will be advertised and set up on zoom for next Monday 14 September at 7pm. Robert and Bruce will provide their report by Friday 11 September.
- 8. Footpaths:** The minutes and documents from 1955 when the sewage works, and rerouting of the footpath were planned have been sent to Graham Stark in B&NES to help him decide the definitive footpath route past the sewage works. The gate at Watery Lane has been mended with new posts, so it is now easier to operate.
- 9. External Meetings:** Cam Valley Area Forum Tuesday Oct 13th 2020 6pm will be attended by Doug and Jocelyn.
- 10. Any other Business:** Marksbury car boot sale has been causing traffic problems on Sunday afternoons, with no organisation of cars entering or leaving, and the event is very busy, with very little social distancing or

mask wearing in evidence. **Action: Clerk will prepare an email for checking by Peter and sending to Marksbury Parish Council.**

11. Date of next meeting: Monday 16th November 2020 on Zoom.

Signed

Date

JN 8 September 2020