

Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

Held on zoom on Monday 6 September 2021

Present: Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Vicky Pai, Robert Davies, B&NES Councillor Matt McCabe, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk), together with Peter Brookes and Penny Rogers, John Wilkinson, Tim Hughes, Maggie Rideout and Howard Jones, Guy Davies, Roger Morrad

Parishioners were asked if there was anything they wished to be raised at the meeting: Howard reported that the drain by the telephone box is in need of repair. Tim reported 2 potholes behind the pub. **Action: Clerk will report on 'Fix my Street'.**

- 1. Apologies:** Cllrs Peter Hopwood, Fiona Hassard, Bruce Clarke, John Lippiatt, B&NES Councillor Neil Butters.
- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters arising:** Jocelyn has contacted Wessex Water to clarify how we report shared sewers, and learned how to access the asset map which shows all the sewers known to Wessex Water, but it is not working, so we await more information from Wessex Water.
B&NES are not still running volunteer schemes to assist with our finger post refurbishment, but they do still have some paint and other materials we could use to improve our posts. Matt will check whether we could access money from his community support fund to replace broken items. Penny and Jocelyn have identified 5 posts in need of refurbishment, and have reported the large ones to B&NES, but they are not a priority. Permission has been given by Marksbury and Farmborough councils for us to refurbish Priston signs in their parishes. Howard, Maggie and Jocelyn have carried out some cleaning of recently refurbished signs. The clerk wrote to the villager who expressed concerns about 4 Hill View and included Bruce and Robert's report.
Green Thumb have agreed not to use weedkiller on our greens, but continue with other treatments. This has reduced the quarterly cost to £16 plus VAT.
It was not possible to obtain a timeline for the sewage works path rerouting.
Penny wrote an excellent article for the Link about the importance of hedges for wildlife and advertising the environment day on 9 October.
- 4. Chair's Report:** A villager has reported taxis speeding through the village at 11pm from functions at the Mill. Doug has cleared growth from around the no entry signposts, and Peter has agreed to ask the Mill to talk to taxi drivers about avoiding the village late at night.
The village hall summer party was a great success, much appreciated by the villagers.
Penny has requested that the parish council fund expenses for running the 2121 Climate Forum, including refreshments and printing flyers. Cllrs agreed to reasonable costs being met.
It was also agreed that an orange tree would be purchased for Bob's garden in recognition of Christine's long service as clerk, and in memory of her superb marmalade.
- 5. Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £8,282.22 on 1 September. The 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 £5,151.
- 6. Roads and Highways:** Potholes will be reported to 'Fix My Street'.
- 7. Planning:** - Church Farm Planning Application 21/03682/FUL was discussed. Robert was thanked for his investigations to establish whether the site was previously developed land, which would be the only reason for allowing building in the green belt. **Action: Robert will adapt his briefing note to include points raised.** The current plan is incorrect in showing the flood protection mound in the garden of plot 1. **Action: Howard will ensure the drawings are amended.** The large barn is roofed in asbestos, so removal needs to be conducted safely. Cllrs agreed to object to the application in line with Robert's briefing note.
- 8. Flooding:** No issues raised.

- 9. Climate and ecological emergency:** Penny outlined the timetable for the 2121 Climate Forum: Information boards will be on view in the village hall from 12 noon on 9 October. There will be a forum presentation at 4pm for about 2 hours. Yoga and viewing alternative heating systems will take place on 10 October. The activities will be advertised in the Link and Loop.
- 10. Footpaths:** Fiona has contacted Stuart Pow about a fallen tree on the footpath in his wood past the sewage works. He will remove the tree when possible, but invites walkers to divert from the path to avoid it in the meantime.
- 11. External meetings:** Bathavon Area Forum is on 22 September at 6pm.
Having attended the seminar, Robert will prepare a response to the B&NES consultation on the Local Plan Partial Update and Supplementary Planning Documents, which runs from 27 August to 8 October.
ALCA AGM is on 9 October 10.30 to 12.
Robert is able to attend the Parish Liaison meeting on 13 October at 6.30.
NALC have a seminar on Levelling up Environment through Biodiversity net Gain on 27 October which costs £30.
- 12. Any other Business:** None
- 13. Date of next meeting:** Monday 15th November 2021 in the village hall.

Signed

Date

JN 7 September 2021