

Minutes of the Meeting of Priston Parish Council

Held at 7 pm on Monday 2nd September 2024 in the village hall

Present: Cllrs John Lippiatt, Bruce Clarke, Peter Hopwood, Helen Burns, Nick Keppel-Palmer, Jocelyn Nichols (Clerk) and Richard Bottle and Kate Keppel-Palmer

1. **Matters raised by parishioners:** A letter signed by many parishioners was given to the council concerning issues caused by increased shooting around the village, such as noise and lack of access. John agreed to discuss the issues with the gamekeepers.
2. **Apologies:** Cllrs Guy Davies, Farah Downing, B&NES Councillors Fiona Gourley and Matt McCabe
3. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 1st July 2024 were approved and signed.
4. **Actions from previous meeting:**

Helen has discussed with Lucy whether the footpath gate to the sewage works could be turned around to stop it being padlocked with the main gate by Wessex Water, and Lucy and Simon are considering this.

Bruce will check that the new step in Summer Lea does not cause a road hazard.

Farah to publish rules for using the lift service in the Link and Loop and on website.

The dog poo situation has not improved despite Helen writing about dangers in the Link and Loop.

Action: Helen and Guy will produce some posters and investigate provision of bins.

The defibrillator box in lower Priston has glue residue from missing signs. **Action: Helen will investigate new signs to smarten it up.**

Bruce will email Matt about our concerns over the Radstock and Midsomer Norton parking charge review by B&NES.

Clerk will arrange removal of the water supply to the fountain.

Guy will re-instate the glass and provide shelves in the telephone box, then Farah will organise a children's library.

John will ask Martin the gamekeeper about clearing brambles and rubble from the gate at Lammasfield Farm.

Peter and Helen will work on an active Emergency Plan using the B&NES template.
5. **Chair's Report:** Congratulations on 50 years of dancing to the Somerset Morris, and a great performance last Saturday. **Action: Clerk to write to congratulate them.**

The Village Hall committee will discuss the Saturday café welcoming new residents in November. The music festival is on 13-15 September, any help gratefully received.
6. **Financial Report for the financial year 1st July to 1st September 2024:** The Parish Council had £8,799.30 in the bank on 1st July and on 1 September there was £7,427.05. Expenditure was £1,372.25. **Action: Bruce will ask Matt about how we increase the precept by 10-12%.**
7. **Roads and Highways:** Arrows have appeared on lanes which suggests the roads will be filled in. **Action: Clerk will ask B&NES to wait until after harvest time so that tractors don't damage the new surface.**

8. **Planning:** Fonthill garage and apartment and Mead Cottage garage and extension applications have been refused due to increase in original building size in the green belt. The delegated reports list the supplementary planning documents used to decide on the applications, but our Village Design Statement is not mentioned. **Action: Clerk to query why the VDS is not included as it should be.** Mill Cottage outbuilding appears to be lived in, which we believe it should not be. **Action: Clerk to raise this issue with B&NES Planning department.**

A neighbour to the Shepherds Huts on Blind lane has asked how many pitches they are allowed, so Tunley PC have queried this with the enforcement officer.

The enforcement officer has told the dog training centre that the lights are not allowed whether temporary or permanent. No reply has yet been received.

It was agreed that we would support Wilmington Farm's application for a new barn cover as it will keep the yard dryer and tidier. **Action: Clerk will write to B&NES planning to say that Priston PC are in support of the application.**

9. **Flooding:** Action: Clerk will again remind the B&NES flooding officer about our planned meeting.
10. **To report on the Climate and Ecological Emergency:** No issues discussed
11. **To report on footpaths:** B&NES have repaired the footpath at Wood lodge and it is much improved. The bridleway from Mill Lane is closed except for pedestrians. **Action: Helen will find out if this is temporary or permanent.**
12. **To report on external meetings and agree attendance at future meetings:** Parish Liaison is on 18th September 2024 at 6.30. Bruce and Clerk will attend if the agenda warrants it. ALCA AGM is Saturday 5th October 10.30-12.
13. **Any other Business:** Himalayan balsam is growing at Conygre brook. **Action: Peter will speak to the farmer about clearing it.**
14. **Date of next Meeting** –Monday 11th November 2024 7pm in the village hall.

Signed:Date:

JN 3/9/24