

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Priston Parish Council  
Held at 7 pm on Monday 13th May 2019 in the Village Hall Priston**

**Present:** Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Fiona Hassard, Robert Davies, Peter Hopwood, Bruce Clarke, Vicky Pai, Louise Callan (clerk).

1. **Apologies:** Cllr John Lippiatt
2. **Declaration of the Acceptance of Office.** The councillors signed the forms to accept their positions on the parish council after the election held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were approved and signed.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Chairman's Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019: Parish Council** - The Council remained the same as last year, but Claire Lawton and John Whybrow announced that they were not standing for re-election. John has acted as our most able footpath representative for 16 years. The results of our 2019 elections have just been announced, and I am delighted to say that Dr Vicky Pai and Bruce Clarke will be joining the Council in May. **Parish Clerk** - However I am sad to report that Louise Callan, our highly effective Parish Clerk, has tendered her resignation, and wishes to leave us after the July Council Meeting.

**Village Design Statement** - BANES informed us in September that our VDS has been given the status of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which increases its authority, and which was the recognition we were seeking. The VDS has been printed and distributed to households in the village, and is agreed to be a beautifully produced document. Thanks are due to all of the VDS Working Party, but in particular Bruce Clarke as editor, Tony Baldero for the design, and Gail Pattison for chairing the Working Party for nearly four years.

**Armistice Day Commemoration** – Thanks to Claire Lawton for organising a most memorable event, and to John Lippiatt for the magnificent brazier on Pensdown hill.

**Finance** - There has been a slight increase in the Precept this year to allow for inflation. £2000 was donated to support the work on the Village Hall, with the offer of more later, should this become necessary. £500 has been spent on having the electricity supply to the phone box disconnected and on repairs. The Village Design Statement cost £960 for consultancy fees and to pay for printing. First aid and defibrillator training cost £337. Refreshments after the Armistice celebration in November cost £150, and we also paid £25 to the young Bugler who played beside the brazier.

**Planning - Mead Cottage.** An application to remove the agricultural tie on the building was supported by the Parish Council, but was initially not approved by BANES. The tie has, however,

now been removed. - **Walnut Tree Hill.** As Chairman of the Parish Council I have written four times to the Chairman of B&NES complaining about the delegated decision to allow the shipping container to remain, but without receiving a satisfactory explanation. However, at our request, the wall to the North of the house has been changed from a rendered to a more appropriate natural stone finish. - **Bramble Barn** - the Parish Council supported the application to turn a garage into living accommodation, which has been approved. - **The Piggeries, Marksbury lane** – An application to convert the ruins at the Piggeries into a home was supported, but with reservations concerning the greater volume of the buildings proposed, cars using the bridleway, and external lighting.

**Highways and Footpaths** – The work done last year to bypass a blocked storm drain near the Village Hall seems to have been successful in reducing flooding down the High Street, and a large log removed from the culvert under the Marksbury dip will reduce flooding there.

**6. Financial Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

The Parish Council started the year with £7,435.05 in the bank and finished with £4,963. The precept was £6,200 and gross expenditure was £8,672. A full breakdown of income and costs is attached to these minutes.

7. **Election of Chairman:** Cllr Pattison vacated the Chair which was taken by Cllr Hopwood. Cllr Pattison was proposed by Cllr Hassard and seconded by Cllr Davies. Cllr Pattison was elected unanimously to the position.
8. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Chairman:** Cllr Pattison accepted the position and signed the Acceptance of Office.
9. **Election of Vice-Chairman:** Cllr Hopwood was proposed by Cllr Pai, seconded by Cllr Clarke. Agreed unanimously.
10. **Appointment of Internal Auditor:** Cllr Clarke proposed and Cllr Hassard seconded the nomination of Robin Anderson as the internal auditor. Agreed unanimously.
11. **Appointment of Footpath Representative:** Cllr Davies agreed to take on this role. Nomination proposed by Cllr Hassard and seconded by Cllr Hopwood. Agreed unanimously.
12. **Appointment of Village Hall Representative:** Cllr Fiona Hassard was proposed for this role by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Pattison and it was agreed unanimously.
13. **Appointment of Roads and Highways Representative:** Cllr Lippiatt was proposed for this role by Cllr Hassard, seconded by Cllr Pattison and it was agreed unanimously.
14. **Appointment of Representative to Priston AED Project:** John Wilkinson agreed to continue to act in this capacity.
15. **Any other business:** None.

Signed: .....

Position: .....

Date: .....