

Minutes of the Priston Parish Council Meeting

held at Ring of Bells Priston on Monday 8th July 2019 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Doug Pattison (Chair), Peter Hopwood, Vicky Pai, Bruce Clarke, Robert Davies, John Lippiatt and Louise Callan and Jocelyn Nichols (Clerks).

Jocelyn Nichols was welcomed as the new clerk, and Matt McCabe was welcomed as our joint Councillor with Neil Butters. Matt and Neil have responsibility for 13 parishes and Matt is the main contact for Priston.

- 1. Apologies:** Fiona Hassard
- 2. Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters arising:** The Clerk has again been in contact with BANES to have the 20 mph sign that has gone missing replaced and the Highways Department has agreed to do this. The sign has not yet been replaced. **Action: Clerk to check that the sign is restored.** The lack of white lines on the lane to Marksbury has been reported to BANES.
The 2018/19 Annual Governance statement and the 2018/19 Accounting Statement are both now on the website.
- 4. Planning:** Councillors were updated on the progress of the Listed Buildings Planning Application for the Village Hall. The responsible planning officer has visited the site and been made aware of the urgency of project completion. Matt McCabe has already spoken to the planning officer, who says there are usually 4 weeks after the end of consultation (18 July) to make a decision. He will talk to the officer again to try to speed up the decision. Villagers were reminded they can all respond to the consultation via the BANES website.
- 5. Chair's Report:** The next May early bank holiday has been moved to Friday to enable VE celebrations. The Parish Council may wish to mark VE day, and will liaise with the Village Hall Committee after they have decided what is happening on May day. A volunteer councillor will then be needed to arrange our celebrations.
- 6. Clerk's Report: Finances:** The bank balance stood at £6,697.65. The unusual items of expenditure on the financial report were discussed and a VAT claim has been made for £245. It was agreed that John Wilkinson be asked for information about the £117.60 defibrillator costs, and also be asked to reduce the training to once a year. **Action: Vicky Pai will discuss defibrillator costs with John Wilkinson. Clerk will pay the invoice.** Mike Taylor's legacy of £1,000 has not been received yet, a thankyou letter will be written when we receive the money, with an account of what the Parish Council will spend it on. Robin Anderson has agreed to be our auditor for this year. **Correspondence:** All the documents are up to date on the website. Local councils are objecting to the plans to expand Bristol Airport. A B&NES rural transport group has been set up to try to protect the 179 bus, and questionnaires have been circulated to villagers. **Action: Clerk to send an email with details of the questionnaire and encourage villagers to complete.** £200 has been requested from Priston Parish Council by the group to pay towards the administration of the questionnaire. More information is needed before we agree to this payment. **Action: Clerk to contact Rosemary Naish for details.**
Insurance: Councillors were reminded that the annual insurance policy was due for renewal in September, and the cost would be in the region of £300. **Action: Clerk to wait for documents and renew.**
Handover to new clerk: Louise Callan is training the new clerk this week.
- 7. To agree changes to the 2019/20 budget and a donation for the Village Hall:** The extra cost of hall works are not yet clear, so a donation is not necessary at this stage. £335 will be spent on fingerpost renewal, around £300 on improvements to the Priston Lane triangle, and the grit spreader and seat are ongoing projects. Renewal of notice boards will be considered once the village hall is completed.

8. **To approve the 2019 Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Internal Audit Plan:** The section 137 expenditure for 2019/20 is £7.86 per elector. **Action: Clerk to update relevant document.** Councillors approved the documents.
9. **Roads and Highways: To report on Finger Post renewal project.** 4 of the 7 posts with Priston on them have been refurbished and painted by villagers and B&NES volunteers. The clerk had written to thank the B&NES team. **Action: Clerk to write and thank Penny Rogers for her management of this project.**
10. **Flooding: To report on proposed work to Priston Lane:** B&NES have been asked if it is possible to clear our drains in the autumn after leaf fall but unfortunately they cannot change our slot in the timetable from April. B&NES are investigating a blocked pipe on Priston Lane on 15 July, to improve drainage.
11. **Priston Lane Triangle:** The site has been flattened and covered in topsoil. A hole has been created in the middle to plant a tree. Priston Parish Council would be liable for any damage caused by this tree and we are waiting for approval from BANES before proceeding. **Action: Clerk to write an article for the Link reminding villagers not to turn on the triangle or to park on the white lines.**
12. **Village Green Seat Renewal:** A design has been drawn up. No further progress. **Action: Cllr Davies to look into production.**
13. **Emergency Plan:** A WhatsApp group has been created to scramble helpers in the event of an acute situation, prior to the arrival of the emergency services. 20 people have signed up so far, including our community liaison police officer.
14. **Footpaths:** Cllr Davies has been given all relevant documents. The contact in B&NES is Sheila Petherbridge who is in the process of installing new bridleway gates by the church field and on Priston Lane.
15. **External Meetings:** Vicky Pai attended the Clinical Commissioning Group meeting. She reported that B&NES are amalgamating with other councils to form a Primary Care Network. Home visits are likely to be carried out by staff other than doctors. The RUH only manages to see 82% of A & E patients in under 4 hours, it should be over 95%, but budgets have increased by less than inflation so this is unlikely to improve. Nationally there is an 11% shortage of nurses. Robert Davies has represented CPRE in discussions about the B&NES Spatial Plan. 800 houses are planned for Odd Down, and 50 have been approved in Timsbury.
16. **Any Other Business:** Potholes which have been marked out in Priston and Marksbury lanes have not yet been filled in. **Action: Clerk to contact Highways**
17. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 9th September 2019 hopefully in the Village Hall.

Signed

Date

JN 10 July 2019