

The following are the DRAFT minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 16 May 2005 in the Village Hall, Priston immediately following the Annual General Meeting. These have not yet been approved, by the Parish Councillors as an accurate record of proceedings.

Councillor Bowyer presided, Councillors Cross, Hughes, Lippiatt, Nokes, Whybrow and Parish Clerk were present.

The Chairman welcomed District Councillor Mrs Todd and village residents Miss M Nokes and Mr and Mrs Broomfield.

1. **Apologies** received from Councillor Geake.
2. **The Minutes of the meeting** held on 4 April were read by the Clerk. Referring to item 9, Councillor Nokes spoke further on the problems which may be experienced with expensive cars being conveyed to Priston Mill for storage. The minutes were agreed and signed by Councillor Hughes who had chaired the meeting.
3. **Matters Arising:**
 - (i) **Computer** - The Clerk reported the latest situation with regard to a loan computer from B&NES. Councillor Todd volunteered to make further enquiries.
 - (ii) **Contract of Employment** - The Clerk advised of the contract which had been compiled on her behalf. This to be signed by the Clerk and Chairman.
4. **Correspondence** - The Clerk advised (a) an acknowledgement had been received from the British Red Cross in respect of donation of £45.45 retiring collection following the Parish Meeting and, (b) drawings received showing the proposed installation of traffic lights at the Man With Two Heads Junction at Marksbury. This would be circulated to councillors for comments as appropriate.
A letter from the editors of The Link, regarding financial support to this publication, was read to the meeting. As a result of the discussion which ensued it was formally proposed by Councillor Hughes, seconded Councillor Lippiatt and agreed that, as many residents have access to the Priston Website, future minutes would not be published in the Link. A copy of minutes would be placed in the Noticeboard for the benefit of those residents who do not have access to the website. It was further proposed by Councillor Cross, seconded Councillor Bowyer and agreed that £50 be donated in the current financial year to support the new style Link and to cover the insertion of advice of forthcoming meetings.
5. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported the first half of the precept had been received and the current balance at the bank was £1,580.10. The Clerk requested the formal approval of Councillors to make the annual donation to Village Hall funds, in the sum of £75, and also to make the donation to The Link as discussed in item 4 above. Agreed.
6. **Annual Report to External Auditor for the year ended 31 March 2005** - The Clerk confirmed that she would fulfil the requirements of the Annual Report as indicated in documentation from them. She would arrange for notices to be displayed to advise electors of their rights. Councillors formally approved the section "Statement of Assurance" and the document would be signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
7. **Report from Internal Auditor** - The annual report was read and would be acted upon as appropriate.
8. **Priston Website** - No report available. Noted Mr Bottle was always pleased to receive contributions for the Website and he was again thanked for a most interesting website.
9. **Footpaths and Bridleways** - Nothing to report.

10. Any other business -

(i) Agreed the Chairman should speak informally to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee regarding the straw which had been left adjacent to the Village Green since May Day.

(ii) Councillor Hughes advised he had spoken to Mr Gardiner regarding remedial work to the oak tree on his property and also to the Bendall family regarding log in the culvert of Priston Brook on Marksbury Road.

(iii) District Councillor Todd advised (a) the Local Plan Enquiry had finished and a report would be available later in the year; (b) it may be possible for new ditches to be dug to assist long-standing drainage problems. Councillor Todd offered to provide a map on which suitable sites could be indicated and also existing ditches which are in need of attention; (c) Councillor Phyllis Gay had been elected as Chairman of Bath and North East Somerset Council; (d) she had stood down from the Executive of B&NES; (e) of her plans for a Rural Programme to encourage Parish Councils to produce a parish plan and also a "lengthman's scheme" to encourage Highways to co-operate with Leisure and Amenities.

(iv) Agreed the Clerk obtain information on the possibility of the Gilbert Scott telephone kiosk being placed on the listed building register.

(v) Congratulations were extended to Councillor John Lippiatt on his recent marriage.

11. Date of next meeting - Monday 4 July, commencing 7.00pm.

There being no further business for consideration the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.35pm and thanked Councillors for proposing her as the first lady Chairman of Priston Parish Council. Councillor Bowyer again extended sincere thanks to Councillor Hughes for his 14 year Chairmanship.