Priddy Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of Priddy Parish Council

Held on at 7pm at Priddy Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Dodd (MD) (Chairman), R Thompson MBE (RT) (Vice Chairman), V Barberet (VB), C Dyke (CD)

In attendance: 2 members of the public

Public Forum: no issues raised.

Meeting opened at: 7.00 PM

87 **Apologies for absence**
Cllrs: D Collier moving house, J Clements attending funeral, B Storrie holiday, Clerk: G Pettitt personal reasons.
Resolved: all councillor and clerk reasons for absence accepted.

88 **Declarations of interest**: none

89 **Chair's announcements:** MD announced that the parish clerk had resigned.

90 **Minutes of previous meeting:** confirmation and signing as a correct record. Proposed and resolved to request Cllr D Collier to sign the minutes, as he had chaired that meeting. DC

91 **External reports:** to receive written reports from
a) Somerset Council and b) Avon & Somerset Police: no reports received (SC finance report received too late to discuss).

92 **Actions not otherwise on agenda:** none

93 **Planning**

Ubley Warren Farm Burrington Road Charterhouse
Proposed agricultural shed for feed storage and to service the current agricultural holding
Resolved to support. Good re-use of existing building being re-sited. Applicant (in attendance) had confirmed a) that the building has lighting but no roof lights therefore there should be minimal pollution of dark skies and b) that the building size was incorrectly recorded in earlier documents, confirmed as 60 metres length. GP
Query raised as to why planners are not considering the Mendip Hills NL dark sky policy as a material consideration that needs to be addressed in applications for the area. Cllr Hobbs to be requested to raise this with Somerset Council planners. RT

Dale Farm Dale Lane Priddy NOTIFICATION ONLY
Application for prior notification of agricultural development for a proposed building: noted.

The Old Radio Station Smithams Hill Priddy
Change Of Use Of Home Fitness Room & Office To Provide Flexible Self-Contained Accommodation For Use As An Annexe or Holiday Let. Relocation Of Home Fitness Room & Office To Opposite End Of Building & Regularisation of Minor Amendments To Plans Approved Under Planning Reference 2017/3014/FUL (approved 25 May 2018). The Erection of Two Garden Sheds. (RETROSPECTIVE).
Resolved to support. Internal changes only plus two sheds with limited impact. GP

New Inn: Cllr Dodd reported that he has asked Somerset Council via Cllr Hobbs to approve the planning application, there is nothing outstanding, whole hearted support from the village, further delay is economically damaging and unreasonable. MD

94 **Environment working group update:** Cllr Clements had sent a report (attached to minutes). Resolved to accept the report. Next EWG meeting to be confirmed, in Queen Victoria.

96 **Mendip Farmers Hunt use of the Greens Nov 2nd and Dec 26th**
A discussion took place noting the extent of the Parish Council's control over the Village Green, the right of inhabitants to enjoy lawful pastimes and the extent of liabilities arising from ownership of the Greens. It was resolved to:
a) ensure organisations using the Greens for lawful pastimes and events are sent copies of the Byelaws and the PPC policy on the use of the Greens. RT

	b) that Cllr Thompson circulate the above plus Defra and Open Spaces information on the use of Town and Village Greens. Byelaws / policy to be considered and amended as appropriate, include as a future agenda item along with the need for other information gathering (such as from insurance company).	RT
	c) that Cllr Thompson respond to an email from Action Against Fox Hunting referencing previous FOI requests response and matters as above.	RT
	d) note Mendip Farmers Hunt dates, as advised, for use of the Greens, send byelaws and policy as above and offer further assistance, as required, with the risk assessment.	RT / DC / MD
	e) that details of the TV Crew wishing to film be made available by the clerk. Cllr Dodd to contact film crew following the procedure in the PPC Media policy.	GP/MD
99	**Priddy Friendly Society Bonfire Night use of the Greens Nov 5th**	
	Discussion in (96) also related to item 99. Resolved to forward Byelaws and Greens policy with offer of assistance with risk assessment for the event as required.	RT
95 / 97 / 101	**Assets and maintenance**	
	(95) Memorial bench: proposal to site a memorial bench between the two existing benches on the north side of the Upper Green – approved, Cllr Collier to arrange.	DC
	(97) Playground: Cllr Barberet reported her intention to commence applying for grants. It was proposed and resolved that a meeting be arranged to discuss arrangements for the playground with the adjoining landowner. Cllr Dodd offered to arrange a meeting.	VB / MD
	(101) Village Fountain: concern raised due to the fountain pump still not functioning. Cllr Dodd reported that the clerk had still not received a response from the contractors Floramour, to her email regarding payments made and pump non-function. Cllr Dodd will investigate and take over communications with the contractors regarding action to resolve.	MD
98	**Recruitment: arrangements for a replacement clerk.**	
	The clerk's resignation was noted. Councillors thanked the clerk for the expertise and commitment that she had brought to the role.	
	After discussion it was proposed and resolved that a) Cllr Dodd and Cllr Thompson would temporarily take on the roles of (unpaid) Responsible Finance Officer and Proper Officer respectively, to allow the council to continue to function and b) an informal meeting of councillors will take place on November 6th at 7PM at Queen Victoria to discuss further arrangements and new ways of working.	MD / RT
104	**Communications:** items for the Pew – none currently.	
100	**Highways: traffic working group update:** concerns raised about the volume and speed of traffic through the village, due to junction construction works at Miner's Arms crossroads and other road closures. Cllr Dodd had worked with the police (Dan Cox) to erect two Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). Cllr Collier had created and erected signage along parish roads. All thanked for this swift action which had appeared to be effective. Cllrs proposed that some of the signage could be spaced out across the Lower Green and any spare located along the Wells Road near the Beeches. Cllr Dodd offered to facilitate this with Cllr Collier.	MD / DC
102	**Finance: budget & payments**	
	Payments noted and approved Correx signs £92.24; salary month 6 £401.17; HMRC £162.80.	GP
103	**Matters of report**	
	a) Mendip Hills NL Deerleap consultation: councillors noted that a number of parishioners had questions about the consultation and its validity. Due to the need to respond by October 13th it was proposed and resolved to request the Mendip Hills NL to properly show the rights of way in the area on the plan and to re-start the consultation, the original considered to be null and void without these details. Cllr Thompson to contact MHNL.	RT
	b) Burroughs septic tank replacement scheme: questions raised about timescale, lack of communication, links to planned developments, location of any work done, reassurance required about the nature of partnership with Somerset Council. It was agreed to ask Cllr Clements to deal with this through the EWG.	JC
	c) Speed limit review request, noted for future consideration.	
	d) Correspondence re Farmers market request for village green – proposer to be asked to attend the next council meeting to discuss.	RT

Meeting closed 8.05PM. Date of next meeting: November 13th Priddy Village Hall 7PM

EWG update for the PPC meeting from Cllr Clements

Priddy Pool:
I am still waiting on a date from Dave Gibbons and will keep you informed. He is confident that he has the capacity to do it soon, which is fine timing wise.

Sunlit Solar:
The Sunlit Solar meeting went well and village turnout was good. Kate Rogers their marketing manager has been in touch this week with the update below. I have replied back that I think this is a great idea. I will also do a follow up piece in the Pew about the recent Priddy meeting:

From Kate - Sunlit Solar have now reached the 100 installation milestone for the Green Wedmore solar initiative so I am planning some celebratory posts for this weeks socials. I was wondering if you would like me to put a post on about the recently launched Axevale and Priddy solar initiatives? I was thinking of putting Axevale, Priddy and Green Wedmore in 3 circles with Sunlit Solar to show that these are the 3 schemes that Sunlit are currently working with. It might give a bit more reach to your schemes.
I'm also going to write a blog about community solar initiatives so I will send this to you once it is complete.

Townsend Pool:
As mentioned at our last PPC meeting, I would like to apply for Folk Festival funding to restore the Townsend pond. I am currently obtaining quotes but understand that I have missed the meeting deadline.