



Priddy Parish Council

Minutes of Priddy Parish Council meeting

Held on February 12th 2025 at 7pm at Priddy Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Dodd (MD) (Chairman), R Thompson MBE (RT) (Vice Chairman), V Barberet (VB), J Clements, D Collier (DC), C Dyke (CD). In attendance: 1 member of the public.

Meeting opened at: 7.00 PM

Public Forum: Chairman Cllr Dodd adjourned the meeting for a maximum of 15 minutes for members of the public to bring their concerns. No concern was raised. This was followed by a Community Council for Somerset proposed affordable housing talk and discussion by Colin McDonald, senior rural housing enabler.

MINUTES

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| 147 | Apologies for absence: B Storrie (BS) pressure of work. | All |
| 148 | Declarations of interest: Cllr V Barberet declared a personal and disclosable pecuniary interest in 153 (e). | VB |
| 149 | Minutes of previous meeting(s) approval of January 8 th 2025 meeting minutes: agreed and signed as a true record. | ALL |
| 150 | External reports:
a) Somerset Council: none received b) Avon & Somerset Police: none received c) Wells and Rural LCN plan (Jan 31 email): noted. | ALL |
| 151 | Diary and events.
March 15, 16 Palladwr Rally (noted), March 23 Litter Pick (advertised to community, MD to pick up kit / complete form), Priddy Friendly Society bonfire event 2025 (RT / MD to arrange a meeting with Priddy Friendly Society representative to discuss arrangements), implement sale September 6 th auctioneer to be notified (CD) Burrington Beaver Scouts / cubs camping September 6 th permission to camp to be notified (CD). | MD / RT

CD
CD |
| 152 | P1 Governance (GOV)
a) Portfolio groups working and objective documents review: P1 GOV with MD, P2 BEG with MD, P3 AMG with MD / DC, P4 LIPPG, P5 COM, P6 EWG with JC / RT, P7 TCAG with DC / MD: complete by next meeting.
b) Action list: tracking agreed actions. List reviewed by MD, it was proposed and agreed to carry forward the list of matters remaining and attach list to current meeting minutes, as an aide memoire. | All

MD / RT |
| 153 | P2 Built Environment Group applications & group (BEG) report
a) New Inn planning application: email correspondence with planning officer Kelly Pritchard refers ('due to my current workload, I am unable to provide an update to the PC at this time'). Proposed to escalate to the Chief Executive, copy local MP.
b) Village Hall: energy efficiency identification of assessment providers / grant: agreed to explore Sunlit Solar & BZS advice plus use existing skills (PPC / eco builders) (also note SEEN issue 20 Somerset Community Foundation grant).
c) Somerset Council call for sites (closes Feb 24) suggest to SC explore redundant farm buildings.
d) Mendip Hills NL briefing note re new legislation Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA) duty to 'seek to further' the purpose of National Landscape' council agreed to seek guidance / a talk from MHNL planning officer.
e) 2025/0159/HSE Clearview Priddy Green: demolition of existing single-storey utility space and erection of single-storey rear and side extension. Cllr Barberet left the room. Council agreed to support– material consideration: good use of dead space. | EH / MD / RT

JC/MD

RT
ALL |

	f) Burrow septic tanks scheme: email response refers, council agreed to share the response to the community via website / social media. Some site visits have been carried out and one agreement has been signed. It was proposed and agreed that EWG could promote the scheme.	JC
	g) Community Council for Somerset proposed affordable housing: talk by Colin McDonald refers (see slides / u tube video).	
154	P3 Assets and maintenance group (AMG) report	
	a) Village Fountain update: email correspondence from Floramour Gardeners regarding works outlined originally and in appraisal refers, it was proposed and agreed that council takes no further action to recover costs, MD to respond. Proposed and agreed to consider further action and a plan to get the pump working.	MD
	b) Leslie Arthur Weeks bench: CD has discussed with church warden, awaiting Parochial Church Council.	CD
	c) Greens maintenance tender liaison with contractor letter sent via CD. AM group to follow up regarding budget, number of cuts / dates etc as the season progresses.	MD / DC
155	P4 Large infrastructure Playground project group (LIPPG) report	
	a) Update on grants / setting up a crowd funder page, £60 raised from free cycle, other fund-raising efforts planned.	VB
	b) Community engagement to encourage volunteers into the group. No news.	
	c) Landowner approaches re possible sites: information received.	
156	P5 Parish IT & Communications group COM) report	
	General report (website / social media / Pew / ZOH mail): no report	BS
157	P6 Environment (green) working group (EWG) report (sent) next meeting Feb 17 Queen Victoria Inn 7 pm.	
	a) Green environmental matters (Eastwater Drove to be surveyed Feb 23rd, Mineries survey to be carried out), free cycle event will be an annual event, thanks to all.	JC
	b) Townsend Pool project: completed Cllr JC thanked for successful completion. Planting to be carried out once the remainder of the clay has been sold. Signs to be purchased. FiPL grant to be claimed. Toad patrols planned and will be publicised.	
	c) LCN active travel meeting report Jan 21 email noted. Next meeting to be advised.	
158	P7 Traffic calming advisory group (TCAG) report (sent)	DC
	a) Village gateway proposals	
	b) LCN highways working group feedback Feb 3 meeting noted Nine Barrows Lane triangle works to be carried out by Somerset Council.	
159	Finance: RFO report, budget & payments	
	a) Hinckley & Rugby Building Society Local Council 45-day notice account investment of capital, signatures required and done.	MD
	b) Payments (i) Priddy Village Hall meetings £90, (ii) Microsoft 365 £79.99, (iii) Gibbons £2,160 Townsend Pool project, (iv) Parish Online £378: all agreed to be paid.	RT/MD
	c) Litter bin payments / signs: Somerset Council will empty Manor Farm bin as on highway verge, PPC to pay for Lower Green bin by phone box and Upper Green bin by metal bench to be emptied once the scheme has been rolled out. It was proposed and agreed to purchase and place dog signs fine on the Upper Green as per Lower Green: action AM group.	MD
	d) Financial regulations amendment proposal for group budgets: a proposal to insert in 5.5 of the PPC financial regulations points d,e,f,g (green highlights) to cover expenditure under working group budgets, was agreed.	ALL
160	Matters of report	
	Parish clerk vacancy: proposed to advertise May for 2 months, proposed start Sept 1: finalise March PPC meeting.	ALL
	Nine Barrows Lane and Priddy Pool: culvert may be broken and road sinking, to be surveyed and action considered by EWG.	
	Dark Lane tree felling of ash trees, all diseased, suggested discussing replanting with Mendip Hills NL	JC / RT
	Flagpole requires maintenance: AM group to action.	
	Annual parish meeting attendance: consider actions to encourage attendance.	ALL

A report for the Traffic Calming group

1. Group met in January and are working on a proposal for Gateways
2. It was agreed to not run the school traffic signs campaign again this year. Existing signs will continue to be used
3. We will continue to monitor the Hunters Crossroads for near misses/accidents
4. At the LCN Highways Working Group we discussed collaborating with local parishes to share the purchase, maintenance, and siting of temporary SDs. Westbury was the only parish that expressed interest. I am planning to meet with them in next few weeks to see if we can take it further, work out budgets, etc

PPC EWG Meeting 20th January 2025 report

ACTIONS

Set up a EWG WhatsApp group.

Freecycle event - Feb 1st Priddy Village Hall

Sustainability assessment for village hall, school and church Jen to ask Sunlit solar & BZS team re contacts for the preliminary assessment. We will require funding for the initial assessments and larger grants for the programme of Works.

Churchyard- Discuss extending the wildflower area of the churchyard, mow the meadow areas ASAP when weather permits.

Events in the diary

East Water Lane survey 23rd February – meet at the end of East Water Drove on Nine Barrows Lane 10am.

Litter picking date – 23rd March meet at 10am on the village green:

Village green weeding and planting: We will organise a village green weeding event in April – date TBC.

Plant plug plants around the hurdles at the same time. investigate local sources for plants. Request a budget for the cost of the plants from the PPC.

Pincross:

Close look at the pincross to assess if we can restore it.

Dates of next EWG meetings @ 7pm in the Queen Vic: Feb 17th, March 3rd, April 7th