



Priddy Parish Council

DRAFT MINUTES

for the Priddy Parish Council meeting

held on September 9th 2026 at 7 PM in Priddy Village Hall

Present: Cllrs B Storrie (BS), R Thompson MBE (RT), V Barberet (VB), J Clements (JC), M Dodd (MD), Kelly Rose-Nokes (KRN). Parish Clerk S Baynes (SB/RFO), 7 Members of the public (MOP)

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| 049 | Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Cllr D Collier, Family Holiday. Resolved to Accept Cllr Collier reasons for absence and apologies. Approved. | ALL |
| 050 | Declarations of interest: A prejudicial interest in agenda item, 055/i) planning application 2026/1621/FUL had been declared by Cllr R Thompson MBE. A dispensation for RT to speak had been requested and granted. | ALL |
| 051 | Exclusion of public and press from any agenda item under Standing Order 3d), due to the confidential consideration of asset purchase - ref to 057 | ALL |
| 052 | Adjournment of meeting for public forum: Members of the public raised objections to the planning application 2026/1621/FUL. The applicant responded to the concerns and objections submitted. | ALL |
| 053 | Minutes of previous meeting(s): To Confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of a Priddy Parish Council meeting held on July 8 th 2026. RESOLVED: Approved | ALL |
| 054 | P1 Governance (GOV) report | |
| | a) Portfolio groups update: No matters to report. | ALL |
| | b) Parish Clerk update: It was confirmed that letters of thanks for the donation (SC Cllr E. Hobbs) and for work carried out in the parish (DB Gibbons Ltd) have been sent. The Clerk has also requested that his annual review with BS be arranged soon. | SB |
| | c) Policy review - village greens policy: RT confirmed the policy would be circulated by Nov 2026. | RT |
| | d) Parish archives to Somerset Heritage Centre: RT confirmed that this work would be completed by Nov 2026. | RT |
| | e) LCN matters: No matters to report. | RT |
| | f) Councillor & Clerk training: No planned training. KRN confirmed to the Chair that she had received all induction documents from the Clerk. | ALL |
| | g) Crime concerns of local parishioner's/farmers: Continuous monitoring of the situation was reported. | BS/RT |
| | h) Updating Parish Emergency Plan: Three new emergency contacts were requested for the plan update, with MD, BS and KRN volunteering. Advice has been requested from "Somerset Prepared" at Somerset Council, and MD will report further when a response is received. | MD |
| 055 | P2 Built Environment Group applications & group (BEG) report | |
| | a) Planning Applications <i>Object / support / comment / material considerations: Consideration of planning applications including any arising before the meeting NB Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023: duty to seek to 'further' the statutory purposes of Mendip Hills NL Protected Landscape. Special qualities list has been circulated.</i> | ALL |
| | i) Proposal: Erection of permanent agricultural workers dwelling associated parkings, landscaping, native hedgerow planting, traditional drystone walling, boundary hedge treatment plant and drainage work whilst utilising existing track. | |
| | Location: Cowell Hill Townsend Priddy Wells Somerset | |

Applicant: Mr L Wedmore

Application Type: Full Application

Application Number: 2026/1621/FUL

Comments are welcome by 23rd September 2026

BS summarised that the application was in keeping with the area and not of significant scale to raise any concerns, it was however proposed and resolved to leave this matter to the planning officer to assess whether the functional and financial threshold for such a dwelling has been met.

5 members of the public left the meeting

b) Parish plan: Proposed and resolved that MD will circulate details of what's required for a parish plan to all councillors for discussion at next meeting. **RT/CD/MD/BS**

c) Topics:

i) Village Hall energy efficiency survey: Proposed and resolved that JC will find a new company to provide an energy efficiency survey as the previous contractor has failed to supply as promised. **JC**

ii) Community Council for Somerset affordable housing needs (Thrive): MD recommended that the Council actively pursue, through multiple inquiries, any available land suitable for purchase. MD will produce a media draft and establish the upper limit for the purchase of land for affordable housing. **RT/CD/MD/BS**

056 P3 Assets and maintenance group (AMG) report:

a) Topics:

i) Fountain / TAP: It was proposed and resolved that Priddy Parish Council accept liability for water costs once the tap is reinstated, and the meter is re-established. An annual budget of £100 is to be included in the forthcoming budget. **DC**

ii) Hobbs bench: The concrete slab for the bench installation has been laid, and additional security fixings have been sourced. The bench is expected to be in place within the next week. Councillors are invited to visit the site to consider the need for fencing / signage. **RT/MD/DC**

iii) Greens maintenance: MD and DC proposed to start working weekly on Mondays to carry out maintenance of benches and weed control. **MD/DC**

iv) Vegetation growth damaging the Causeway: It was proposed and resolved to update the Village greens maintenance document and the forthcoming budget to include additional strimming for next year. **RT**

v) Reported hole on the green: It was reported that material previously used to fill the hole has begun to sink. MD to look at hole and report **VB/MD**

vi) Flagpole on Green: Has now been straightened. Item to be carried until DC returns. **MD/DC**

vii) Bleed Kit in Phone Box: MD reported that PPC is not responsible for the upkeep. **MD**

Proposed and resolved to remove the item from the agenda.

057 P4 Large infrastructure Playground project group (LIG_PG) report): Proposed to remove to end of meeting. Agenda item moved to follow 061

Topics:

i) grants (awards for all): No matters to report. **VB**

ii) community engagement: No matters to report. **VB**

iii) landowner approaches: Clerk confirmed letter sent and awaiting reply **VB**

iv) Parish Clerk salary Increase – Noted back dated payment to April 1st 2026 **All**

058 P5 Parish IT & Communications group COM) report

a) Topics:

i) website / social media / Pew /ZOHO mail: No matters to report. **BS**

059 P6 Environment (green) working group (EWG):

a) Topics:

i) Mineries consultation: JC reported that a working group is planning firebreaks, pool repairs and other matters. Waldegrave Pool requires temporary works, for its long-term management. **JC/RT**

	ii) Mineries, PPC sponsored summer walk proposal: Proposed and resolved to plan a walk for next spring with costs to be paid for by the PPC.	ALL
	iii) Priddy Pool: An invoice has been received from the contractor for work carried out, funded through the earlier Priddy Folk Festival grant. See 061. Additional maintenance planning is required, and JC will maintain oversight.	JC
	iv) Crescent wall proposal: No matters to report.	RT
060	P7 Highways Action Group (HAG) report:	
	a) Local Community Network (LCN) highways/active travel: DC reported (in absence) that following issues have been raised with Highways LCN ahead of their next meeting: - Knock on of Cheddar Gorge enforcement for areas around cheddar - Lack of progress on Burntcross Roundabout	RT/DC
	b) <u>Topics</u>	
	i) Speed Indicator Devices: Deferred	MD/DC
	ii) Village gateways plan: Deferred	MD/DC
	iii) Quiet lane initiative Nine Barrows Lane: Deferred	MD/DC
	iv) Proposal to install hedgehog road signs on approaches to village: Deferred	DC/RT/ALL
	v) Hunters Crossroads current accident rate: Deferred	DC/ALL
	vi) West Harptree road, sign update: Deferred	DC
	vii) Charterhouse Crossroads: Deferred	DC
061	Finance: RFO report, budget & payments:	
	a) Approval of new payments (excluding expected): i) Bench Installation at Townsend (Gibbons) £480.00 – concrete pad already approved ii) New Defib Pads and spare for Phone Box £165 plus delivery (approx.) Approval for MD to purchase 1 set	ALL/RFO
	b) Expected payments paid: i) PKF Littlejohn AGAR external Audit £252.00 Noted ii) DB Gibbons Green cuts and strims £576.00 Noted	ALL/RFO
	c) Rugby & Hinckley Savings account access: JC to check and report if she has access	RFO/JC/BS/DC
	d) RFO Update: The RFO reported that the 2025/26 AGAR is finished and all required notices have been posted and then removed. The final payment of the 2026/27 precept has been received, and the RFO noted that budget planning for next year should begin soon.	RFO
	e) Application for Folk Festival Funding. Proposed: That the EWG approach Priddy Folk Festival for funding for footpath gates, at an estimated cost of £3,000. Approved. Clerk to send application forms to EWG members.	All
	As per item 059 Priddy Pool works It was proposed and resolved that the invoice for £1000 + VAT received after publication of the agenda for clearance works as a PFF grant for the works is held in the PPC accounts.	
	BS as Co-Chair under delegated authority agreed to a grant of up to £200 to Mr Martin Papworth to enable completion of a first responder qualification (FREC3) at a shortly to be held training course which will benefit the parishioners.	
062	Matters of Report:	ALL
	VB advised that concerns have been raised by parishioners about an apparent rise in permanent residents at a parish campsite.	

The meeting closed at 9pm