# Priddy Parish Council

# Draft MINUTES

## for the Priddy Parish Council meeting

held on 14th October 2026 at 7 PM in Priddy Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs B Storrie (BS), V Barberet (VB), J Clements (JC), D Collier (DC), M Dodd (MD), Kelly Rose-Nokes (KRN). Parish Clerk S Baynes (SB/RFO), 1x Member of the public

063 **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Cllr R Thomson MBE, unwell. **ALL**
Resolved to accept Cllr R Thompson MBE reasons for absence and apologies – Approved

064 **Declarations of interest:** DC declared a personal interest in agenda Item 075 a) & e) and JC declared a personal interest in agenda item 075 a) **ALL**

***065*** ***Exclusion of public and press from any agenda item under Standing Order 3d), due to the confidential consideration of asset purchase - ref to 071*** **ALL**

066 **Adjournment of meeting for public forum**: No matters raised **ALL**

067 **Minutes of previous meeting(s)**: To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of a Priddy Parish Full Council meeting held on 9th September 2026 RESOLVED: Approved' **ALL**

068 **P1 Governance (GOV) report**

a) Portfolio groups update: No matters to report. **ALL**
b) Parish Clerk update: No matters to report. **SB**
c) Policy review - village greens policy: No matters to report. **RT**
d) Parish archives to Somerset Heritage Centre: No matters to report. **RT**
e) LCN matters: No matters to report. **RT**
f) Councillor & Clerk training: No matters to report. **ALL**
g) Crime concerns of local parishioner's/farmers: It was proposed and resolved that KRN liaise with SB to obtain the current situation from the Police Community Support Officer and report back to the Council. **BS/RT**
h) Updating Parish Emergency Plan: MD will redraft and reformat the Emergency Plan for circulation to the Council prior to the next meeting. MD will also consult with Martin Grass (Mendip Cave Rescue) regarding the village's emergency equipment needs that may be supported through the available grant. **MD**

069 **P2 Built Environment Group applications & group (BEG) report**

a) Planning Applications *Object* / support / comment / material considerations***:*** **ALL**
*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) **Proposal:** Erection of new agricultural building and extension to existing agricultural building.
Location: Dale Farm Dale Lane Priddy Wells Somerset
Applicant: Mr & Mrs A Powell
Application Type: Full Application
Application Number: 2026/1569/FUL - Comments are welcome by 19th October 2026

The Council proposed to leave the application to the Planning Officer, with the following considerations noted: a) Provision of tree planting to screen and soften the building outline for neighbouring properties. b) Planning should enforce strict lighting conditions in accordance with the Mendip Hills National Landscape *Dark Night Skies and Light Pollution Position Statement*.

b) Parish plan: MD reported that Somerset Council now designates the "Parish Plan" as a "Neighbourhood Plan". It was proposed and resolved that future agenda references to this matter shall be understood to include Affordable Housing. **RT/CD/MD/BS**

MD to circulate Briefing Note prior to next meeting detailing scale of work required to produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

c) Topics:

i) Village Hall energy efficiency survey: No matters to report **JC**

ii) Community Council for Somerset affordable housing needs (Thrive): Proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda as a separate entry. **RT/CD/MD/BS**

iii) Parishioners concern on the apparent rise in permanent residents at a parish campsite: Proposed and resolved that SB write to Somerset Planning Department outlining the Council's and parishioners' concerns. **All**

070 **P3 Assets and maintenance group (AMG) report:**

a) Topics:

i) Fountain **/** TAP: DC advised that work on the final design and installation arrangements for the tap on the Green is ongoing. He noted that connection to the mains supply will still require formal approval from Bristol Water. **DC**

ii) Hobbs bench: MD and DC reported that all work on the siting and fixing of the bench has been completed. It was proposed that a meeting between the AMG and EWG working groups would be beneficial to discuss future maintenance of the site. Proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda. **RT/MD/DC**

iii) Greens maintenance: MD and DC reported that volunteers have begun clearing weeds around the Green, including the gutters and causeway, and noted that additional parish volunteers would be welcome. The Council will review and update the maintenance plan for next year. It was proposed and resolved to request that D. B. Gibbons carry out one final mow of the Green for this year. Proposed and Resolved for MD to post on socials to seek further volunteers. **MD/DC**

iv) Vegetation growth damaging the Causeway: No matters to report. Proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda **RT**

v) Reported hole on the green: No matters to report. Proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda **MD/DC**

vi) Flagpole on Green: DC will contact Alan Butcher, as guardian of the flags and pole and discuss whether he is able to continue in this role. **MD/DC**

071 Member of public Left the meeting.

**P4 Large infrastructure Playground project group (LIG_PG) report): Proposed to remove to end of meeting.**

Topics:

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

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

iii) landowner approaches: SB is to chase outstanding correspondence and submit an update to the Council. **VB**

072 **P5 Parish IT & Communications group COM) report**

a) Topics:

i) website / social media / Pew /ZOHO mail: BS to add KRN details to the Parish website. **BS**

073 **P6 Environment (green) working group (EWG):**

a) Topics:

i) Mineries consultation: JC reported that all relevant parties continue to be engaged in the planning stage, and consequently there is no further progress to report. **JC/RT**

ii) Mineries, PPC sponsored summer walk proposal: Proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda. **ALL**

iii) Priddy Pool: JC is to provide an update in the *PEW* magazine informing parishioners of the present state of Priddy Pool and the reasons for its current lack of water is due to the ongoing drought. **JC**

iv) Crescent wall proposal: No matters to report. **RT**

074 **P7 Highways Action Group (HAG) report:**

a) Local Community Network (LCN) highways/active travel: It was noted that CD and KRN will be in attendance at the next LCN meeting. **RT/DC**

b) Topics

i) Speed Indicator Devices: It was proposed and resolved that the agenda heading be amended to "Speed Reduction Initiatives", with items relating to the "Village Gateway Plan" and the "Quiet Lane Initiative (Nine Barrows Lane)" to be included under this discussion. **MD/DC**

ii) Village gateways plan: Proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda. **MD/DC**

iii) Quiet lane initiative Nine Barrows Lane: Proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda. **MD/DC**

iv) Proposal to install hedgehog road signs on approaches to village: JC will supply CD with the precise locations where the signs are to be placed. **DC/RT/ALL**

v) Hunters Crossroads current accident rate: No matters to report **DC/ALL**

vi) West Harptree road, sign update: CD advised that correspondence from Somerset Highways indicated the matter is outside Somerset Council's jurisdiction, being within the BANES Council area. The Council proposed and resolved to remove this item from the agenda. **DC**

vii) Charterhouse Crossroads: The matter will be referred to the LCN, and CD will report back with any subsequent updates. **DC**

075 **Finance: RFO report, budget & payments:**

a) Approval of new payments (excluding expected): **ALL/RFO**

i) Requirements for Invoices, i.e. Address and VAT No. The RFO reminded councillors of the financial regulations concerning personal payments and the submission of expense claims for council-related expenditure. It was proposed and resolved that four expense claims from DC and one from JC, amounting to £364.13, be approved for reimbursement for costs incurred on behalf of the EWG. DC and JC abstained from voting due to declared conflict of interests.

ii) EWG overspend against budget – Proposed and resolved that the RFO distribute the Budget file to all councillors prior to each meeting.

b) Expected payments paid: **ALL/RFO**

i) Grant for M Papworth training accommodation, £152.00: Noted

ii) DB Gibbons Green cuts and strims (Last) £576.00: Noted

iii) DB Gibbons Priddy Pool Clearence £1,200.00 (noted from previous meeting): Noted

iv) New defib pad set purchased £77.99 actual figure (noted from previous meeting): Noted

c) Payments received:

i) Cllr E Hobbs donation from defib fund raising £460 (not previously minuted): Noted

ii) Ollie Lollies donation from Implement sale on green £50.00: Noted

iii) Final part of precept from SCC £6683.75 (not previously minuted): Noted

c) Rugby & Hinckley Savings account access: Nothing to report. **RFO/JC/BS/DC**

d) RFO Update: The RFO reminded councillors that work on the 2027/28 budget must be finalised at the December 2026 meeting, and that working-group leads should now be preparing their budget submissions. **RFO**

e) Application for Folk Festival Grant. Cllr R Thompson has submitted a grant application for footpath gates. **All**

f) 2027/2028 Budget: The RFO will distribute the Excel budget spreadsheets after this meeting and before each subsequent meeting. **All**

076 **Matters of Report:** **ALL**

a) Concern was raised about possible landfilling in the field at the village end of Nine Barrows Lane.
b) Councillors noted ongoing burning of rubbish at the Mendip Hunt Kennels site.
c) BS confirmed that the Parish Clerk passed his review; a vote will be taken at the next meeting to formalise his move from grade 5 to grade 6 with a pay rise.
d) Clerk to confirm receipt of the Priddy Friendly Society insurance email (with reference to Fireworks night) and circulate it to councillors.
e) Cllr R Thompson (absent) noted reports of speeding on roads forming the Mendip Way
f) Cllr R Thompson (absent) noted strimming in front of Manor House has been missed.

End of Meeting 20:58