

***Priors Marston Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7.30pm
Via Zoom.***

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllr Nick Fulford (Chair), Cllr. Pete Dunkley, Cllr. John Franklin, Cllr David Evans, Cllr. Laura Lucas, Cllr Andy Crump, Cllr Nigel Rock

In Attendance: Emma Hooker (Clerk), Candy Kelly, Carolyn Bath
(Representatives from Priors Hardwick)– left the meeting at 8.10pm

Meeting was opened by Chair at 7.30pm

- 1. Apologies:** None
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
None Declared
- 3. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 12th January.**
Minutes were approved by all present at the meeting, as a true record. Signed by the Chair.

Cllr Nigel Rock entered the meeting at 7.50pm

4. Matters Arising / Outstanding Actions

Potential Footpath Byfield Road

Drawings/Photographs of the potential footpath have been supplied to the Council – Thank you to Cllr Dunkley for organising this. Cllr Dunkley will get overhead version of the drawings based on the plans provided by the owner.

Letters of support from the School and Sports Club will also be sent to WCC, along with a proposal by the PC evidencing need for the footpath.

We will also seek support from our County Cllr after 6th May 21 elections.

Cllr Crump advised us to wait for this support prior to sending our proposal to WCC.

Playground Maintenance Schedule

After seeking three quotes and references the PC instructed Play Source to complete the works in the Playground. We are hoping work will begin towards the end of March.

Amenity Cleaning

Clerk updated the Council on the situation with SDC and our Amenity contract. There is not an up to date contract for Amenity Cleaning and the PC have been advised monies received to the PC are for Amenity Cleaning purposes only and not for any mowing of Highways. SDC no longer contribute to this cost for villages. The PC should be in receipt of a waste licence and hold receipts of waste removal, which we do not currently hold.

With this in mind we need to decide if we wish to carry on being an agent for SDC litter picking, if so we need to obtain a waste licence and record all picks to

evidence we do it. Or we can hand back this service to SDC who will litter pick every 8 weeks.

Priors Hardwick Village are in receipt of some of the monies received towards their amenity cleaning so were present to discuss this item. Carolyn expressed concern 8 week cycle would be less effective than the current scheme.

Cllr Rock confirmed SDC only litter pick up to 1 meter from the highways and will not go into ditches to retrieve rubbish.

It was agreed to respond to SDC setting out our current litter picking arrangements that we are happy with and that our precept has been agreed on the basis of receiving this income. Both Cllr Crump and Rock will also support us by writing to the leader of the Council.

Cllr Lucas agreed to look into waste licences for the PC.

6. Highways

Bollard Policy

Bollard Policy draft was agreed in the meeting. This will be sent to Highways for approval prior to publishing.

Vicarage Lane – Blocked drain/Leak

Highways informed the PC that jetting has been done and the PC have been told that this has resolved the issue.

The Holloway – Flooding

Highways have raised a CCTV job and they expect any potential work to be done in the new financial year.

Hellidon Road – Leak

Highways informed the PC that jetting had been done and there was no improvement. A natural spring is suspected as the issue and a job has been raised to install a perforated chamber to collect spring water underground and pipe to a nearby gully.

7. County Cllr Andy Crump update Covid-19

I'm pleased to report we have a more encouraging update this week in respect of the rates of infection.

The figures over the last seven days are down to 68/100,000 from 91 last week, but the over 60's rate has slightly increased to 53/100,000 (50 last week) (with 22 cases over the last seven days) – which when compared to other districts in Warwickshire for all ages is Nuneaton & Bedworth 110/100,000, North Warwickshire 164/100,000, Warwick 77/100,000 and Rugby 113/100,000. So Stratford and Warwick Districts still have the lowest case rates across the county, with levels getting down to those of October/November 2020.

The situation regarding SWFT Hospital Beds continues to improve and is now 22 (27) confirmed cases of COVID-19 but there are 2 (4) patients in ICU (figures in brackets are from 26 Feb). Capacity levels have improved with 113 unoccupied general and acute beds.

Sadly the cumulative deaths across Stratford District have increased by seven over the last week and now number 130 from the start of this second wave (28th August 2020) 36 occurring in care homes, 85 in hospital (including all seven from last week), one in a hospice and seven at home and one in a communal establishment, out of a total of 766 all cause deaths in the district for this new second wave period.

The cumulative total of deaths across Warwickshire for Wave 2 has now increased to 599 from 571 last week within a total of 3,191 all cause deaths. The cumulative total of Covid-19 deaths in Stratford district is 298 since the start of the pandemic and in Warwickshire 1200.

The messages coming out of Public Health Warwickshire remain focused on conforming to the lockdown restrictions in order to stay safe and protect everyone else,

More vaccinations amongst residents living in Stratford District have been carried out than any of the other districts and boroughs in Warwickshire with over of 53,300 vaccinations carried out as of 4th March (as a % of population, one of the highest in the country). This is a fantastic achievement by all the vaccination centres and our thanks are extended to everyone involved with the vaccine rollout including all the volunteers.

Schools Returning – 8 March 2021

“Welcome Back! We’ve missed you!” is the message from Warwickshire County Council, schools and educators to all pupils returning to schools from next Monday, March 8.

Find out more about what the return of pupils to schools will mean: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/1791/-welcome-back-we-ve-missed-you->

National offer day - secondary schools

The Secondary school place offer day took place on Monday 1 March.

All the information you need on accepting a place, declining a place and waiting lists can be found here: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-secondary-school-place/get-secondary-school-offer-year-7/1>

Funding for three new secondary schools

3 of Warwickshire’s Secondary Schools are celebrating after being successful in their bids as part of the Government’s School Rebuilding Programme.

Kineton High, Southam College & Hartshill School will all undergo major rebuild & development. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/1783/warwickshire-county-council-celebrates-securing-funding-for-three-new-secondary-schools>

Dog Owners and Sheep Worrying

Warwickshire County Council is asking dog owners to be mindful of sheep and keep their dogs on leads around livestock, as the impact of sheep worrying intensifies during lambing season.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/1782/dog-owners-asked-to-be-considerate-as-lambing-season-approaches>

Food Waste Action Week 2021 (Twitter and Facebook)

This week has been the UK's first ever Food Waste Action Week, organised by the national Waste and Resources Action Programme, WRAP. Warwickshire County Council is committed to supporting this campaign.

Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/1792/warwickshire-county-council-supports-food-waste-action-week-2021>

Inclusive Apprenticeships Scheme

Employers are being urged to take advantage of a talent pool largely untapped by getting involved with a groundbreaking new Inclusive Apprenticeships Scheme from Warwickshire County Council.

Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/1790/inclusive-apprenticeships-scheme-opens-up-untapped-source-of-skills>

Settled Status Applications

With just over 4 months left to apply, Warwickshire County Council is encouraging residents who are EU Citizens wishing to remain in the UK to register with the Settled Status Scheme without delay.

It's quick and easy. Do it today: <https://www.gov.uk/staying-uk-eu-citizen>

Help if you need it

If you are struggling to feed your family or make ends meet as a result of the pandemic there is help for you, go to <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship> or call 0800 408 1448

If you are clinically extremely vulnerable to coronavirus you can access priority vaccinations, supermarket delivery slots and help from the council and partners if you are isolated without support. Visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/coronavirusvulnerable or call 0800 408 1447

Domestic Abuse numbers – 0800 408 1552 or 0808 2000 247

£300 Million Plan for Economic Recovery

Local business leaders have heralded Warwickshire County Council's plans to aid economic recovery with an investment of £300m as a 'highly significant' measure for the county's economy.

Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/1786/county-council-approves-business-case-for-300m-plan-for-economic-recovery>

Meet Imran Dean, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer

"I want people to feel empowered to share their views, talk about their experiences and bring their whole selves to work."

Read more from Imran Dean, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer with Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/1781/this-is-community-spirit-meet-imran-dean-equality-diversity-and-inclusion-officer-at-warwickshire-fire-and-rescue-service>

Carers Wellbeing

Did you know that if you help someone with everyday activities who couldn't cope without your help there is support for your wellbeing that is free and confidential?

Registertoday:

https://www.carerstrusthofe.org.uk/help_and_advice/carers-wellbeing/

Parent/Carer Support

If you are a new Parent Carer and are looking for support – please take look at our new Parent Carer Support Pathway information via <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/directory-record/6501/parent-carer-support-pathway>

The Council thanked Cllr Crump for all his support since taking over after the sad death of Cllr Stevens. Cllr Crump left the meeting at 8pm.

District Cllr Nigel Rock Update

Covid

The number of cases across the District has continued to fall.

As at 4th March 2021 there have now been 53,317 people vaccinated in the Stratford on Avon District Council area with at least 1 dose, this is an increase of 7,123 from the previous week. Local data as follows:

	Number of people vaccinated with at least 1 dose				
	Under 65	65-69	70-74	75-79	80+
Southam, Stockton & Napton	1,991	518	608	485	617
Feldon (incl Priors & Fenny Compton)	1,777	616	615	571	589

Elections

As per my report last month, County Council and Police and Crime Commissioner elections are due go ahead on 6 May. The pandemic is a continuing and changing factor and there is still concern about the availability of sufficient temporary polling staff – I have a contact if anyone wants to volunteer. There will be a drive to increase postal voting to minimise the visits to polling stations. There will be an emergency 'Covid proxy' available on the day so positive Covid positive electors do not have to go the polling station.

District Council Merger

Stratford and Warwick Districts are investigating the prospect of a merger. This is forecast to save £4.5m a year across both councils and the government has signaled a desire for bigger councils. There is already some joint working going on, particularly in planning policy, but a merger is a big step and we need to make sure that local government does not 'move further away' from the residents they serve. The ambition is that that the merger is achieved by 2024. Between then and now there is much exploration of detail to be done, and after all that the government could refuse the merger as proposed by the councils. At the debate at the Council my colleagues were keen to ensure that full public consultation is carried out when more information is available.

Budget

The District Council debated its budget on 22nd February. Local government is expected to face considerable challenges in the next few years although central government has yet to announce how much they will be providing, so financial planning is difficult. The Liberal Democrat opposition proposed an economic development officer to generate funding and also that money should be set aside for local community groups involved with climate change projects. These proposals which would not have increased the level of council tax, were defeated. The level of council tax for all authorities is now known and is as follows:

	Property Band D equivalent	Increase for 2021/22
Stratford District council	£149.12	3.47%
Warwickshire county council	£1533.51	3.00%
Police and crime commissioner	£252.96	6.30%
Priors Marston Parish Council	£65.79	-0.6%
Napton Parish Council	£83.78	2.0%
Fenny Compton Parish Council	£69.05	5.6%

This means the total council tax for a band D property in Priors Marston is £2001.00 (£1958.22 in Hardwick and £1935.59 in Wormleighton)

8. Planning Matters

New and Pending Decisions

20/02301/FUL – Jacks Orchard, Shuckburgh Rd – Erection of one custom self build and related development (08/09) – PC No Objection

21/00227/TPO – 1 Priors Court, T1 Ash remove lower branches 17/02 PC No Representation

21/00142/LBC – The Orchard, Vicarage Lane – Replace thatch roof with water reed 11/03 – PC No Representation

21/00100/FUL – White Gates, Shuckburgh RD – new porch / garage alterations 04/03 – PC No Objection

21/00058/OUT – Ambercote, School lane – New 3 bed dwelling – PC Objection.

21/00364/ADV – The Hollybush Inn – New lighting and signage 15/02 – Planning retracted application for further details.

21/00356/REM – Land to the rear of Japonica – approval of reserved matters 10/03 – PC Objection

Decisions

20/02886/FUL – Marston Farm, Shuckburgh Rd – proposed Extension and garage alterations - GRANTED 21/01

21/00221/TREE – The Old Vicarage Norway Spruce fell - GRANTED 19/02

20/3553/TREE – The Orchard, Vicarage Lane – Leylandi Fell -GRANTED 21/01

Cllr Rock left the meeting at 8.42pm

8. Finances January/February 2021

Bank Balance as of 1st March 2021 £19,403.00

Receipts =£ 0.00

DD =£ 154.86

1&1 Internet Provider £6.00 & £ 77.86

Campaign to Protect Rural England subscription £36.00

ICO Data Protection annual Fee £35.00

Cheque Payments = £2907.62

Clerks wages Dec/Jan/Feb £1380.00

Eon Electricity £166.13

Priors Hardwick Amenity payment £646.85

WCC Street Light maintenance £49.64

Chris Allen Village Maintenance £175.00

WALC Training (Planning /Chairmanship) £90.00

9. A.O.B

1) May Annual Village Meeting

Due to the lockdown restrictions and not being able to hold face to face meetings it was agreed to postpone the Annual Meeting to a date in September to be agreed so we can hold a community event as planned in the Village Hall. The documents usually shared at the May meeting will be presented again at this meeting. If advice changes before this time we will review and publish.

2) Street Lighting

A resident has asked us to look at the street light in School Lane as is concerned with the position of the light. Clerk will discuss with Street Lighting at SDC for options.

3) Bridge on public footpath (Millennium Way – off Hardwick Rd)

Clerk has reported the bridge to WCC as it is rotten and has a couple of planks missing. Until this is repaired please take care when passing over it.

4) Parish Plan for new residents

Clerk will put a note in the Parish Magazine asking new residents to get in touch for a Parish Plan to be delivered.

The meeting concluded at 8.55pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is as follows:

Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 7.30pm Via Zoom

**If venue changes due to Government regulations we will
advertise this.**

Access ID can be obtained via the Clerk