

Priors Marston Parish Council Meeting
Monday 12th January, 19.30
The Priors Hall, Shuckburgh Road, Priors Marston

DRAFT MINUTES

In attendance: John Franklin (Chair), Viv Nind, Helen Keeves, Elton James, John Appleton, Cllr Stevens

Members of the public: Malcolm Monkhouse, Rosemary Nash

1. **Apologies:** Laura Booth, Brett Smith, Cllr Williams

2. **Questions from Residents**

Presentation from Malcolm & Rosemary asking for support in the awareness of the church as a community building. The church tower is in need of restoration which will cost £199, 000, this is an important building for the village. Priors Marston Parish Council acknowledges the community role of the church and record the intension to make affirmation in the current village plan and future plans.

Email received from Wendy Sheldon raising concerns regarding possible development at The Manor.

3. **Declaration of Interests**

John Appleton – County Councilor

4. **Approval of the minutes of the last meeting, held on 6th November 2014**

Approved. Proposed VN, Seconded EJ

5. **Parish Clerk**

Helen Keeves has formally been appointed as the Parish Clerk after successfully completing a 6-month probation period, further more a pay increase effective from 1st Jan was agreed inline with WALC's banding recommendations. There is a pension scheme available through WCC, which the councilors have agreed she should investigate.

6. **Matters arising from previous meeting**

a. Highway Issues

Holloway Flooding

Logged our concerns at the Warwickshire Flood Workshop and will wait further advice. In the meantime we have an emergency kit which will be allocated in the telephone box once the defibrillator is installed.

School Road Kerbing

WCC suggested the best solution would be concrete kerbing that can be driven over, and repairs where required to the road, agreed to go ahead, this is with Highways and

awaiting a timescale. Cllr Appleton asked if granite could be used? HK will investigate.

Signs/SLOW

In hand with Richard Elbourne from WCC Traffic, no update, pushing for timescales.

Bus Shelter Fruit Trees

Overgrown trees have been examined by WCC Highways and advised they do not belong to WCC therefore the responsibility of the parish council, will contact tree surgeon for advice on pruning and preservation.

Horse Chestnut Tree School Lane

Have asked WCC highways Forestry to check this tree and advise on its health

The Orchard

Further to a meeting with a WCC solicitor it was confirmed that land adjacent to The Orchard unusually has dual ownership as village green and dedicated highway. The issue of the stone obstructions are being considered.

b. Defibrillator

The 90 day telephone box consultation with BT & Stratford District Council has come to an end and Priors Marston Parish Council have purchased the telephone box in the village and are awaiting BT to decommission the telephone so a defibrillator can be installed.

c. Playground repairs, annual inspection

Repairs and annual inspection completed. The Parish Council will conduct regular checks to ensure well maintained.

Councilors agreed a sign should be erected in the playground advising equipment designed for use by children only.

d. Village Greens

Project launched to ensure all village greens within Priors Marston are registered to Priors Marston Parish Council.

e. Footpaths

Cllr Stevens advised of contact details for footpath maintenance

7. Precept

The precept for 2014/2015 was £16,500. It has been proposed and agreed by all councilors that for 2015/2016 the precept is increased to £17,500 allowing £1000 to assist with election costs for this financial year.

8. Elections

General Elections and Local Elections to be held on 7th May 2015, an election timetable will be circulated. Information will be available to members of the public who may wish to apply to become a local councilor for Priors Marston.

9. District and County Councilors – update

Cllr Bob Stevens – County Councilor

- a. Election Fever
Lots of planning for elections as both local and general elections are being held on the same day. No County Council elections.
- b. New Director of Education
- c. HS2
Select Committee moving through Warwickshire talking to residents and campaigners along the route of the high-speed rail network.

9. Planning matters and local plan update

- SCOPE/00022 250,000 Bird Chicken Farm – Broiler Farm, Priors Hardwick – the PC will respond with comments on the scoping proposal.
- 14/03580/AGNOT - The Grange, Hardwick Road, Priors Marston, Southam CV47 7SG - A new building for agricultural storage (19 Jan) *No Objection*
- 14/03375/FUL - Meadow Gate Farm , Shuckburgh Road, Priors Marston, Southam CV47 7RY - Change of use of land for the permanent stationing of a mobile home for residential occupation by a rural worker (20 Jan) *Object*
- 14/03072/TREE- Cedars Farm, Priors Marston, Southam CV47 7RH - Single story rear extension (25 Dec) *Permission with Conditions*
- 14/03120/LBC/FUL - Swiss Cottage, The Holloway, Priors Marston - Add conservatory/garden room to RHS end of property (15 Dec) *Withdrawn*
- 14/02640/FUL - Chapel End Keys Lane Priors Marston Southam CV47 7SA - Erection of 1 no 2 bedroom dwelling with associated car parking and hard and soft landscaping (5 Dec) *Refusal*

10. Finance

- Reviewed spending year to date, budget for 2014/2015 £21,530 and year to date spend is £17, 783.85

New Transparency Code of Practice

Any Parish Council with expenditure less than 25K will be required to adhere to a new code of practice as of Spring 2015. The reason for its introduction is that the financial year 2016-17 will be the last that councils of this size will be subject to external audit. After that they will be exempt from external audit, however they will be expected to publish more information. The Code therefore will allow council tax payers to have access to relevant information about the councils' accounts and governance and this will subsequently become law.

11. Correspondence

None

12. AOB

Internal Auditor

John Franklin has agreed to take on the role of internal auditor for the Priors Marston Parish Council Accounts for 2014/2015

Village Emergency Plan

Have updated the plan and will circulate to Parish Councilors for comments

Neighbourhood Plan

Contact SDC for advice; obtain a copy/template and scope project

Meeting Dates 2015

A potential double booking of the village hall as been highlighted on a Monday evening, we will keep everyone updated if indeed we need to amend any future meeting dates.

Crime Prevention Talk

It was agreed that the Parish Council would plan both a Crime Prevention Talk and Crime Prevention Marking Day where property such as bicycles, lawn mowers, and power tools can be securely marked organise ASAP.

Cheque Signatory

Brett Smith & Viv Nind currently are the two signatures for Priors Marston Parish Council, investigate adding another signatory.

Facebook

Review the settings of the Priors Marston Facebook Page to review posts before they are posted so to avoid unsuitable content.

Parish News

Priors Marston to have a regular feature in the Parish News including contact and useful information.

Website

Update website on a regular basis

The meeting closed at 21.30

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 16th March 2015, 19.30, The Priors Hall, Shuckburgh Road, Priors Marston