

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th January 2009 at Curry Mallet Village Hall.**

**1230 Attendance:**

Mr. A.Davies

Mr. R.F. Burrough

Mr. G. Harvey

Mrs. S. Prideaux

Mr. A. Reed

Mr. A. Talbot-Williams

Mr. M. King Clerk

Mr. D. Nelson (County Councillor)

Mrs. S. Steele (District Councillor)

Apologies from Ms.J.Wright.

Also present were two representatives of the Police

**1231 Declaration of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**1232 Minutes of Previous Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

**1233 Matters Arising:**

Minute 1224 regarding the rabbits on the footpath has been resolved with the rabbits eradicated and the footpath levelled. The Chairman will write to the farmer and thank him for his efforts. The ditch up to Half Way House has also been cleared.

The Clerk reported he had received a reply from SSDC Planning Enforcement

declining to serve a S215Tand CP Act notice on the occupier stating this was not a serious enough matter to warrant use of this power. Mr. Talbot-Williams stated that other councils had used this power for similar problems. The Clerk will write again asking to refer the matter for legal advice using the case law from other councils. However it was felt that a letter should be written to the occupier before writing to SSDC.

Minute 1228 about the tree at Broad Bridge, the Chairman reported that a working party last week had cleared away the remainder of the tree and especially wished to thank Mr. Prideaux for his efforts as well as all the working party.

The matter of the phone box was discussed. The Clerk reported that Western Power had been unable to give a cost for the use of electricity or the cutting off of the power. In light of the potential cost, the maintenance of the phone box and the vagueness of the contract B.T. wished the Clerk to sign the Parish Council decided they would ask B.T. to remove the box.

**1234 Planning Procedures:**

There were no planning matters.

**1235 Matters of Report:**

**a) Parish Plan:**

There have been no meetings of the committee

**b) Village Green:**

It was reported that cattle had escaped and damaged the green last week. It was decided that a working party would fork and level the green in the near future.

**c) Footpaths:**

On footpath 5/13 it was felt a gate should be installed instead of a gap in the hedge. Mr. Burrough is to ask SSDC if this can be done.

On path 5/12 the landowner wished it to be pointed out that the path had been cut up badly by the use of horses.

Mr. Talbot-Williams pointed out that all footpaths should be kept clear of crops.

Mrs. Prideaux stated that on the footpath leading towards Stewley the stiles were very hard to get over and need some work on them. Mr. Burrough pointed out that this path was very rarely used and footpath resources should be directed at the most used paths.

**1236 Finances:**

There were no financial matters.

**1237 Matters of Report:**

W.P.C. Toni Lines attended the meeting with a CPSO to introduce herself as the new Beat Manager for Beercrocombe. She gave an outline of the present strategies and stated there were regular visits to the camp at Chubbards Cross and vehicle details recorded.

It was noted that the grass verges had been damaged by contractors working for Wessex Water outside Gerald's farm. The Clerk will write to Wessex Water to complain and ask that the verge be repaired.

Mr. Burrough asked the Clerk had he received any correspondence from SCC about the gully survey. The Clerk stated that it had been an Ilton initiative but he would follow the matter up.

The matter of the FLAG meetings was fully discussed and that Yeovilton despite publishing it on their web-site had not met with the local villages. Mr. Burrough pointed out that the FLAG had not met for over two years and felt it was "past its sell-by date". The Parish Council felt that as we all had access to Commander Seymour perhaps these meetings were not necessary. Mrs. Prideaux will contact

Commander Seymour if there are any incidents of flying over the village at low altitude.

The Clerk raised the matter of the adoption of a policy for the Freedom of Information Act. He said other parishes had set costs for producing requested documents. It was felt that the time involved in this and the cost of producing documents should be set at £15 per inquiry and 20p per page of photocopied information. The Clerk is to arrange with Mr. Reed for this to be published on the Beercrocombe web-site.

**1238 Date of Next Meeting:**

The date of the next meeting is on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 7.30p.m. at Curry Mallet Village Hall.

Chairman

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16th March 2009 at Curry Mallet Village Hall.**

#### **1239 Attendance:**

Mr. A.Davies  
Mr. R.F. Burrough  
Mr. G. Harvey  
Mrs. S. Prideaux  
Mr. A. Talbot-Williams  
Mr. M. King Clerk

Apologies from Mr. A. Reed, Ms.J.Wright, Mrs. S.Steele, and Mr. D. Nelson.  
There were also three members of the public present.

#### **1240 Declaration of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **1241 Minutes of Previous Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2009:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

#### **1242 Matters Arising:**

The Chairman has written to Mr. Gerald **Hale** thanking him for his work on the footpaths and to inform him the P.C. will write to Wessex Water about the verges. The Clerk reported he had written to the occupier of Cachel about the debris outside his property. He reported he had not received a reply so the Parish Council are to write again to SSDC seeking assistance in this matter. Mr. Burrough requested the Clerk circulate the letter and other letters written on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked again to write to Wessex Water to complain about the state of verge outside Manor Farm as a result of their work there. On footpath 5/12 the farmer has left a wild life strip and people are allowing their dogs to run over it. There area is not a footpath and the P.C. are to make up some notices and speak to the farmer. Mr. Burrough reports he has ordered new stiles for the junction of 5/12 and 5/13 and also 5/14. Mrs. Prideaux reports that a man from SCC was surveying the old stone bridge on Footpath 5/1.

#### **1243 Planning Procedures:**

Mr. Talbot-Williams reported that there is to be a speeding up of planning matters and appeal time parameters are to be reduced from 6 months to 12 weeks.

#### **1244 Matters of Report:**

- d) **Parish Plan:** There have been no meetings of the committee
- e) **Village Green:**

The process of raising the hoof marks from the green continues.

**f) Telephone Kiosk:**

Three members of the public attended to express views that the kiosk should not be removed. There was also a letter supporting the keeping of the phone box. The Chairman outlined the sequence of the matter. At the P.C. meeting the cost for providing electricity for a year was £17. The Clerk had ascertained the cost to have the box insured was £21 p.a. The Chairman had ascertained that the cost to cut off the electricity supply would be £288 plus VAT. The Parish Council considered the cost to the parish, damage to the box and our liability if there was electricity in the kiosk. After considering all the facts in the matter and the views of the public the P.C. decided to further consider the matter. **The Chairman would ask Ms Wright to report at the next meeting of the Parish Council her proposals to retain the Kiosk. ~~while a scheme to finance the kiosk was thought up.~~**

The Clerk is to ascertain the cost for insurance if there was a power supply to the box.

**g) Trees in Beer Street and Telephone Faults:**

The Chairman has written to Openreach to complain about the trees in Beer Street which are causing damage to the phone lines serving Beercrocombe. The Chairman reported he had seen recently repair work being carried out to the cables and this seems to have solved the problems.

The new tenant farmer, Mr. Downs has verbally agreed that the Duchy will cut the trees back within a year.

**1245 Finances:**

The Clerk requested a cheque be signed for SALCs for the sum of £28.97 for membership to the society.

The Clerk requested that the Parish Council again use the services of Mrs. Wendy Watts as the Internal Auditor. This was agreed by the P.C.

**1246 Matters of Report:**

There is to be a meeting held for Parish Councillors to meet Area (N) of SSDC at Long Sutton Village Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

The Clerk announced that it is his intention to resign from his post at the next Meeting giving one months notice from the May meeting.

The next meeting in May is the AGM and it was decided to invite the following Groups to participate:

Village Trust, Tree Warden, and the Village Hall committee.

Mr. Talbot-Williams was going to talk about Planning and Mr. Burrough about roads and footpaths. The Chairman will also make his annual report including the progress of the Parish Plan.

**1238 Date of Next Meeting:**

The date of the next meeting is on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 7.00p.m. at Curry

Mallet Village Hall. This will also include the AGM and Annual Parish Meeting.

Chairman

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Curry Mallet Village Hall.**

#### **Attendance:**

Mr. A. Davies Chairman  
Mr. T. Reed Vice Chairman  
Mr. R.F. Burrough  
Mr. G. Harvey  
Mrs. S. Prideaux  
Mr. A. Talbot-Williams  
Ms. J. Wright  
Mr. D. Nelson County Councillor  
Mrs. S. Steele District Councillor  
Mr. M. King Clerk

#### **Reports:**

The Chairman made his report and thanked the councillors (parish, district and county, for all their efforts. He also thanked the Clerk who is standing down after this meeting.

The Chairman thanked the parishioners for keeping the village tidy and cutting the village green. He said there will be a need for more work in the village green area over the next year.

The Chairman hoped that in the future the matter of the telephone kiosk could be resolved.

The Chairman announced his intention of serving one more year as Chair if re-elected, but due to increasing commitments would then have to stand down.

#### **Village Hall:**

Mr. Harvey reported that the village hall had had a successful year with a number of fundraising events. He stated they had had a £1500 refund from Wessex Water. The new cooker had been installed and cost £1490. They had received grants of £1200 towards the cost. The new chairs had cost £600 with grants of £550 towards this cost.

#### **Beercrocombe Village Trust:**

The Trust has met 4 times during the last year and Mrs. Prideaux produced a detailed account of what had been spent.

#### **Roads/Footpaths:**

Mr. Burrough expressed concerns over the top dressing programme and the failure to fill the pot holes prior to the dressing. He is to pursue this matter with Mr. Sharpe of Somerset Highways.

Mr. Burrough reported that fly tipping could be reported on the SSDC web site.

The footpaths are generally in a good condition and being walked regularly. The most used paths have had regular maintenance by SSDC. Mr. Harvey is still looking after the footpath maintenance tool kit.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch:**

Mr. Reed reports that crime has been low in the village and there is a surgery on the third Tuesday in the month at Curry Mallet Post Office.

CPSO Uptank reminded people the need to report crimes to the Police and that sheds are again going to be vulnerable through the summer.

#### **J.A.C.**

Ms. Wright reported there had been two meetings and they continue to support the Beer and Curry Takeaway.



## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Curry Mallet Village Hall.**

### **Attendance:**

Mr. A. Davies Chairman

Mr. T. Reed Vice Chairman

Mr. R.F. Burrough

Mr. G. Harvey

Mrs. S.Prideaux

Mr. A. Talbot-Williams

Ms. J. Wright

Mr. D. Nelson County Councillor

Mrs. S. Steele District Councillor

Mr. M. King Clerk

### **Election of Officers:**

The following were nominated, seconded and duly elected to the following positions unopposed.

Chair: Mr. A. Davies

Vice Chair: Mr. R.F.Burrough

The following were nominated for the following responsibilities:

Neighbourhood Watch: Mr. A. Reed

Roads/Footpaths: Mr. R.F. Burrough

Planning: Mr. A. Talbot-Williams

J.A.C: Ms. J. Wright

Mr. M. Rastrick was invited to join the J.A.C.

Chairman:

Mr. A. Davies.

Chairman

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2009 at Curry Mallet Village Hall.**

#### **1249 Attendance:**

Mr. A.Davies  
Mr. R.F. Burrough  
Mr. G. Harvey  
Mrs. S. Prideaux  
Mr. A. Reed  
Mr. A. Talbot-Williams  
Ms. J. Wright  
Mr. M. King (Clerk)  
Mrs. S. Steele (District Councillor)

Apologies from Mr. D. Nelson.  
There were also three members of the public present.

#### **1250 Declaration of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **1241 Minutes of Previous Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

#### **1252 Matters Arising:**

Re. item 1242 the Clerk reported he had written to Wessex water about the verge outside Manor Farm but had received no reply. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the Chief Executive of Wessex Water about this matter.

Re. item 1242 Cachel it was noted that the oil drum has been moved back about a foot. It was agreed that the Clerk would again write to SSDC Enforcement about this matter.

Re. item 1242 Wildlife strip around field, Mr. Burrough is to speak to Mr. Pope about the people using the nature strip as a footpath to walk their dogs.

Mr. Davis reported that he had received a letter from the British Telecom that they Had replaced the cable into the village. The Chairman reported he had spoken to the Duchy farmer and that the Duchy had taken responsibility to cut the hedge in Halfway Street down to a manageable level which hopefully would stop the interference with telephone lines. It was agreed the parish Council will write to the Duchy to ascertain whether this work will be carried out this year.

**1253 Planning Procedures:**

There were no planning issues.

**1254 Matters of Report:**

**h) Parish Plan:**

It was reported during the AGM that there had been two meetings of the JAC during the year and they would continue to support the Beer and Curry Takeaway. There is still £403 in the fund.

**i) Village Green:**

There were no matters arising about the village green.

**j) Telephone Kiosk:**

The following points were made in the discussion about the retention of the telephone kiosk:

The disconnection fee would be about £200.

Four people have come forward to Ms. Wright offering financial assistance to pay the £17 for power for the year.

Funding from Beercrocombe Village trust had been rejected, but a new application could be made as a conservation concept.

There is a six page document on the Internet outlining the conditions for the purchase of the telephone box.

The maintenance costs were discussed and how frequently the box would need painting.

There would be no added cost to the insurance if the Parish Council owned the kiosk.

After many suggestions the Chairman came up with the following proposal which the supporters for the retention of the kiosk must agree to;

- (a) There must be a definite fee for the disconnection
- (b) That the interested parties find two thirds of that cost
- (c) Ascertain the cost to paint the kiosk this year.
- (d)

The Parish Council agreed in principle to support the retention if the above were met. Ms. Wright will co-ordinate the process and if necessary an extra P.C. meeting will be held to resolve this matter.

**1255 Finances:**

The Clerk presented an overview of the accounts for the previous year and produced balance sheet. He reported that he had had the accounts internally audited by Mrs. Watts who had signed them as a true record. She agreed we had followed the correct processes and made no comments to the external auditors. The Chairman signed the External Auditors report and the Clerk will submit these.

At the time of the meeting we have £1793.14 in the two bank accounts.

The Clerk requested a cheque for £88.12 for Moore Stephens for the 2007/8 audit.

**1256 Matters of Report:**

The Clerk handed in his resignation as previously noted and the Chairman reported He had found a new clerk, Gillian Midworth, Clerk to West Hatch P.C. and he would Arrange a handover day with both Clerks and himself.

**1238 Date of Next Meeting:**

The date of the next meeting is on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at 7.30p.m. at Curry Mallet Village Hall.

Chairman

## Beercrocombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the bus shelter Beercrocombe on Wednesday 22nd July 2009.**

**Present** – Mr A. Davies ( Chairman), Mr R. Burrough, Mr A. Reed, Mrs S.Prideaux, Ms J. Wright, Mr G.Harvey, Mr A. Talbot-Williams.

**Apologies** – Mrs G.Midworth (Clerk)

- 1. Purchase of telephone Kiosk.** Julia Wright updated the meeting on progress made. The firm quotation of £144 plus VAT had been received from Western Power for the disconnection of the power supply. Money in hand now amounted to £100 with total promises of £290. It was thought that these monies should go into the normal PC account but be ring fenced for exclusive use on kiosk matters. We need to find out the MPAN designation before an agreement can be signed. The cost of lead based paint for the restoration is £10 per litre and this work will be carried out by volunteers in an authentic manner. There would also be a need to severely trim the bush at the rear of the kiosk. Thanks were expressed to Julia Wright for organising the project. On the proposition of Graham Harvey, seconded by Bob Burrough, the purchase of the kiosk was unanimously agreed.
- 2. Minutes of the 2009 Parish meeting and Council AGM.** These minutes had still not been received from our former Clerk. The Chairman would deliver his rough note book back to him so that these could be produced. Once these minutes have been received, payment of outstanding salary due to him will then be made.
- 3. Circulation of important notices.** The Chairman will speak to Gillian Midworth to see how this can best be achieved so that important dates are not missed.
- 4. Footpaths.**
  - There is a need to ensure that a gate and posts are delivered to Gerald Hale so that he can erect them in the hedge between his field and Inverlauren.

- Graham Harvey reported that he had mowed a path through the maize from below his property up to the church.
- It was also reported that Darren Bown had mown the footpath no.L5/13 on from the Mushroom Farm at the behest of Gerald Hale.
- The District Council had been unable to mow part of footpath no.L5/12 as one of the gates is locked. Graham Harvey suggested that farmer Mark Pope might let him hold a key so that the gate can be unlocked when required for maintenance purposes.

Minutes compiled by Tony Davies ( Chairman)

# **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009.

### **1258 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. A Davies, Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. A Reed, Mr. A Talbot-Williams, Ms. J Wright

*Public:* Cllr. Steele, (SSDC) and Cllr. Nelson (SCC)

*Apologies:* Mr. G Harvey, Mrs. S Prideaux

### **1259 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

### **1260 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 and 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009 were approved and signed.

### **1261 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **a) 1252 Management of Duchy hedge**

The Chairman had ascertained that the Duchy would be carrying out work in the autumn to maintain the hedge and deal with the trees that have encroached on to the verge at Beer Street.

## **1262 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

There were no members of the public present.

## **1263 PLANNING MATTERS**

*09/02677/FUL*

*Alterations to form additional living accommodation at Whittles Farm*

Planning consent has been granted by SSDC. The Parish Council had no objections to the application.

## **1264 MATTERS OF REPORT**

### **a) Village Green and other improvements**

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the Highways surveyor, Kim Sharp, about Church Lane. Due to overgrown hedges and lack of space generally, oil delivery lorries were finding it difficult to access the church and adjacent properties. The owner of the hedge had agreed to cut back the hedge and provided the parish cleared the growth from the verge, Highways will increase the size of Church Lane thus providing turning space for lorries.

The Chairman was concerned that some trees on the Village Green may be past their best. The Parish Council will consider whether they need to be replaced; the Village Trust will fund any replacement.

Mr Burrough commented that he was aware that other District Councils provided grants towards the upkeep of burial grounds. The District Councillor present confirmed that no funds were available from SSDC. The County Councillor thought that should this be an issue in the parish, then funds for grass cutting should be raised through the precept.

### **b) Footpaths**

At a previous meeting concern had been expressed about footpath L5/12 where the farmer had locked the gate, thus preventing access for maintenance. The owner has now cut a swathe so that the line of the path is apparent.

Ms Wright reported that she had noticed an obstruction on the footpath near the church.

### **c) Telephone Kiosk**

The clerk confirmed that £250 had been received from Cllr. Nelson and thanks were given to him.



The contract confirming change of ownership should be received shortly, and once that has been signed Ms Wright will collect the other funds promised. The clerk will also ensure the telephone kiosk is added to the Council's insurance policy and advise the emergency services that the telephone is no longer in use.

**d) Highway matters**

There is a drain in Beer Street that appears to be blocked. The Chairman is monitoring this and will take the necessary action if the situation deteriorates.

**e) Clerk's contract of employment**

This was duly signed by the Clerk and Chairman.

**1264 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

The Council approved the payment of £354.70 to Allianz Cornhill in respect of the Council's annual insurance.

A payment of £192.00 was also due to the outgoing clerk. However the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM had still not been produced, and it was agreed that this payment should not be authorised until these items had been completed.

**1265 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

**a) Victim Support – Funding request**

The Council had received a request for funds. Whilst the Council valued the work carried out by the charity, it was not thought appropriate to agree to this request.

**b) Invitation to Environmental Enforcement information evening**

This will take place at Long Sutton Golf Course on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Mr Burrough will endeavour to attend on the Council's behalf.

**c) Parish bulb planting**

The Parish has the opportunity to plant bulbs within the parish as an initiative between SSDC and Streetscene, but it was considered that this was something in which the Parish did not want to participate.

**d) Core Strategy**

This is an initiative from SSDC that focuses on future developments within the District. It replaces the local plan. There is a mobile exhibition touring the area giving details of the evidence on which the development framework will be based. The Chairman hopes to attend one of the exhibitions.

**1266 FAREWELL TO CLLR. TALBOT-WILLIAMS**

The Chairman advised the meeting that this was Cllr. Talbot-Williams last Parish Council meeting as he was moving away from the parish.

He thanked Cllr. Talbot-Williams for his contribution over the past 15 years as Parish Councillor. His wide range of knowledge will be sorely missed, particularly on planning matters. Cllr. Talbot-Williams was never afraid to offer the opposite view on matters and on occasions this was highly valued. The Council wished him well for the future.

Cllr. Talbot-Williams responded by congratulating the Council on being energetic and competent, he felt that all the present Councillors were 'doers' and took responsibility for rectifying matters of concern in the parish.

Cllr. Talbot-Williams will submit his letter of resignation in due course so that the necessary steps can be taken to fill his vacancy. In the meantime it was agreed that Mr Davies and Mr Reed would take responsibility for planning matters.

### **1267 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

# **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

### **1268 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. A Davies, Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. G Harvey, Mrs. S Prideaux, Mr. A Reed

*Public:* Cllr. Steele (SSDC), PCSO Ross, and two parishioners

### **1269 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

### **1270 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009 were approved and signed. The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held in May had now been completed, and these will be formally approved at the next meeting once they had been circulated to all the Councillors.

### **1271 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **a) 1252 Management of Duchy hedge**

The Duchy has authorized works to reduce the intruding trees to ground level and cut the hedge. This work is currently in progress. The Council was asked whether there were plans to extend this work along the main road into Curry Mallet, as the telephone wires are becoming entangled in the trees. The Chairman agreed to check with the tenant farmer the true extent of the work.

## **1272 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

The Council welcomed PCSO Ian Ross, who is now the permanent PCSO for the Parish, although Beth Unthank will also continue to cover the beat on a part time basis.

PCSO Ross reported that there has been no reported crime in Beercrocombe since the last meeting. His style of policing is very much 'out on the streets', and it is his intention to patrol the beat without drawing attention to himself so that he can catch any criminal activity in progress.

Mr Burrough mentioned that in the more isolated areas of the parish, a visible police presence would be welcome.

## **1273 PLANNING MATTERS**

*09/04113/FUL*

*Erection of a first floor extension and single storey garden room at The Cottage, Broadmead Road.*

The Council had met to discuss the alterations to this Grade 2 listed building. The Council considered that the plans as presented were acceptable and had no objections to the application.

## **1274 MATTERS OF REPORT**

### **a) Village Green and other improvements**

Part of the works in Church Lane had been carried out. The owner of the Old School House had cut the hedge on the inside of the bend, and a Parish Council working party has tidied the verge thus making the road wider. However, the Highways department are unable to carry out the planned improvements to the road during this financial year, but it was expected that the work would be planned for Spring 2010.

### **b) Footpaths**

Mr Davies reported that the steps going down into the old canal path on L5/14 have become overgrown and will require clearing at some point.

The signpost denoting the footpath to Halfway House is broken and is currently in the hedge. Mr Burrough will advise SSDC.

The gate, which is to be erected on footpath L5/14, has been provided by SSDC but has not yet been installed.

### **c) Telephone Kiosk**

Ms Wright confirmed that all the paperwork was now in order, and that ownership of the telephone kiosk would be transferred to the Parish Council once BT had received payment of £1.

The electricity cable needs to be uncovered before Western Power will disconnect the power, and Ms Wright is arranging for this to be done.

There are now 9 members of the 'Friends of the Telephone Kiosk' group, and Ms Wright handed the clerk £96.03 as their contribution to the disconnection costs as previously agreed.

PCSO Ross advised Ms Wright on the correct procedure for informing the emergency services that the telephone box was no longer in use.

The Chairman relayed the thanks of the Council to Ms Wright for her efforts in this project.

#### **d) Highway matters**

The Chairman has been monitoring a drain in Beer Street that was thought to be blocked. It has not since caused a problem.

Mrs Prideaux reported that drains in Radigan Lane had not been cleared recently causing water to lie on the road. During periods of cold weather, this is a particular hazard as the water then freezes, making the road very slippery. The culvert underneath the railway bridge that is too small does not help the situation.

The Council considered that major works would need to be carried out to improve the situation. Cllr. Steele reported that 'Streetscene' had monies available for community projects, and suggested that the clerk contact Chris Cooper for further information.

It was agreed that Mr. Burrough would discuss the current situation with Kim Sharp, the Highways surveyor; to see what measures could be taken to alleviate the existing problems.

### **1275 VACANCY ON PARISH COUNCIL**

Following the resignation of Mr Talbot-Williams, a vacancy exists on the Parish Council. In accordance with the correct procedure, notification of this vacancy has been displayed in the Parish. This notice gives parishioners the right to request an election. If no such request is received, the Parish Council can co-opt to fill the vacancy.

The Council agreed that following this notification period a notice inviting applications would be displayed. A closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> December is to be set.

This will enable the Council to conclude the matter at the next meeting.

### **1276 FINANCE MATTERS**

#### **a) Budget and precept for 2010/11**

The Chairman and Clerk had met to discuss the budget for 2010/11.

There will be an overspend this financial year due to the overlap in the clerk's salary, whereby the previous clerk claimed six monthly in arrears and the new clerk is paid on a bi-monthly basis. There was also a delay in the audit fee for 2008/9 being paid, with payment not actually made until the current financial year.

However, the anticipated reserves remain quite healthy at approximately £1,700.

Anticipated expenditure for 2010/11 is as follows: -

Clerk's salary	£500
Insurance	£375
SALC Subscription	£ 30
Audit Fees	£ 58
Grass Cutting Grant	£ 60

A discussion took place regarding payment to the Village Hall. This has recently been maintained at £80, but Curry Mallet PC has recently increased its contribution to £250. Traditionally, Beercrocombe Parish Council has contributed 40% of the Curry Mallet total, and it was agreed that for 2010/11, Beercrocombe Parish Council would contribute £100 to the Village Hall.

A sum of £100 was also allocated in the budget for the maintenance of the telephone kiosk. This sum is to come from the £250 grant received from Cllr Nelson, which is earmarked for this purpose.

It is the Council's intention to keep the precept at the existing level of £1,040. The Council resolved to adopt the budget as agreed and levy a precept of £1,040. This was proposed by Mr Burrough, and seconded by Mr Harvey.

**b) Completion of External Audit.**

Moore Stephens had now completed the external audit of the Annual Return. They noted that the precept figure had been understated by £10 so the return needs to be amended.

**1277 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

The Council approved the following payments:-

Clerk's Salary	£250.02
Moore Stephens	£ 57.50
Western Power	£165.66
BT	£ 1.00
Village Hall	£ 80.00.

**1278 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

**a) SSDC Cluster Workshops**

The Council had received an invitation to a presentation on the South Somerset Local Development framework, but unfortunately this clashed with the Parish Council meeting. Further workshops are planned for each cluster of parishes in the area on the 26<sup>th</sup> November and 9<sup>th</sup> December, and it is hoped that a representative from the Parish Council will attend.

**b) Ethical Standards Self Assessment Survey**

All Councillors and Clerk have been asked to complete a survey on ethical standards. The survey is being coordinated by the Chairman of South Somerset Standards Committee and needs to be returned by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010.

### **c) Flood Awareness Workshops**

SSDC are holding two Flood Awareness workshops. The purpose of the event is to offer guidance and advice to members of the public about how they might reduce the flood risk to their property. One event will be held in Wincanton in December and a further event will be held on January 20<sup>th</sup> in Yeovil. The clerk will arrange to display information regarding the Yeovil event on the Parish Notice board.

### **1267 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr Burrough reported on the Environmental Enforcement Information event he had recently attended. With effect from April 2010, new powers will be devolved to District Councils to allow them to police more effectively the problem of dog fouling. An order similar to an ASBO may be placed upon the dog and owner if required. Mr Burrough had complimented the District Council on their speed with which a fly tipping incident was cleared. Cllr. Steele commented that all cases of fly tipping should be dealt within a week of notification.

Cllr. Steele informed the meeting that Somerset County Council had pulled out of Pioneer Somerset, and as a result of this the Joint Area Committees (JAC) had been disbanded.

### **1268 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.05pm