

# **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 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

### **1281 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

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

*Public:* Cllr. Steele (SSDC), Mr. C Dale and one parishioner

*Apologies:* Mr. A Davies (Illness)

In the absence of Mr. Davies, Mr. Burrough took the chair.

### **1282 RESOLUTION TO CO-OPT MR C DALE TO PARISH COUNCIL**

Mr. Burrough proposed that Mr. C Dale be co-opted to the Parish Council to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Talbot-Williams' resignation.

This proposal was seconded by Ms. Wright and the Council unanimously approved the resolution.

Mr. Dale was then welcomed as a member of Beercrocombe Parish Council.

### **1283 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

### **1284 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009 were approved and signed. The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 were also approved and signed.

### **1285 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **a) 1252 Management of Duchy Hedge.**

The Chairman had ascertained that no further work was due to be carried out on the hedge. It was agreed to monitor the situation regarding the telephone lines, which are becoming entangled in growth on the Hatch Beauchamp road

#### **b) 1276 Budget – Donation to Beer & Curry Takeaway.**

Ms. Wright expressed concern that no provision had been made in the 2010/11 budget for a donation to the Beer & Curry takeaway. Ms. Wright was advised that funding for this is via the Parish Plan Fund and she will approach the JAC if funds are required. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had given no funds to the Parish Plan Fund since 2006.

**c) 1278 SSDC Cluster Workshops**

The Workshop that Mr Davies was due to attend on 9<sup>th</sup> December was cancelled. Cllr. Steele confirmed that follow-up workshops were being planned.

**1286 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

No matters were raised.

**1287 PLANNING MATTERS**

*09/04568/COU*

*Change of use from agriculture to church car park*

This had been approved by SSDC

*09/04113/FUL*

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

SSDC has refused this application for the following reason: -

The proposed development by reason of its form, scale, massing, height, proportions, position relative to the building, and the poor relationship between the sun room and the resulting two-storey extension forming two unrelated extensions to the building would have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the property as well as a detrimental impact on the character, setting, architectural and historic interest of this Grade II listed building.

**1288 MATTERS OF REPORT**

**a) Footpaths**

The gate has still not been erected in the opening to the Church on Footpath L5/14. The Chairman has pursued this matter which is now in hand.

Numerous broken finger posts, and the broken signpost at Elmbridge have been reported.

Mr. Harvey reported that there is a gate on Footpath L5/12, which has been chained and locked. It is still possible to gain access but Mr.

Burrough agreed to speak to the landowner, Mr M Pope.

Mr. Harvey also reported that rabbit holes were re-appearing on Footpath L5/13 so care was needed.

**b) Telephone Kiosk**

Ms Wright reported that the electricity had now been disconnected, thanks to Mr. Ted Stone who carried out all the necessary ground works.

A consultation will shortly be carried out soliciting views as to possible uses of the kiosk.

**c) Highway Matters**

Mr. Burrough had corresponded with the Highways surveyor with regard to the drainage problems in Radigan Lane. A site visit is to be arranged for January and Mrs Prideaux has agreed to be in attendance if possible. Several potholes have been reported, those in Stocks Lane are particularly bad.

Ben Stamford has replaced Kim Sharpe, the Highways Supervisor for the Parish.

**1289 FINANCE MATTERS**

The Clerk reported that there were difficulties with the bank account as a Mr B Howell was still listed as an authorised signatory. Mr Talbot-Williams was also a signatory and he has since resigned from the Parish Council.

It was agreed that Graham Harvey and Tony Davies should replace the above mentioned as two new signatories on the account.

The Clerk will ensure that the necessary paperwork is duly completed.

**1290 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

Clerk's salary            £83.34

**1291 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

**a) Nominations for Parish Environmental Warden**

The Parish has been invited to nominate a Parish Environmental Warden (PEW) to report environmental issues in their area.

After discussion it was agreed that the present system of advising Streetscene Services directly of any problem worked well, and it was decided not to submit any nominations for the role.

The Clerk advised that Streetscene Services hold two sets of litter picking equipment for loan should the Parish wish to organise a litter pick in the future.

**b) South Somerset District Council**

The Clerk had received correspondence advising that SSDC had agreed in principle to explore joint working arrangements with East Devon District Council. This would involve possibly sharing 'back office' functions such as HR, I.T. and Senior Management.

**1292 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

*Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010.*

#### **1293 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

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

*Public:* Cllr.Nelson (SCC), two parishioners

*Apologies:* Ms. J Wright, Cllr. Steele (SSDC)

#### **1294 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

#### **1295 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010 were approved and signed.

#### **1296 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising.

#### **1297 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

A parishioner reported that there were signs of rabbit activity close to the road on the old railway bridge at Elmbridge, which could cause subsidence. Although Elmbridge is outside the parish, Mr Burrough agreed to look at these and report the matter if necessary.

#### **1298 MATTERS OF REPORT**

##### **a) Footpaths**

The locked gate on Footpath L5/10 has now been opened.

Several broken finger posts have been repaired.

The gate has still not been installed on Footpath L5/14 and the Chairman will continue to pursue.

Mrs Prideaux reported that she had received a complaint about the state of the footpath at Frog Street Farm. During winter, this is often impassable due to high levels of standing water. It was agreed that a working party of the Parish Council would look at the problem and report back at the next meeting.

There is a broken stile in Radigan Lane and Mr Burrough will arrange for this to be reported.

**b) Telephone Kiosk**

In the absence of Ms. Wright there was nothing to report.

**c) Highway matters**

Some repairs had been carried out to the numerous potholes within the Parish, but in some cases the repairs have only been partially carried out. Cllr. Nelson suggested that the Chairman contacts Neil McWilliams, the new Highways superintendent, to arrange a site meeting so that these issues can be discussed.

Mr. Dale reported that there had been quite substantial damage caused to verges in the Parish by hunt vehicles. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Taunton Vale Hunt prior to the start of the next hunting season, requesting that the verges are not damaged in a similar fashion.

**d) Complaint re noise**

The Chairman reported that a parishioner had complained about the noise of several cockerels crowing at a property within the Parish. The parishioner concerned had brought the matter to the owner's attention but had also informed SSDC. An environmental enforcement officer is currently monitoring the situation for a three-month period.

**e) Introduction of new Standing Orders**

The Clerk reported that she had attended a training course run by SALC to discuss the new Standing Orders, which are shortly to be introduced. Following feedback from representatives, it is likely that further amendments will be made. Once the final copy has been produced the Council will need to consider adopting these.

**1299 FINANCE MATTERS**

**a) To agree contribution towards printer/scanner for Clerk**

The Clerk had approached the Parish Council for a contribution towards the cost of a new printer that also incorporates a scanner. This will enable the Clerk to reduce the amount of paperwork that is circulated, as it can be transmitted electronically instead. The cost of such a printer is approximately £100 and the Parish Council agreed to make a contribution of £20.

**b) To agree appointment of internal auditor.**

The Clerk suggested that the Parish Council appoint an independent internal auditor for this year's Annual Report. She recommended that the Parish Council use the same auditor as West Hatch Parish Council, Mr Alan Chapman. It was agreed that the Clerk would approach Mr Chapman to see whether he was willing to carry out the audit for a fee of £25.

**1300 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

Clerk's salary	£83.34
SALC	£30.62
Beercrocombe PCC	£60.00

## **1301 PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Application 10/00126/LBC – internal and external alterations at Beer Farm, Beercrocombe**

This application was discussed in the presence of the applicant. The main proposal is to incorporate the barn into the main house to provide a kitchen and breakfast room. The main house will remain largely unaltered, although a general refurbishment of the back hall area is planned.

After discussion, the Council resolved that it had no objections to the application, and considered the proposed plans appropriate for a Grade 2\* Listed Building.

Mrs Prideaux stated that she considered Beer Farm to be the most distinguished domestic house within the Parish and was anxious that the period features of the house remain. The applicant reassured the Council that he wished to maintain the period features of the property.

### **Application for alterations at Wayside**

The Clerk had recently received a planning application for the above property, and it was agreed to hold a planning meeting in the Bus Shelter to discuss. The meeting will take place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 4.15pm.

## **1302 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Annual Parish meeting will take place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7pm. This will be followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council and the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.53pm

# **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010

### **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. C Dale, Mr. A Davies, Mr. G Harvey, Mr. A Reed, Ms. J Wright.

*Public:* Cllr. Steele (SSDC), Cllr. Nelson (SCC), Mrs. E Davies (Tree Warden) and one parishioner

*Apologies:* Mrs. S Prideaux

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

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 were received and approved.

### **REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Chairman made his report of what has been a busy year for the Council. Following the resignation of the previous Clerk, Gillian Midworth was appointed as the new Clerk in June.

During the year Tony Talbot-Williams resigned from the Council following his move from the Parish, and was replaced by Chris Dale.

The Parish Council had seven planning applications during the year and although the Council recommended approval in all cases, sometimes with suggested conditions, only three were approved by SSDC.

The Parish Council achieved the widening of the corner in Church Lane. Following pressure from the Parish Council, the high hedge up to Beer Cross has been cut back. This will preclude further faults from occurring in the telephone network.

The purchase of the telephone kiosk has been concluded, due largely to the persistence and commitment of Julia Wright.

The Chairman reported that the Council's finances are in a healthy state with a balance of £1,771.

The Chairman thanked the parishioners for keeping the Village Green area so tidy and expressed thanks to the District and County Councillors for their support and advice.

The Chairman concluded the report by thanking the Councillors for their help and support during his four-year tenure as Chairman.

## **REPORTS FROM PARISH INTEREST GROUPS**

### **Police – PC Toni Lines**

PC Lines informed the meeting that Curry Mallet Parish is considering becoming a 'No Cold Call Zone' and suggested that Beercrocombe Parish should give this consideration.

Following a reorganization of the policing area, PC Lines confirmed that Beercrocombe now falls within the Somerton area, although crime reports can still be made to the Ilminster Police Station.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Mr. Reed reported that there had been two instances of crimes throughout the year. There had been equipment taken from a building at Stocks Lane, and an attempted break-in at Beercrocombe Church.

Police surgeries continue to be held regularly but attendance is poor.

Mr. Davies thanked Mr. Reed for his work as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

### **Roads and Footpaths**

Radigan Lane and Broadbridge Road were topped dressed last year but unfortunately to a low standard and many potholes have subsequently re-appeared.

Several defects have been reported during the year, including potholes and poor edges to the carriageway, badgers setts and missing signpost at Elm Bridge, and the pooling of water on Radigan Lane. All these issues remain unresolved but the new highways superintendent for the area, Mr. Neil McWilliams intends to tackle these issues.

Mr. Burrough wished to thank Mr. Kim Sharp of South Somerset Highways for the support he has given the village. He has now retired from his role.

The parish footpaths remain in a satisfactory condition, with the exception of Frog Street, which is water logged for much of the year.

A gate has been supplied in order to open L5/14 and numerous fingerposts have been repaired. The only problem was the vegetation cutting programme where the agreed schedule of cutting L5/12, L5/13 and L5/16 was never fully implemented.

The responsibility for footpath maintenance has now been returned to Somerset District Council and Mr. Peter Keenlyside is the new area warden.

### **Parish Plan Update**

Ms. Wright informed the meeting that £5,000 allocated in the Parish Plan for provision of a play area has now been transferred into the Village Hall funds, so that the hall may be improved and used as a sports hall.

The Beer & Curry Takeaway continues and there are sufficient funds available to support this for the next twelve months.

### **Village Hall Report**

Mr. Dale confirmed that the funds received from the Parish Plan had been used for hall improvements. The floor has been sanded and polished and can be used as a badminton court. Basketball nets will shortly be installed. A programme of renovations has been planned including the installation of new fire doors and new storage facilities.

### **Village Trust**

Grants totaling £878 had been awarded in 2009 from an income of £1,842. The value of the Trust is £34,177.

### **Tree Warden**

There have been four new pieces of land within the Parish which are suitable for hedges, and the Tree Warden has been encouraging the landowners to plant native species. Funds are available from the Village Trust to plant native trees and 50% of the cost will be reimbursed up to £100.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of the Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010

#### **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. C Dale, Mr. A Davies, Mr. G Harvey, Mr. A Reed, Ms. J Wright.

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

*Apologies:* Mrs. S Prideaux

#### **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Burrough was elected Chairman. His nomination was proposed by Mr. Davies, and seconded by Mr. Harvey. There were no other nominations and Mr. Burrough was elected unanimously.

Mr. Burrough thanked Mr. Davies for his work as Chairman for the past 4 years. Under his leadership issues have been dealt with thoroughly and fairly, and with his guidance the Parish Council has functioned effectively and harmoniously throughout his tenure.

#### **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Harvey was elected Vice Chairman. His nomination was proposed by Mr. Davies and seconded by Mr. Reed. There were no other nominations and Mr. Harvey was elected unanimously.

#### **ALLOCATION OF MEMBERS' ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The following responsibilities were allocated: -

Neighbourhood Watch: Mr. A. Reed

Roads/Footpaths: Mr. G Harvey

Planning: Mr. A Davies

J.A.C: Ms. J Wright

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

#### **1303 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. A Davies, Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. C Dale, Mr. G Harvey, Ms. J Wright, Mr. A Reed,

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

*Apologies:* Mrs. S Prideaux

#### **1304 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

#### **1305 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010 were approved and signed.

#### **1306 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Clerk confirmed that Mr Chapman was happy to act as Internal Auditor and that the audit would be completed that week.

#### **1307 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

There were no matters raised.

#### **1308 MATTERS OF REPORT**

##### **a) Footpaths**

Members of the Council had walked the footpath at Frog Street, and despite the lack of rain recently it was still flooded.

Mr Davies had spoken to the Footpaths Officer, who confirmed that two years ago some £800 had been spent to improve the drainage. However, Peter Keenlyside, the Footpaths Officer, did not think there was a permanent solution to the problem and suggested a permissive deviation of the footpath. This would entail the footpath going through the field on the right before joining the existing route.

It was resolved that this would be the preferable course of action, and the Chairman will write to the landowner to seek his permission. Peter Keenlyside will be asked to progress this matter.

The gate is still waiting to be installed on Footpath L5/14, and pressure will continue to be applied to the landowner so that the matter is finally resolved. Mr. Harvey advised the meeting that footpaths L5/12 and L5/13 will be cut along their entire lengths and L5/16 will be cut up to the paddocks by SCC, as part of the vegetation cutting programme. The opening through the hedge on the path from Beer Street to Halfway House requires a fingerpost and Mr Harvey will pursue this matter.

**b) Telephone Kiosk**

It has been suggested that the telephone kiosk be used as a book exchange. There have been no other suggestions for its future use, and therefore a book exchange will be set up for a trial period.

Mr Reed advised the meeting that he had pruned the shrub encroaching onto the kiosk.

**c) Highway matters**

Mr Davies informed the meeting that he had met with Mr McWilliams, Highways Superintendent, and together they had driven the Parish road network. A plan of work covering the matters raised was still awaited and Cllr Nelson offered to follow this up.

**d) Complaint re noise**

This matter is still ongoing and no final decision has been made. The matter is in the hands of the Environmental Enforcement Officer and no further action is to be taken by the Parish Council.

**e) Dog Fouling**

Plastic bags containing dog waste are regularly left along the road beyond Wayside towards Frog Street. This is unsightly, as the plastic does not decompose.

Cllr. Steele advised that the Dog Warden would put up notices if required, and it was agreed that the Chairman would contact Streetscene to arrange this. It was also agreed to send a letter to the Beer & Curry Takeaway, asking the persons involved to cease this practice.

**f) Neighbourhood Watch – Introduction of ‘No Cold Calling Zone’**

Mr Reed had received some information about the introduction of a ‘No Cold Calling Zone’. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the July meeting once the information had been circulated to the Members.

**1309 FINANCE MATTERS**

**a) To approve the Annual Return**

The Clerk had circulated figures prior to the meeting.

Income for the year amounted to £1,424, including a grant of £250 towards the maintenance of the telephone kiosk.

Expenditure was £1,446, leaving a small deficit of £22. This was due to the payment of two audit fees in the same year, and final payment of the outgoing clerk’s salary.

The Council's reserves are £1,771, of which £700 is allocated to the Election Fund, £250 to the Telephone Kiosk, and £821 to General Reserves. The Parish Council agreed and approved the Annual Return.

**b) To agree amount of insurance cover for telephone kiosk.**

It was agreed that the telephone kiosk be insured for a sum of £1,000 provided this could be obtained for less than £20 p.a.

**1310 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

Clerk's salary           £83.34

Clerk's expenses       £30.00

The Parish Council approved these payments.

**1311 PLANNING MATTERS**

**Application 10/00126/LBC – internal and external alterations at Beer Farm, Beercrocombe**

This application had been refused by SSDC. The proposal has now been amended and the applicant is hopeful that it will be approved.

**Application 10/00920 - alterations at Wayside, Beercrocombe**

Approved by SSDC.

**Application 10/00963/FUL – conversion of stables to guest annex. Beer Mill Farm, Beercrocombe.**

SSDC has refused this application, and has suggested that it is resubmitted for a single storey annex only.

**1312 CORRESPONDENCE**

SSDC is looking to improve its communication channels. It is now able to offer Parish Councils the option of receiving the agendas for the Area North Committee meetings in electronic form, albeit in a condensed format. The Council agreed that it would welcome the agendas by e-mail, but that the full paper copy would also be requested as some Members wish to read document in full.

**1313 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

**BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

**1314 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. C Dale, Mr. A Davies, Mr. G Harvey, Ms. J Wright, Mr. A Reed.

*Public:* Cllr.Nelson (SCC), PCSO Ross

*Apologies:* Mrs. S Prideaux, Cllr. Steele (SSDC)

**1315 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

**1316 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 were approved and signed.

**1317 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Dog Fouling**

A letter has been written to the Beer & Curry Takeaway requesting parishioners not to leave plastic bags containing dog waste in the Parish and a notice has also been placed along the road from Wayside. It was noted that the incidences of fouling in this manner were reducing.

**Complaint re noise**

Mr Davies reported that an order was now in place. The owners had one month to ensure that measures were taken to prevent the six cockerels from making an unacceptable noise.

**1318 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

There were no matters raised by parishioners.  
PCSO Ross warned of the dangers of leaving car windows open in hot weather as items of value can be easily stolen.  
There were no reports of crime in the Parish for June.

**1319 TO CONSIDER THE INTRODUCTION OF A NO COLD CALL ZONE**

Information about this scheme had been circulated to the Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

The Parish Council were asked to consider introducing this scheme whereby the Parish would be designated a No Cold Call Zone, and doorstep traders ignoring this would be reported to the police.

The Parish Council had concerns over the management and sustainability of the scheme, as there would be a lot of work involved. The members agreed that as there were only isolated incidents of cold calling, a 'No Cold Call Zone' would not be appropriate.

There are door stickers available for those parishioners who do not welcome doorstep traders, and it was agreed that Mr. Reed would maintain a supply of these. An article will be placed in the Beer & Curry Takeaway and any parishioner requiring a sticker could contact Mr. Reed. It was also agreed that Mr. Reed would hold a supply of Scamwise booklets for parishioners' use.

## **1320 MATTERS OF REPORT**

### **a) Footpaths**

Mr Harvey reported that SCC failed to complete the second cut of footpaths L5/12 and L5/16, although L5/13 had been cut in entirety. A further cut of these footpaths will take place in August.

The gate on Footpath L5/14 has now been installed.

With regard to the RUPP at Frog Street, the Chairman had written to the landowner requesting his permission for a permissive deviation of the footpath. However, the deviation would pass through fields where thoroughbred horses are kept, and the landowner's insurance policy does not cover the horses in fields where there is a public right of way. The landowner was not prepared to increase his insurance cover at a higher premium. As there does not appear to be a cost effective alternative solution, it was agreed that no further action would be taken. The Chairman agreed to write to the member of public who had made the original request and advise him accordingly.

### **b) Telephone Kiosk**

The Council was advised that preparatory work prior to decoration was due to start the following week.

### **c) Highway matters**

The plan of work covering matters raised during Mr Davies' meeting with Mr McWilliams, Highways Superintendent, had now been received and Cllr.

Nelson was thanked for his part in achieving this outcome.

8 areas of work had been identified and will be progressed during the year.

The verge at Manor Farm will be repaired using planings from the resurfacing due to take place in Curry Rivel in November.

The fingerpost has now been reinstated at Elmbridge.

Various potholes have been identified for repair.

There are plans to address the problem at Radigan Lane, but no timescale has been given.

Mr Davies reported that he had approached Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council with his concerns about the restricted visibility at the junction at Station Road.

As a result the overgrown vegetation has now been cut, making this junction much safer for vehicles approaching from the direction of Beercrocombe.

### **1321 FINANCE MATTERS**

#### **a) To report change in Insurance arrangements**

The Parish Council insurance had been due for renewal at the end of June, and following research by the Chairman alternative insurance arrangements have been made.

The insurance has been arranged through Community First, which is underwritten by Zurich. Cover is the same, and in some instances better, than the previous insurance but at a lower premium.

The Clerk confirmed that the telephone kiosk is covered for the sum of £1000.

#### **b) To confirm completion of the internal audit.**

The Clerk confirmed that the Internal Audit had been carried out at a cost of £20, and that the Annual Return had been submitted to the External Auditors.

### **1322 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

Clerk's salary           £ 83.34

Internal Audit Fee       £ 20.00

Community First       £230.86

The Parish Council approved these payments.

### **1323 PLANNING MATTERS**

#### **Application 10/00126/LBC – internal and external alterations at Beer Farm, Beercrocombe**

This application has now been approved by SSDC.

#### **Application 10/01873/FUL – conversion of stables to guest annex. (Revised Application)**

##### **Beer Mill Farm, Beercrocombe.**

This application has now been approved by SSDC.

#### **Application 10/01451/FUL – Erection of a stable and fodder store at land at rear of Little Orchard, Beercrocombe**

This application has been approved by SSDC

### **1324 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk had received a handbook for Councillors relating to the 2011 Census. This will be circulated.

Cllr. Nelson informed the meeting that a stretch of Higher Street, Curry Mallet would be closed for two weeks from 26<sup>th</sup> July; to enable drainage works to be carried out. The road will be closed between Erw-Wen and the junction with Headwell.

**1325 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 20th September at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

**BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

**1326 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. C Dale, Mr. A Davies, Mr. G Harvey, Mrs. S Prideaux, Mr. A Reed, Ms. J Wright

*Public:* Cllr. Steele (SSDC), one member of the public

*Apologies:* Cllr. Nelson (SCC)

**1327 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

**1328 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 were approved and signed.

**1329 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Dog Fouling**

Since the publication of the letter in the Beer & Curry Takeaway incidences of dog fouling have declined.

**1330 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

A parishioner reported that a drainage ditch along Broadmead Road had been accidentally filled in. The Parish Council confirmed that Highways had already been notified of the problem.

**1331 TO CONSIDER THE NEED FOR CLEARER ROAD SIGNS TO WARN OF DEPTH OF FLOOD AT RADIGAN FORD**

Mrs. Prideaux reported to the Parish Council the problems that have occurred at Radigan Ford at times of high water. Cars are being driven into the ford and becoming stuck in the high water. The ford is hidden from the road in both directions and drivers are unaware of the extent of the water until it is too late. The Parish Council agreed that a road sign giving further information would be useful and suggested, "Ford – 50 Metres ahead."

Mr Harvey will contact Cllr Nelson and Mr McWilliams to progress the matter.

## **1332 MATTERS OF REPORT**

### **a) Footpaths**

Mr Harvey reported that footpaths L5/12 and L5/16 have still not been cut, and he will follow this up with Mr. Keenlyside.

Mrs Prideaux reported that a stile is broken on L5/2, where the path meets Broadbridge Road. The top rail is missing. Mr Harvey will inspect this and report at the next meeting.

With regard to the RUPP at Frog Street the Chairman had contacted the complainant, who has reluctantly agreed with the view of the Parish Council that any money available for footpath maintenance should be used for the upkeep of paths that are well used in the Parish.

The matter is now closed.

### **b) Telephone Kiosk**

The Council was advised that the project has now been completed at a cost of £171.62 and the Telephone Kiosk is now being used as a Book Exchange.

The Parish Council expressed its appreciation to Ms Wright and Mr Dale for overseeing this project through to such an excellent conclusion. Photographs have been taken for inclusion in the Parish Magazine.

The Parish Council will formally approve the expenditure at the next meeting.

### **c) Highway matters**

Mr McWilliams had been advised of the problem at Broadmead Road where the verge had been pushed into the ditch. His response was that this was a common problem caused by inappropriate vehicles using the road, and that it is the landowner's responsibility to clear the ditch.

The Parish Council considered that this response was disappointing, for if no action is taken the risk of flooding along the stretch of road is increased. In the absence of Cllr. Nelson Cllr Steele offered to raise the matter with Somerset Highways.

### **d) Area North Annual Meeting**

Mr Burrough, Mr Harvey and Ms Wright attended this meeting.

There were three presentations in total.

The first was designed to encourage candidates to stand for the District Council at its elections next May.

The second presentation covered the local response to severe weather. Last year bags of grit were available to Parish Councils for use within the Parish, and Mr Harvey agreed to store bags of grit if these are made available this year.

In the past local farmers have been contracted to carry out snow clearance, and apparently this matter will be reviewed at the District Council Winter Service planning meeting. Mr Davies asked that the Parish Council be advised of the decisions made at this meeting.

The third presentation covered recycling and SSDC consider this to be a success. "Sort it Plus", will be introduced by early Spring and this initiative will allow for plastics and cardboard to be collected.

### **1333 TO ADOPT NEW STANDING ORDERS**

The Parish Council resolved to adopt the new Standing Orders produced by SALC.

### **1334 EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The Clerk advised the Parish Council that the external audit had been completed and the necessary notice had been published. The Council had been advised of the comments made by the auditors, which related to errors on the previous year's return.

### **1335 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

Clerk's salary           £ 83.34

Moore Stephens       £ 58.75

The Parish Council approved these payments.

### **1336 PLANNING MATTERS**

The Parish Council had considered two applications:-

#### **Application 10/03181/FUL – erection of a single storey extension to garage and construction of a swimming pool at Beer Farm, Beercrocombe**

The Parish Council recommended approval subject to a panel being erected at the top of the proposed new stairs leading to the extension of the garage. This would ensure that the privacy of the next-door neighbour is maintained. The Parish Council also recommended that a condition be inserted preventing the installation of floodlighting, to avoid light pollution.

#### **Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of land as domestic garden at Little Portion, Broadbridge Road, Beercrocombe**

The Parish Council recommended approval.

#### **Affordable Housing in Beercrocombe**

Mr Davies has received an approach about the possibility of erecting two units of affordable housing on a narrow piece of land at Broadbridge.

Mr Dale was of the opinion that the land in question was the original site of the village pump and well, and thought that this might be worth preserving. He will undertake some research and report at a future meeting.

To date, no formal planning application has been received.

### **1337 CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **Library Service Focus Groups**

SCC is reviewing and planning for the future of the Library Service.

A focus group will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October at Priorswood Library.

Anyone wishing to attend should phone 01823 336370 or e-mail  
Enquiry@somerset.gov.uk.

**1338 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

# **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

### **1339 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr. R F Burrough, Mr. A Davies, Mr. G Harvey, Mr. A Reed, Ms. J Wright

*Public:* Cllr. Steele (SSDC), Cllr. Nelson (SSDC), one member of the public

*Apologies:* Mr. C Dale, Mrs. S Prideaux

### **1340 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Mr. G Harvey and Ms. J Wright disclosed their interest in respect of item 12 on the agenda – Planning Application in respect of Manor Farm.

### **1341 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010 were approved and signed.

### **1342 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **Land at Broadbridge Road**

Mr. Dale is carrying out investigations in respect of the history of the piece of land at Broadbridge Road, and will report at a later meeting.

### **1343 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

There were no issues raised.

### **1344 MATTERS OF REPORT**

#### **a) Footpaths**

Mr. Keenlyside has left SCC and his replacement is Mr. Les Braunton. Mr. Harvey reported that he has trimmed the footpath at Mushroom Farm. The broken stile at Footpath L5/2 has not yet been inspected.

#### **b) Highway matters**

A meeting had taken place to discuss the Council's concerns relating to the ford at Radigan Lane. It was agreed that the only solution would be for a distance sign to be attached to the ford sign, indicating that the ford was 50m ahead. This work is to be carried out shortly.

Mr Harvey reported that 80 tons of planings would be arriving this week for use at Curry Mallet Village Hall. The surplus will then be used to infill the damaged verges in Beercrocombe.

The blocked ditch at Broadmead Road continues to be a concern as recent heavy rainfall has caused the ditch to overflow. The Highways Authority considers clearance of the ditch to be the landowner's responsibility, although the Parish Council contends that the fact that the verge has collapsed constitutes a highway danger. Mr Harvey offered to look into the matter and report back at the next meeting.

### **1345 WINTER MAINTENANCE 2010/11**

SSDC has published its winter maintenance programme, including its salting plan. To assist local communities, every Parish Council can collect 10 bags of 20kg salt/grit for local use. Mr. Harvey will collect this and store it at his property.

### **1346 TO DISCUSS RESPONSE TO LETTER OF CONCERN RE LOOSE DOGS**

The Clerk has received a letter from a parishioner expressing concern about a dog often seen running loose on the road near a blind corner. Mr. Reed confirmed that he came across the dog whilst cycling, only narrowly avoiding an accident. It was agreed that Mr. Harvey would bring this matter to the attention of the dog's owners.

### **1347 FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk presented an interim financial report. Expenditure to date is £762, with anticipated further expenditure of £460. The expected deficit of £182 is due to renovation costs to the telephone kiosk, which is covered by earmarked funds in the reserves.

A meeting to discuss the budget and precept for 2011/12 will take place in the New Year, following the Clerk's attendance on a SALC Training course covering budgetary matters.

The Parish Council has received a request from the Royal British Legion to cover the cost of the wreath laid by the Parish at the local Remembrance Service. It was agreed in principle to meet the cost and Mr. Burrough will ascertain the amount.

### **1348 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

Clerk's salary	£ 83.34
Telephone kiosk	£171.62

The Parish Council approved these payments.

## **1349 PLANNING MATTERS**

The Parish Council had received decisions on two applications: -

**Application 10/03181/FUL - erection of a single storey extension to garage and construction of a swimming pool at Beer Farm, Beercrocombe**

Approval has been given. A condition preventing the installation of floodlighting without permission has been inserted.

The application did not state how the pool would be drained of water, and the Parish Council was concerned that the village sewage system would not be able to cope with large quantities of chlorinated water. Mr. Davies will contact SSDC to ascertain how the water would be drained.

**Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of land as domestic garden at Little Portion, Broadbridge Road, Beercrocombe**

Approval had been given.

The Parish Council had considered the following application and had recommended approval: -

**10/03972/FUL - Construction of self contained single storey annex and basement at Old Manor Barn, Beercrocombe**

**1350 10/03668/FUL and 10/03369/FUL - ERECTION OF TWO AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS FOR ACCOMODATION OF LIVESTOCK AND GENERAL PURPOSE USE AT MANOR FARM BEERCROCOMBE**

The Parish Council has considered these applications but is unable to support the application in its current form.

The Parish Council is of the opinion that the application should go to the Planning Committee in order for full consideration to be given to the matter. Mr. Burrough agreed to contact SSDC and request that the application goes to the Planning Committee.

## **1351 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 17th January at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.15pm