

# **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 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012

### **1430 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), and one parishioner

*Apologies:* Cllr. Nelson (SCC)

### **1431 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Mr. Reed declared his interest as a member of the PCC in minute 1440.

### **1432 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011 were approved and signed.

### **1433 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

A response had been received from the new Community Relations Officer at Yeovilton, Jeremy Greenop, and the weekly information bulletins are now being received and displayed on the noticeboard.

### **1434 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

There were no matters raised.

### **1435 MATTERS OF REPORT**

#### **a) Footpaths**

The gate on Footpath L5/6 is difficult to open and shut, and the gate on Footpath L5/2 is becoming dangerous. The landowners/tenants will be contacted and asked to rectify the situation.

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

There has been no progress made on the items previously noted for repair.

### **1436 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

a. Clerk's salary	£ 85.84
b. CMBCVH	£100.00
c. Beercrocombe PCC	£ 60.00

The Parish Council approved these payments.

## **1437 PLANNING MATTERS**

A Planning Application has been received for the erection of two residential dwellings at Manor Farm, Beercrocombe. A meeting to discuss these applications will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January at the bus stop at 4pm.

## **1438 STILE ON FOOTPATH L5/1 NEAR RADIGAN LANE**

Mrs Prideaux had previously advised the Parish Council of her concerns as to the suitability of the stile, as she considers that the location and height of the stile is dangerous, particularly for older people and children. As a result of the concerns raised Mr Harvey contacted the Mr Braunton, the Rights of Way Officer, who will endeavour to inspect the stile. However SCC has confirmed that it has fulfilled its obligations in providing suitable access to the footpath.

Mrs Prideaux requested that the Parish Council consider approaching the landowner to request that he allows access to the field by a suitable gate, thereby creating a permissive pathway to the footpath. A hunting gate has recently been removed and has been replaced by a locked gate, so that the only access is currently via the stile.

The Parish Council requested Mrs Prideaux to make enquires of the Village Trust, to see whether funds may be available to contribute towards the cost of a gate and report further to the Parish Council.

## **1439 DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS - UPDATE**

The Parish Council has been investigating the possibility of lighting a beacon as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations and has identified two possible sites, albeit both outside the parish.

One site is on Crimson Hill, but it is doubtful whether the beacon would be clearly visible from Beercrocombe, and the other site is a Duchy field farmed by Manor Farm of Curry Mallet. The latter site is near Rock Hill and would offer good visibility to the parishes below. It is believed that beacons have been lit on this site on previous occasions.

The Parish Council resolved to use the Duchy site and Mr Harvey offered to coordinate the event together with Grant Turner of Curry Mallet Parish Council, and Justin Adams, the farmer.

The Clerk will explore the insurance issue and confirm that the Council's existing Public Liability insurance is adequate.

The Village is also proposing to hold a Village Lunch on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June. A coffee morning is being held at Sweethay, Beercrocombe on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 10.15 am to discuss the plans further.

The Village Trust has offered the sum of £400 towards the capital costs of the event and purchase of mugs, but the overall financing of the event is yet to be agreed.

## **1440 TO AGREE THE PRECEPT FOR 2012/13**

The Parish Council discussed the request from Beercrocombe PCC for an increase in its contribution to the maintenance costs of the churchyard and Muskey. The Parish Council currently contributes £60 and a request to increase this to £100 has been received. The average annual cost of maintenance is approx £500, and traditionally the Parish Council's contribution has been used towards the cost of maintenance of Muskey.

It was noted that Taunton Deane Borough Council provides grants towards Burial Ground maintenance, but these funds are not available from South Somerset District Council. However as the graveyard can be used by all denominations, the Parish Council considers that it has a public duty to contribute towards its maintenance.

Therefore the Parish Council resolved to increase its contribution to £100. The Parish Council also confirmed that it would contribute £50 towards the cost of producing the Beer & Curry Takeaway.

The budgeted expenditure following these increases amounts to £1100, and the Parish Council resolved to raise a precept of £1100 to meet these costs.

## **1441 TO CONSIDER A VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT**

The Chairman agreed to investigate this matter further with the help of Mr Dale and Ms Wright and report again to the Council in March.

## **1442 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

### **Local Choice Events**

Somerset County Council is holding a series of meetings to discuss what services may be curtailed as a result of budgetary constraints. The meeting for the South Somerset area will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> February at Somerton. Mr Burrough agreed to attend.

## **1443 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

# **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> March 2012

### **1444 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

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

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

*Apologies:* Mr. G Harvey, Ms J Wright, Cllr. Nelson (SCC)

### **1445 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **1446 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were approved and signed.

### **1447 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Mrs Prideaux had approached the Village Trust with regard to contributing towards the cost of a new gate on Footpath L5/1, but it appears that the Trust's constitution prohibits funding where it is the responsibility of local authorities to provide the service. The Trust may consider a request from the Parish Council, but after discussion it was clear that there was no support from the Parish Council to approach the Trust. The matter has now been closed.

### **1448 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

There were no matters raised.

### **1449 MATTERS OF REPORT**

#### **b) Footpaths**

A new gate on Footpath L5/2 will be installed shortly.

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

A programme of pothole repairs has been carried out. The ditch on Broadmead has still not been repaired and recently three vehicles have driven into the ditch. The Chairman will update Cllr. Nelson on the situation in an attempt to finally resolve the issue.

## **1450 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

a. Clerk's salary	£ 85.84
b. SALC	£ 33.50

The Parish Council approved these payments.

## **1451 PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Planning Application 11/05001/FUL and 11/05002/LBC**

Conversion of agricultural buildings to form two new residential dwellings at Manor Farm, Beercrocombe.

This application has been approved by SSDC. The Parish Council had notified the Planning Officer of its support.

## **1452 REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

The Parish Council has received a request from the working party organising the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations for funding towards the lunch party to be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June. The Parish Council resolved to contribute £100 towards the cost of the food.

## **1453 REPORT ON LOCAL CHOICE EVENT**

Mr Burrough attended the Local Choice event on behalf of the Parish Council. This event was organised by Somerset County Council and discussed the pressures on the budget for the forthcoming year and the areas where savings could be made. From the information provided, it is clear that the largest area of spending is on adult social care, which accounts for 42% of all spending. This is an area upon which demands are likely to increase with the ageing population.

## **1454 REPORT ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING MEETING AND UPDATE ON VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT**

Mr Dale and the Clerk had attended a presentation on Neighbourhood Plans. These plans can be adopted into the Local Plan and provide an indication of the views of the Parish with regard to future planning. However, there are no additional funds available to produce such a plan, which can be a lengthy and potentially costly exercise.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should continue to work on a Village Design Statement.

## **1455 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)**

It is proposed to introduce this levy in 2014 and will be applicable to all new building, including single new residences. A figure of £150 per square metre of the gross internal floor area has been proposed. Part of the levy collected will be passed to the Parish Council for use on infrastructure improvements. Following discussion, the Parish Council consider this figure to be too high, and will respond to the consultation document on this basis.

## **1456 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

### **Electoral Review of Somerset.**

The draft recommendations have now been published and the consultation period runs until 9<sup>th</sup> April. The report is available on the website, [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk) and a summary has been posted on the notice board.

### **Fuel Poverty**

Cllr. Steele advised that there is further help available to combat fuel poverty, including grants for insulation etc. Details are published on the notice board.

## **1457 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012 at 7.30pm.

This meeting will also be the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH**

### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 21st May 2012.

#### **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), Cllr D Nelson (SCC) PCSO Ian Ross and Mrs. E Davies.

*Apologies:* None

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

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011 were received and approved.

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

*Mr Burrough gave the following report:-*

In reviewing the year my first observation is that I, the Chairman, have done very little during the past year. For some it has been a very busy year about which I will say more in a moment, but I would like to say a general thank you on behalf of the Parish to all the Councillors for dealing with the business of the Parish. Your contributions definitely help to make this a very pleasant place to live.

Our financial position over the year improved by some £107 giving a balance of £1698 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012. The precept for the coming year was set at £1100, which matched the anticipated expenditure. I thank our Clerk, Gillian, for keeping the accounts in good order and I would also like to thank Gillian for carrying out all her other Clerk responsibilities so efficiently.

The Parish Council dealt with 6 Planning Applications over the past year. The most significant is the planned re-development of the Manor Farm buildings and farmyard. The construction of the new farmyard in the field to the east of Beer Street is underway and although it may be some considerable time before all these developments are complete, the end result should be a significant improvement for this part of the village. This would not have been the case had the Parish Council not voiced a very robust objection to the first planning application. After pressure from the Parish Council the Leader of the District Council, Mr Ric Pallister, apologised for the flawed service within the South Somerset planning department. I thank Tony Davies for his continued

thoroughness in reviewing the applications which makes our meetings, invariably in the Bus Shelter, so efficient.

In the New Year the Parish Council wrote to the Commodore, RNAS Yeovilton, to remind the unit that whilst we supported the Armed Forces in their endeavours, helicopter noise remained a nuisance to many parishioners. The reply acknowledged our valued support and forbearance and assured us that noise from extraneous activities would be kept to a minimum.

The Village Green is looking particularly smart and I thank the team of volunteers who are maintaining it. The Green is enhanced by our Book Swap Telephone Kiosk, so thanks to Julia Wright and her team of Kiosk supporters.

The lanes within the Parish are in good condition and I thank Graham Harvey for his role in this. He invited Mr McWilliams, County Highways, to visit the Parish which he did with our County Councillor, Derek Nelson, last August. The visit proved productive in that the lanes have been extensively patched – to a standard akin to our local A358 - to remove most of the potholes. The erosion of the verge along Broadmead Lane is still a cause for concern as a further 2 vehicles have slipped off the verge into the ditch.

Graham Harvey also looks after the footpaths, which remain in a satisfactory condition. Reduced County budgets will likely see a deterioration in the standard of footpath maintenance, which is something the Parish Council will monitor.

Tony Reed, as our Neighbourhood Watch representative, has retained his reputation as a first rate guardian of our properties, as we continue to enjoy a below average crime rate. However, as is ever, we all need to remain vigilant personally and as a community.

Although the Village Hall does not come under the Parish Council I would like to thank Chris Dale and Graham Harvey for their work on the Village Hall Committee, which has overseen continued improvements to this vital community asset.

Liz Davies is stepping down as the Parish Tree Warden and on behalf of the Parish I thank Liz for her role in protecting the Parish landscape and environment.

On behalf of the Parish I also thank District Councillor Sue Steele and County Councillor Derek Nelson for their excellent advice and support.

Finally, I would like to thank Sue Prideaux and her team for taking on the organisation of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations within the Parish. I believe all the Parish Councillors, bar me, are involved in some way or other and I am sure the Street Party and the Jubilee Beacon on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June will be great successes. From California I will be wishing you well.

And on that cheery note I conclude my report.

## **REPORTS FROM PARISH INTEREST GROUPS**

### **Report from PCSO Ian Ross**

PCSO Ross advised that there had been three crimes reported within the last year. These were: - a) Burglary from insecure property, b) Criminal Damage (a smashed car window) and c) theft of tools from an insecure vehicle.

PCSO Ross stressed the importance of making sure that property and vehicles were secure at all times.

There have been no reports of crime since June 2011.

PCSO Ross reported that a new Beat Sergeant has been appointed. He is Christian Wells and is based at Somerton.

There are no plans for any PCSO redundancies at present, but the situation will be reviewed next year.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Mr. Reed had little to add to PCSO Ross' report but did mention that he had an etching machine available for use in marking property. This is available to any parishioner who may wish to use it. .

### **Roads and Footpaths**

#### **Footpaths**

Mr Harvey reported that the footpaths within the Parish are in good order generally. There are some issues which remain outstanding such as the gate for entry from the road onto Footpath L 5/2 at Lower Street Farm.

The question of use by horses of the restricted byway L 5/20 has been raised and advice has been sought from Les Braughton, the Rights of Way Officer.

#### **Roads**

The roads are in good order having been repaired well last autumn. The flooding in April was the worst seen for many years but the road surfaces held up remarkably well except for a small hole that has appeared in the road by Radigan Lane ford.

As a result of a complaint from the owner of Halfway House, some excellent drainage work was carried out to a very high standard.

The only outstanding issue is the clearance of the ditch alongside the far end of Broadmead Road by Frogstreet Farm

The Chairman thanked Mr Harvey for his continuing hard work.

## **Parish Plan Update**

The funds available for the Parish Plan and its outcomes have now been fully utilized. The Beer & Curry Takeaway continues to be produced and the production costs will be met by the Parish Councils of Curry Mallet and Beercrocombe for the next twelve months.

## **Village Hall Report**

The refurbishment programme of the Hall has continued. The storage facilities have been improved by the building of an extension and improvements have been made to the electrical installations.

The Take Art productions continue to be successful and more are planned.

Future improvement projects include the renovation/refurbishment of the kitchen and the renewal of the entrance carpet.

Mr. Burrough thanked Mr. Dale and all the members of the Village Hall Committee, expressing his admiration and appreciation of their achievements.

## **Village Trust**

Mrs. Prideaux gave a report on the Village Trust.

She began by paying tribute to Margaret Pitman, who died in February, for her long service as Trustee. She had been a Trustee for 18 years and also served as Treasurer. Margaret looked after the Village Hall finances very conscientiously and gave very considered opinions on any difficult discussions that had to take place.

There are two new members of the Trust. Anne Eminson has become the new treasurer, and Jill Macleod has been appointed as secretary, following the retirement of Margaret MacEvansoneya after 12 years in the role.

During the year a grant has been given to a student and £400 has been donated towards the cost of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Funds have also been given to the Village Hall and for the upkeep of Muskay.

A paper concerning the origin and aims of the Trust has been circulated to all households in the village.

## **Tree Warden**

Mrs. Davies gave her final report as Tree Warden, as she is retiring after six years in the role.

During the year she attended an interesting visit to Dillington House and Whitelackington Manor and also learnt about the management of Yew trees. The current advice is to practice non-intervention, do not remove the tops of the tree and only remove the ivy.

Mrs Davies continues to receive monthly updates from SSDC and she will continue to receive these until a replacement Tree Warden is appointed. Anyone interested in volunteering for this role should contact the Parish Clerk.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Davies for all her past work.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012

#### **1458 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), Cllr. Nelson (SSDC)

*Apologies:* None

#### **1459 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Mr. R Burrough was elected as Chairman, having been proposed by Mr. A. Davies and seconded by Mr. C Dale

#### **1460 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Mr. G Harvey was elected as Vice-Chairman, having been proposed by Mr. R Burrough and seconded by Mr. C Dale

#### **1461 ALLOCATION OF MEMBERS' ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Roles and Responsibilities were allocated as follows:-

Neighbourhood Watch – Mr. A Reed

Village Hall Representative – Mr. C Dale

Highways and Footpaths – Mr. G Harvey

Planning – Mr. A Davies. The Planning Committee will consist of Mr. Davies, Mrs. Prideaux and Mr. Reed.

Community Communication Representative – Ms. J. Wright

The Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) has now served its purpose and as it no longer has any funds, it has been agreed by both Curry Mallet Parish Council and Beercrocombe Parish Council that this Committee should be wound up.

#### **1462 TO APPOINT A PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO VILLAGE TRUST**

Mr. Davies' four year term as Parish Council Representative to the Village Trust is due to end. He is willing to continue and it was agreed by the Parish Council that he remains as the Parish Council Representative for a further term.

## **1463 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **1464 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012 were approved and signed.

## **1465 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **1455 Introduction of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

Mr Dale has submitted a letter of response to South Somerset District Council (SSDC) and the Parish Council's comments have been added to the consultation papers.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dale for drafting the response.

## **1466 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

There were no matters raised.

## **1467 MATTERS OF REPORT**

### **c) Footpaths**

No new matters of report.

### **b) Highway matters**

The continuing problem of the collapsed ditch in Broadmead Road was again brought to the attention of Cllr Nelson. This area is due to be surface dressed within the next twelve months and the Parish Council wish to see the matter resolved before this work is undertaken.

### **c) Diamond Jubilee Celebrations**

82 tickets have been issued for the celebration lunch. It was agreed that Mr Harvey would propose the Royal Toast, in the absence of the Chairman.

Arrangements are well in hand for the Beacon. A lighting time of 10.15 has been allocated. Flyers will be distributed to households shortly with full details. The Fire Service has been informed. Cars are welcome to park in the field.

## **1468 TO APPROVE ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT.**

The Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 were circulated. A surplus of £107 resulted, mainly as a result of the refund of VAT previously paid. The reduction in the cost of insurance also contributed to the budget surplus. The reserves stand at £1698.

The Parish Council approved the Annual Return and the Annual Governance statement, which will now be forwarded to the External Auditor.

## **1469 TO RECEIVE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The end of year internal audit has been carried out. All the recommendations made in the 2010/11 internal audit report have been implemented and all transactions for the financial year have been correctly supported by documentation.

## **1470 TO CONFIRM RECEIPT OF £400 AND PAYMENT OF SAME AMOUNT FOR JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

The Clerk confirmed that the sum of £400 had been received from the Beercrocombe Village Trust via the Beercrocombe Social Committee and that a cash sum of £400 had been given to the Jubilee Committee for the celebrations.

## **1471 TO CONFIRM RECEIPT OF PRECEPT**

The Clerk confirmed that the precept of £1050 has been received.

## **1472 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

a. Clerk's salary	£ 88.34
b. Internal Audit Fee	£ 20.00
c. Community First	£175.83

The Parish Council approved these payments.

## **1473 PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Planning Application 12/01708/FUL**

New replacement garden room and enlarged 2 storey extension at Little Portion, Beercrocombe.

The Parish Council discussed this application, which is an alteration to Planning Application 11/03092/FUL, and has no objection to the proposals.

## **1474 REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SOUTH SOMERSET LINKS**

The Parish Council has received a request from South Somerset Links for funding. This is a service which provides transport for disadvantaged people in the South Somerset area. The service is predominately self-funding although Cllr Steele was able to confirm that SSDC do provide some financial support.

Following a discussion, the Parish Council resolved to decline the request for funds, taking into account the Parish Council's limited budget and the need to avoid setting a precedent. There are other transport providers in the area and the Parish Council would not wish to favour any one organisation.

## **1475 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

### **Appointment of external auditor for 2012/13 and future years.**

The Audit Commission is proposing to appoint Grant Thornton UK to audit the annual return of Beercrocombe Parish Council for five years from 2012/13. The Parish Council has no objection to this appointment.

## **1476 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July May 2012

#### **1477 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), Cllr. Nelson (SSDC), Les Collett (SSDC)

*Apologies:* None

#### **1478 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Mr Dale and Mr Harvey declared their interest in minute 1479, as they are members of the village hall committee.

#### **1479 TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

The Parish Council welcomed Les Collett, a Community Development Officer within SSDC. His role is to assist communities in developing projects and facilitate access to grants and other financial assistance.

He explained that when the District Council considers applications for grants, it does expect support from the Parish Council towards the project, normally up to 10%.

Mr Collett has been advising the Village Hall committee on its kitchen refurbishment project, which may cost in the region of £10,000. Curry Mallet Parish Council has indicated that it will offer support up to £700 and it was agreed that Beercrocombe Parish Council would support the Village Hall Committee in principal, up to a figure of £300. It is unlikely that the work will be completed within this financial year.

#### **1480 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012 were approved and signed.

#### **1481 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising.

## **1482 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

PC Toni Lines and PCSO Ian Ross were present at this point of the meeting. PC Lines reported that there has been an increase in non-dwelling burglaries in the Langport and Curry Rivel area, to approximately 10 per week. Small tools are being targeted and the importance of securing all outbuildings was emphasised.

There were no other matters raised.

## **1483 MATTERS OF REPORT**

### **d) Footpaths**

Mrs Prideaux mentioned that remedial work to be carried out on trees on Footpath L5/1 has not happened. Mr Burrough will take up this matter with the landowner.

The new gate on Footpath L5/2 is now in place.

Mr Harvey reported that he had strimmed the footpath between Mushroom Farm and Halfway House.

### **b) Highway matters**

Two potholes on Radigan Lane have been repaired and a large pothole on the western side of Beer Street will be reported.

The verge at Elmbridge is in a dangerous condition and this has been reported to highways who have placed warning bollards as an interim measure.

Mrs Prideaux reported that the culvert near Radigan Ford needs clearing, as it is full of debris and could result in a backlog of water in heavy rain. The Parish Council is unsure whose responsibility this is, and in the first instance will contact the Environmental Agency as the current situation could pose a flood risk.

## **1484 REPORT ON 2012 DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

The Parish Council wished to formally record its appreciation to everyone who contributed towards the very successful Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

The entertainments included a celebratory peal of bells from the bell ringers, a loyal toast, a family quiz and a fancy dress competition. The event was attended by 93 people and as a result of ticket sales; a surplus of £108.97 was made. This sum, which includes the Parish Council's donation of £100, is to be transferred into the Parish Council's general fund. The sum of £169.64 will be returned to the Beercrocombe Village Trust, this being the surplus from its original grant of £400.

The lighting of the beacon was a success with approximately 90 people in attendance. The Parish Council recorded its thanks to Justin Adams for providing the venue. Its location ensured that at least 8 other beacons were visible from the site.

## **1485 TO CONSIDER NEW STANDARDS REGIME AND ADOPTION OF NEW CODE OF CONDUCT**

Following the introduction of the Localism Act 2011, the Parish Council is required to adopt a new Code of Conduct. After due consideration, it was agreed to adopt a new Code of Conduct, drafted by the Chairman, (copy is attached). In addition all members must register any disclosable pecuniary interests with South Somerset District Council's Monitoring Officer and the Clerk requested that the Register of Interest forms be completed as soon as possible.

Discussions confirmed that non-pecuniary interests, such as being a member of the Village Hall Committee, are neither recorded on the new Beercrocombe Parish Council Register of Interests, nor require disclosure at future Parish Council meetings.

## **1486 TO CONFIRM RECEIPT OF £78 AND PAYMENT OF SAME AMOUNT FOR JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

The Clerk confirmed that the sum of £78 had been received from the Beercrocombe Social Committee, and that a cash sum of £78 had been given to the Jubilee Committee for the celebrations.

## **1487 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

a. Clerk's salary	£ 88.34
b. Beercrocombe Jubilee Committee	£100

The Parish Council approved these payments.

## **1488 PLANNING MATTERS**

SSDC has granted permission for the following applications:-

### **Planning Application 12/01708/FUL**

New replacement garden room and enlarged 2-storey extension at Little Portion, Beercrocombe.

### **Planning Application 12/01408/FUL**

Erection of a single storey orangery extension at Beer Mill Farm

## **1489 TO AGREE PARISH COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO NEW LOCAL PLAN**

After consideration, the Parish Council agreed that it had no further comments to add to the consultation that had already taken place.

## **1490 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

### **Street naming and numbering.**

SSDC intends to pass a resolution, which will enable it to charge for services relating to street naming and numbering. It is proposed to charge a rate of £100 (plus £10 for each additional property) for numbering of new properties. The charge for changing the name of an existing property will remain at £100. SSDC is currently responsible for the maintenance and replacement of street nameplates as required and this will not change under the new policy.

### **Electoral review of Somerset**

The Local Government Boundary Commission has issued its final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Somerset County Council. The full report is available on [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

### **Illegal Advertising**

SSDC has reminded Parish Councils that posters advertising events that are posted on street furniture constitutes illegal advertising and as such can be subject to a Fixed Penalty Notice. The District Council has recently received numerous complaints regarding posters advertising furniture and rug sales.

## **1491 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012

#### **1492 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

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

*Public:* Cllr. Steele (SSDC), Derek Yeomans

*Apologies:* Mr. C Dale, Ms. J Wright

#### **1493 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **1494 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012 were approved and signed.

#### **1495 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising.

#### **1496 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

Mr Yeomans, currently a Somerset County Councillor, was introduced as the selected Conservative candidate for the ward, for which elections will take place in 2013.

There were no other matters raised.

#### **1497 MATTERS OF REPORT**

##### **e) Footpaths**

Mr Harvey reported that the footpaths were in reasonable order.

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

Following the report from Mrs Prideaux regarding the culvert at Radigan Lane, the Chairman has ascertained that it is not the responsibility of the Environmental Agency to ensure that it is kept free of obstacles.

The situation is that overgrown trees are compromising the culvert and sluice, and this may increase the risk of flooding. The Environmental Agency directed the Chairman to seek advice from Somerset County Council, who then directed him to South Somerset Highways. However, his quest for advice

was frustrated, as Highways do not take incoming calls from the public and their ringback service proved unsuccessful. Therefore he is still seeking guidance as to how to solve the issue and to ascertain who is responsible for maintenance of the culvert.

The difficulty of communication with the highways department was forcefully brought to the attention of the representatives of the District Council and County Council who were present at the meeting.

It was also reported that further damage had occurred at the verge at Broadmead, and that there is now a real risk of erosion to the side of the highway.

As a result of the discussions, Cllr Yeomans offered to report the Parish Council's concerns about communications within County Highways and brief Cllr Nelson on the continuing problem of Broadmead Road. Cllr Steele offered to assist in sorting out the waterway issue at Radigan Lane ford.

#### **1498 TO CONSIDER FORMAL REQUEST FROM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE FOR GRANT OF £300.**

The Village Hall Committee wish to refurbish the kitchen, as no improvements has been made to it for 25 years, and fit a new stainless steel kitchen at a cost of approx. £7500.

The Committee has raised a third of the cost through fundraising initiatives, and has received a donation of £1000. An application for a grant of £3000 has been made to South Somerset District Council, but for this to be approved, support from the local Parish Councils must be forthcoming. Curry Mallet Parish Council has approved a grant of £700 and Beercrocombe Parish Council has received a formal request for a grant of £300.

It is hoped to complete the project in the current financial year and it was agreed that a grant of £300 be made for the specific purpose of the kitchen refurbishment.

#### **1499 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

a. Clerk's salary	£ 88.34
b. Clerk's Expenses	£ 20.00
c. Moore Stephens	£ 60.00

The Parish Council approved these payments.

#### **1500 PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning matters to report.

#### **1501 REQUEST FROM SOMERSET COMMUNITY JUSTICE PANEL FOR FUNDING**

A request has been received from the Community Justice Panel for a contribution towards the project in South Somerset, following withdrawal of funding from the Home Office.

The Parish Council was not able to support this request.

## **1501 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

### **Victim Support Request**

A request for funds has been received from Victim Support, and it was agreed that the Parish Council is unable to support this request.

### **South Somerset Gold Star Awards**

Nominations are requested for the South Somerset Gold Star Awards. These awards recognise and reward the work and dedication of volunteers involved with young people, sport and the arts. Details have been placed on the noticeboard and can also be found at [www.southsomerset.gov.uk/goldstars](http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/goldstars).

### **Council Tax Support Scheme**

The Government is ending the Council Tax Benefit Scheme and District Councils have to design a new local Council Tax support scheme, which will start on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

South Somerset District Council is consulting with residents on proposals for the local scheme, which will need to redress a reduction in funding of £1.3million.

The consultation period ends on 5<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Appointment of external auditor from 2012/13**

The appointment of Grant Thornton as external auditor to audit the annual return for five years from 2012/13 has been confirmed.

## **1501 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

## **BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012

#### **1502 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),

*Apologies:* Mr. S Prideaux, Cllr Nelson (SCC)

#### **1503 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **1504 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012 were approved and signed.

#### **1505 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

##### **• Update on clearance of culvert at Radigan Lane**

Mr Burrough has been given the name of a contact in SSDC (Roger Meacham), who has knowledge of this particular situation and efforts are being made to arrange a meeting with him.

The tree has been chopped down but there is still a large stump lying horizontally out of the bank.

As far as the Parish Council is concerned, regular maintenance of the waterway and culverts needs to be scheduled into a programme of works to alleviate the flooding problems on the highway.

#### **1506 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

PCSO Ben Middleditch was present in the absence of PCSO Ian Ross. Mention was made of the amount of mud currently present on the roads due to the late harvesting of maize.

It was confirmed that it is the farm contractors' responsibility to clear the mud and if they fail to do so, the police will follow up the matter if the registration number of the tractor concerned is known. Provided that clear signage is present advising motorists of mud on the road, then motorists are expected to drive in accordance with the conditions and exercise due care.

There were no other matters raised.

## **1507 MATTERS OF REPORT**

### **a) Footpaths**

Mr Harvey reported that there is a section on footpath 5/13 which is on a steep slope and can be extremely slippery. He will contact Les Braunton of SCC to investigate whether it will be possible to have steps cut into the incline.

### **b) Highway matters**

Mr McWilliams of SSDC Highways has agreed to repair the damage to the verge at Broadmead.

The tarmac near Elmbridge appears to be subsiding, and the Clerk will bring this matter to the attention of Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council and Taunton Deane Highways.

## **1508 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

a. Clerk's salary	£ 88.34
b. CMBC Village Hall (kitchen grant)	£300.00

The Parish Council approved these payments.

## **1509 PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning matters to report.

## **1510 COMPLETION OF INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Clerk reported that the interim internal audit had been completed and that there were no matters of concern.

## **1511 TO CONSIDER OFFER OD DE-ICING MATERIALS FROM SOUTH SOMERSET HIGHWAYS.**

The Parish Council has been offered the opportunity to collect 10 bags of de-icing material for use within the parish. Mr Harvey volunteered to collect these.

## **1512 TO CONSIDER THE COMPLETION OF A COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN**

The Parish Council last completed a Community Emergency Plan in 2007 and Mr Dale agreed that he would review this and update it where necessary. It was further agreed that an agenda item would be raised each year to update the plan.

## **1513 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

Mr Burrough and Mr Davies reported on the meeting that they had attended which covered neighbourhood plans. Completion of a neighbourhood plan can be costly and time consuming and can be very useful if a parish wishes to see further development. The Parish Council agreed that the proposed Core Strategy safeguards parishes such as Beercrocombe and that completion of a neighbourhood plan is not considered necessary at present.

## **1514 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU FOR FUNDING**

The Parish Council has received a request from the South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau for funding.

This request was discussed fully but the Parish Council agreed that it was unable to offer assistance. The parish of Beercrocombe is small and with limited resources and the Parish Council is not in a position to respond to the various requests that it receives for funding. Any request received is however carefully considered.

## **1515 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

### **Right to bid for community assets**

The Community Right to Bid came into effect on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012 as part of the Localism Act 2011. It gives community organisations the right to identify assets that they believe are of value to their community, and nominate them to be listed on the Council's Register of Assets of Community Value. If the asset then comes up for sale, the community group will be given time to express an interest in bidding to buy it on the open market. The legislation applies to all assets valued by the community, including commercial buildings such as pubs and shops.

## **1516 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2013 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.58 pm