

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 21st January 2013

1517 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), Mr. D Yeomans, (Prospective SCC Candidate),

Apologies: Cllr Nelson (SCC)

1518 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Every Councillor present declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of their own properties within the parish.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, the clerk granted a dispensation to all Councillors to enable them to participate in the decision relating to the setting of the precept.

1519 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 19th November 2012 were approved and signed.

1520 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- **Update on clearance of culvert at Radigan Lane**

A site meeting was held on 29th November 2012 to discuss the clearance of the watercourse and culvert at Radigan Lane. The landowner, officials from SSDC and other interested parties were present.

The watercourse has now been cleared to the satisfaction of the SSDC officials and no further action is deemed necessary.

It was acknowledged that the gullies are blocked and that the drain serviced by the gullies has collapsed. Mr McWilliams of SSDC Highways has undertaken to attend to this and he will also arrange for the large amounts of debris currently lying on the road to be cleared. It is hoped that this work will be carried out shortly.

- **Grant to the CMBC Village Hall Committee for kitchen refurbishment**

The kitchen refurbishment has now been completed and the Parish Council wished to record its gratitude to the members of the Village Hall Committee and other parishioners who carried out the work to such a high standard. A

public letter of thanks from Curry Mallet PC and Beercrocombe PC will be sent to the Beer & Curry Takeaway.

- **Right to bid for community assets**

It was agreed to liaise with Curry Mallet PC to investigate whether the Village Hall should be included on the Council's Register of Assets of Community Value.

1521 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

PCSO Ian Ross reported that Rob Jameson had been appointed as the new Beat Sergeant.

The Parish Council no longer receive the monthly crime figures, these must now be obtained from the national website. PCSO Ross confirmed that there had been no instances of reported crime in Beercrocombe for December, and that the crime figures for South Somerset were lower than the average figures for the whole of Somerset, which is indeed lower than the national average.

There were no other matters raised.

1522 MATTERS OF REPORT

a) Footpaths

Mr Harvey reported that he had contacted Les Braunton of SCC about the slippery section on footpath 5/13, and he is happy for the Parish Council to carry out remedial work and advise him when it is completed. Mr Harvey will arrange for this to be completed when the weather improves.

b) Highway matters

The damaged verge at Broadmead has now been repaired and 15 cut ins have also been created so that the water flows more easily off the highway. It is now apparent that following this work, the ditch requires dredging.

Mr Harvey reported that the recent extreme weather, which although caused flash flooding along the highway, did not cause any long-term damage and no properties were affected.

The flooding of the highway was worsened by water run off from a field just outside the Parish, towards the junction of the road to Curry Mallet, and it was identified that the ditch needed to be cleared. Mr Harvey arranged for Anthony Stone to carry out this work, which was completed without payment and the Parish Council are grateful to Mr Stone for his time and effort. The ditch has now been cleared and the drain unblocked, so in future the water should not encroach upon the highway.

It was reported that debris in the stream on land at Broadbridge is restricting the waterflow and is a possible flooding hazard.

In view of the recent extreme weather and the potential for future flooding the Parish Council consider it important that all ditches are kept cleared and that the rivers and streams throughout the Parish are kept free of debris. It was

agreed that the Parish Council should write to landowners reminding them of their responsibilities with regard to ditch and stream clearance.

It was reported that there is a defect with a manhole cover near the water treatment plant, which results in sewage seeping up around the cover on occasions. Cllr Steele will contact Mr McWilliams to ensure that this problem is rectified as soon as possible.

1523 TO AGREE BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2013/14

The Parish Council discussed the budget for 2013/14. The anticipated expenditure for the year remains similar to 2012/13. The Parish Council has agreed to contribute towards the printing costs of the Beer & Curry Takeaway and the sum of £60 has been allocated in the budget. However as in future the external audit will be carried out free of charge, this additional item has had minimal effect on the budget.

The Parish Council propose to recover the cost of the grant to the Village Hall over a six year period at £50 p.a, and it was proposed to increase the precept by this amount to £1150.

The Clerk explained that due to the localisation of Council Tax benefit, the Council Tax base for Beercrocombe has reduced from 64.27 to 63.17. This tax base is used to calculate how much each property will be charged to cover the precept. The annual charge for a Band D property will increase from £17.11 to £18.20 as a result of the increased precept, and reduced tax base.

It was proposed by Mr A Davies and seconded by Mr C Dale, that a precept of £1150 be levied for 2013/14 and the Parish Council agreed this.

1524 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

a. Clerk's salary	£ 88.34
b. CMBC Village Hall	£100.00
c. Beercrocombe PCC	£100.00

The Parish Council approved these payments.

1525 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

RNAS Yeovilton Parish Notice

The Clerk has received the RNAS Yeovilton Annual Parish Notice, which is displayed on the noticeboard. This was sent by Jeremy Greenop, the Community Relations Officer, who is relatively new to the post. Mr Greenop is happy to attend routine Parish Council meetings to introduce himself and give a short update on what is happening at Yeovilton and what is in the pipeline. The Clerk will invite him to the next Parish Council meeting on March 18th.

Countywide Review of recent flooding events

SSDC are coordinating a countywide review of the recent flooding events and will be arranging a workshop for Parish Councils to attend. Mr Dale and Mr Harvey expressed an interest in attending.

1526 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 18th March 2013 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40 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 18th March 2013

1527 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 parishioner

Apologies: Cllr Nelson (SCC)

1528 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

1529 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2013 were approved and signed.

1530 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- **Update on clearance of culvert at Radigan Lane**

The gullies at Radigan Lane have still to be cleared.

- **Right to bid for community assets**

Following discussions with the Chairman of Curry Mallet PC, and the Village Hall Committee, it is considered that it may be premature to include the hall on a Register of Assets of Community Value at present. The lease on the Village Hall is due for review in 2017 and matters will be left with the Village Hall committee until that time.

- **Maintenance of waterways and ditches**

The Chairman has written to landowners reminding them of their riparian duties and has also personally contacted them. All have promised to maintain their section of the waterways and will carry out clearance work in due course.

1531 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

PCSO Ian Ross reported that thefts from outbuildings continue to be a problem, and that it is important that owners check the contents regularly, so that any thefts can be promptly reported. PCSO Ross is happy to visit owners with outbuildings and give advice on their security.

The owner of Halfway House was present and reported that the work carried out last year opposite his house has been partially successful in preventing his property from flooding. However he has experienced problems with water running down from further up the lane and as this is occurring within the parish of Curry Mallet, he will pursue the matter with that Parish Council.

There were no other matters raised.

1532 MATTERS OF REPORT

a) Footpaths

There were no issues raised.

b) Highway matters

Some patching of the highway has taken place at Broadmead, but the verge has now been displaced towards the ditch, which may result in erosion of the road metal. The road surface now has a camber leaning towards the ditch.

There is a blockage of the river near to Beer Mills Farm, and it was agreed that a working party will be arranged to clear this.

The manhole cover near the water treatment works has been repaired.

1533 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

a. Clerk's salary	£ 88.34
b. SALC	£ 34.63

The Parish Council approved these payments.

1534 PLANNING APPLICATION 13/00821/LBC

The Parish Council has received a revised application for the conversion of agricultural buildings to two new residential dwellings at Manor Farm. The revised plans rearrange the internal configuration of the properties. The Parish Council has no objections to the revisions.

1535 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

Area North Annual meeting

This will take place on Thursday 23rd May at Long Sutton Golf Club, starting at 6.45pm. The Clerk will receive further details in due course.

Countywide Review of recent flooding events

Mr Dale has attended the flood summit recently held to review the recent flooding events. It is widely acknowledged that the rivers are not flowing to full capacity and real pressure is being placed on riparian owners to fulfil their responsibilities.

A campaign to dredge the main rivers has been started, as it is thought that these are only running at 60% capacity. However the cost of a dredging operation has been estimated to be in the region of £3m and the Environment Agency is resisting this course of action.

1536 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th May March 2013 at 7.00pm

The Annual Parish Council meeting will commence at 7pm and will be followed by the **Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

BEERCROCOMBE PARISH

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish held at Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 20th May 2013

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 D Yeomans (SCC), 11 members of the public

Apologies: Mr. C Dale, Mrs. S Prideaux

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st May 2012 were received and approved.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Burrough gave the following report:-

My Chairman's Report will briefly cover the main parish activities that occurred during the past year.

I will start with the very successful Diamond Jubilee celebrations held in Beercrocombe last year on Monday the 4th June. As I was abroad at the time I did not attend the event myself, but 93 parishioners did, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Besides the excellent open-air lunch and street-party alongside the Village Green, entertainments included a celebratory peal of bells from the bell ringers, a loyal toast, a family quiz and a fancy dress competition. In the evening a joint Beercrocombe/Curry Mallet Beacon was lit, with approximately 90 people attending. I wish to record particular thanks to Sue Prideaux, who led the organising committee. Among the committee's many accomplishments was to hold the celebrations on the Monday, the best weather day of the Jubilee weekend. Many, many parishioners assisted, especially preparing and presenting the lunch so I will not try to list names, but thanks to you all. However, I would like to pay particular thanks to Justin Adams for providing the field for the Beacon and to Graham Harvey for leading the loyal toast and for running the Beacon event.

As we are sitting in the Village Hall it is very appropriate to record the refurbishment of the kitchen. Chris Dale and Chris Marks steered this project from inception to design, fund raising, purchase and installation. Chris Marks and Chris Dale installed the kitchen to an extremely high standard, saving a considerable amount of money. Norma Dale, Roger Hughes, Graham Harvey and Judy Penny also gave valuable assistance. We thank you for taking the initiative and devoting your time to this community led project, which is a great example of how a lot can be achieved by pooling resources, experience and skills.

Many villagers have benefited from the opportunity to purchase land from Mr Gerald Hale over the past year and the sale of Manor Farm and the redevelopment of the old farmyard will lead to a significant improvement to Beer Street. These events will have a lasting beneficial impact upon the village.

Regarding the rural infrastructure, the very wet weather over the past year prompted me to discuss with our landowners their riparian responsibilities to maintain the ditches and streams that flow through our parish. Their response was very positive and community minded. The weather played havoc with our roads, compounded by poor repair and maintenance by South Somerset Highways. I have to express some frustration with that organisation as we have had several site visits with Highways over the past few years where work was agreed but not carried out. Recently, poorly placed warning cones along Broadmead Road forced traffic onto the verge, resulting in the verge slipping into the ditch alongside. Then Highways had the cheek to say that it is the landowners responsibility to clean out the blocked ditch! Not surprisingly, roads and footpaths are a constant issue and I would like to thank Graham Harvey for dealing with the various problems on behalf of the parish.

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

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.

Like most parishes the new National Planning Policy Framework gave rise to fears of uncontrolled development on our rural land, so it is worth stating that South Somerset District Council does have an existing Local Plan and is in the final stages of producing a new Local Plan that defines planning policy out to 2028. These Plans do control what development can and will take place. Beercrocombe, because of its rural location, size and limited facilities – no primary school, pub, shop, bus, and the like – will experience very limited development in the future - basically no change from our past. On our behalf, Tony Davies, whose knowledge of the parish is second to none, thoroughly

reviews all new planning applications to ensure they are in the best interest of the parish. I thank him for being our guardian over this very sensitive area of parish life.

As at the 31st March our financial balance was £1,467, some £231 lower than the previous year. This was due to the £300 grant for the Village Hall kitchen which we plan to recover over the next 6 years at £50 per year. That means our precept increases from £1,100 to £1,150. Nevertheless our precept remains one of the lowest within the District. I thank our Clerk, Gillian, for keeping the accounts in very good order and I would also like to thank Gillian for carrying out all her other Clerk responsibilities so efficiently.

County Councillor Derek Nelson retired recently, a consequence of the boundary changes within Somerset County Council. I especially wish to record our thanks for his support over many years. I welcome our new County Councillor Derek Yeomans to our parish and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship. Our long-serving District Councillor, Sue Steele, has provided outstanding support and advice over the past year, so I extend special thanks to her.

Finally I wish to thank all the Councillors for giving up their time to help the parish prosper. Their efforts do make a difference. I do encourage the next generation to step up to the plate and engage in this important activity, so that we continue to enjoy a pleasant life in a very pleasant part of England.

PRESENTATION FROM JEREMY GREENOP, COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER, RNAS YEOVILTON

Jeremy Greenop introduced himself as the Community Relations Officer (CRO) at RNAS Yeovilton, a post he has held since 2011, following the retirement of Richard Seymour.

He commented that his first piece of correspondence he received in his new role was from Beercrocombe Parish Council and it was very supportive.

Mr Greenop gave an overview of the activities at RNAS Yeovilton. 2012 was a busy year with aircraft heavily involved in the Diamond Jubilee events and the 2012 London Olympics. The 2012 Air Day attracted 28000 visitors.

During 2012, the air station actively engaged with horse riders, with contact being made with the British Horseriders Society. If a local equine organisation is holding an event, contact should be made with the Officer in Charge at Merryfield or Yeovilton who will ensure that no low flying aircraft cause a disturbance. This advice applies to any large event that is being planned.

Mr Greenop confirmed that by 2017, all naval Lynx aircraft will be replaced by the Wildcat, but the noise level should not increase. The Sea King helicopters will be replaced by Merlin which is a larger aircraft.

In addition the fleet of Army Lynx aircraft will in future be situated at Yeovilton, which will lead to a 600 increase in personnel. However, there should be no increase in flying activity as more training can now be done on a simulator.

Mr Greenop then answered questions raised by members of the public.

REPORTS FROM PARISH INTEREST GROUPS

Neighbourhood Watch

Mr. Reed had little to report, being a reflection on the low levels of crime in the area. He mentioned again 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, and that the ones designated for cutting have been cut twice in the last 12 months by SCC.

With the help of Mr. Burrough, a new set of steps has been constructed at the junction of L5/13 and L5/12 where it passes through the hedge. Mr. Harvey promised to keep the steps in good order.

Roads

Mr Harvey reported that the severe weather conditions experienced in 2012 have adversely affected the roads. Efforts have been made recently to repair some of the major pot holes, but the road surfaces remain in poor condition in some parts of the parish.

There remains outstanding the issue of Broadmead and the state of the verge adjacent to the ditch, but following recent action by the Parish Council, it is hoped that this issue will shortly be resolved.

The Chairman thanked Mr Harvey for his continuing hard work.

Beer & Curry Takeaway

Ms Wright reported that this publication continues to be well received and thanked the Parish Council for its support with the printing costs.

Village Hall Report

The Village Hall has had another successful year and improvements have been made, including the fitting of a new stainless steel kitchen. A grant from the Parish Council was received towards this.

There continues to be good usage of the hall by a variety of organisations and the Village Hall committee has organized various events including a very successful Take Art concert featuring Gordon Giltrap.

The annual fete takes place on Saturday 13th July 2013, there will be the annual quiz in November and it is also hoped to stage a variety show by the end of the year.

The only sad note to report was the incidence of criminal damage to the outside seat and light.

Village Trust

Mr. Davies gave a report on the Village Trust.

The accounts to the year ended 23/11/2012 show a deficit of £212 for the year. £1800 was paid out in grants, but income from investments was only £1470. However the value of investments grew by £4000 during the year and is now in excess of £40,000. Since 1978, over £50,000 has been paid out in grants.

Mrs Prideaux will retire from the Trustee Body in June after a period of 35 years. She was Chairman from 1981 until 2012 and has served the Trust with diligence and dedication throughout her term. The village and its activities have benefited greatly from the substantial contribution she has made.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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1537 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. Yeomans (SCC), 3 members of the public

Apologies: Mr. C Dale, Mrs. S Prideaux

1538 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr. R Burrough was elected as Chairman, having been proposed by Mr. A. Reed and seconded by Mr. A Davies. Mr Burrough signed the Declaration of Acceptance.

1539 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. G Harvey was elected as Vice-Chairman, having been proposed by Mr. R Burrough and seconded by Ms. J Wright

1540 ALLOCATION OF MEMBERS' ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Roles and Responsibilities were agreed and 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

1541 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

1542 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18th March 2013 were approved and signed.

1543 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- **Clearance of river near Beer Mills Farm**

This issue remains outstanding and a working party will be mustered in due course.

- **Clearance of gullies at Radigan Lane**

This has now been completed.

1544 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

There were no matters raised.

1545 MATTERS OF REPORT

b) Footpaths

Mr Harvey and Mr Burrough have constructed a set of steps at the junction of L5/13 and L5/12 where the footpath passes through the hedge. A photo of the work carried out has been sent to Les Braunton of SCC who has approved the work carried out.

The new owner of the field through which L5/14 passes has made real efforts to reinstate the field and remove concrete debris. This footpath is fully accessible.

- **Highway matters**

Some patching of potholes has recently been carried out.

The verge remains displaced at Broadmead and poses a real threat to traffic. There has been no response from Highways on this matter and it was agreed that the Chairman would write to Cllr Harvey Siggs, of SCC, the Portfolio holder for Highways, to express the Council's dissatisfaction and press for action to be taken.

1546 TO APPROVE ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT.

The Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31st March 2013 were circulated prior to the meeting. A deficit of £231 accrued due to a grant of £300 to the Village Hall for the kitchen refurbishment. The reserves stand at £1,467.

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

The end of year internal audit has been carried out, and the comments made have been considered by the Council.

1547 TO CONFIRM THE COUNCIL'S INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

It was agreed to renew the Council's insurance through Community First at a renewal premium of £176.45

1548 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

a. Clerk's salary	£ 88.34
b. Internal Audit Fee	£ 20.00
c. Community First	£176.45

The Parish Council approved these payments.

1549 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

- **Police and Crime Plan**

A copy of the Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017 for Somerset East has been received and is available on the Community Noticeboard in the bus shelter.

- **Request for funding – Isle Abbots Playgroup**

Mr Harvey has received a letter from Isle Abbots playgroup requesting funding. As this request was received after the agenda had been completed, the request will be considered at the July meeting.

1550 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 15th July 2013 at 7.30pm.

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 Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 15th July 2013

1551 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

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

Public: Cllr. Steele (SSDC), one parishioner

Apologies: Mr. G Harvey

1552 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

1553 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 20th May 2013 were approved and signed.

1554 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- **Update on clearance of river near Beer Mills Farm**

This issue remains outstanding but it is intended to carry out the clearance by the end of summer.

1555 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

It was brought to the Council's attention that there is to be a meeting regarding the proposed solar farm installation on Iberry Lane. The meeting is to be held at Fivehead Village Hall on July 24th between 2pm and 10pm. This is a pre-planning application meeting.

1556 MATTERS OF REPORT

c) **Footpaths**

There were no issues raised. The footpaths are in good order. Footpath L5/13 has been strimmed by Mr Graham Harvey.

b) **Highway matters**

Following the Chairman's letter to Cllr Harvey Siggs, the verge at Broadmead has now been reinstated.

1557 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

a. Clerk's salary £ 88.34

The Parish Council approved this payment

1558 TO DISCUSS REQUEST FROM ISLE ABBOTS PLAYGROUP FOR FUNDING

The Chairman had requested that the playgroup provide details of how many children from Beercrocombe currently attend the playgroup. No information has been received, therefore the matter has been closed.

1559 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

SSDC Litter Bin Policy

Due to the lack of resources, SSDC will only be able to consider installing additional litter bins in a parish as an alternative to bins already in situ.

New charging structure for Highway Licences

SCC will be introducing an administration fee to deal with requests to erect a structure or street furniture on the highway. In addition the legal fees of SCC will also need to be met by the applicant. It is anticipated that the total cost will be in the region of £515 and the new fee structure takes effect from September.

Parish 'Doomsday Book'

A letter of thanks has been received from the organisers of the Curry Mallet History Festival with regard to the loan of the 'Doomsday Book' for the event. A discussion took place regarding the ownership of the Parish Archive and Mr Reed and Mr Davies agreed to investigate the situation prior to the next Parish Council meeting.

Village Agent Scheme

Mr Davies mentioned that he had learnt that neighbouring parishes were included in the Village Agent Scheme and wondered whether Beercrocombe would in time be included. The Clerk confirmed that this was an initiative run by the Community Council of Somerset and it is hoped to roll out the scheme to more parishes in due course.

1560 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 16th September 2013 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.10 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 16th September 2013

1561 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

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

Public: Cllr. Steele (SSDC), Cllr Yeomans (SCC)

Apologies: Mr C. Dale, Ms J Wright

1562 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

1563 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 15th July 2013 were approved and signed.

1564 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

d) **Parish Domesday Book**

It was reported that this item was bought by the Village Trust for the parish. It is kept in the locked history cabinet in the church. There is also a document listing all the Parish Councillors and it was agreed that this should be brought up to date. Mr Davies agreed to coordinate the project with the help of Mr Reed.

- **Solar Farm Application**

The developers have decided not to proceed with the application for a solar farm at Iberry Lane, Fivehead.

1565 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

There were no items raised

1566 TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT REVISED STANDING ORDERS 1(y), 7 & 25

It was resolved to adopt the following as a new Standing Order 7:-

a) All councillors shall observe the code of conduct adopted by the Council.

- b) All councillors shall undertake training in the code of conduct within 6 months of the delivery of their declaration of acceptance of office.
- c) Councillors with a disclosable pecuniary interest must leave the room or chamber during the relevant item of business, unless permitted to remain following the grant of a dispensation.
- d) Councillors with an interest in relation to any item of business being transacted at a meeting may (i) make representations, (ii) answer questions and (iii) give evidence relating to the business being transacted but must, thereafter, leave the room or chamber, unless permitted to remain following the grant of a dispensation.
- e) Following a written request to the Proper Officer of the Council (the Clerk), the Council may grant a member a dispensation to participate in a discussion and / or vote on a matter at the meeting even if s/he has any form of interest (disclosable pecuniary, other) if the Council believes that the number of members otherwise prohibited from taking part in the meeting would impede the transaction of the business; or it is in the interests of the inhabitants in the council's area to allow the member to take part; or it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation. The grant of a dispensation is automatically delegated to the Clerk and any dispensation may permit the councillor to speak, or to speak and vote.

It was **resolved** to adopt the following as a new Standing Order 25:-

25. Power of General Competence

- Before exercising the power of general competence, a meeting of the full Council shall have passed a resolution to confirm it has satisfied the prescribed statutory criteria required to qualify as an eligible parish council.
- The Council's period of eligibility begins on the date that the resolution under standing order 25 (a) above was made and has to be renewed by Council Resolution at the annual meeting of the Council that takes place in a year of ordinary elections.
- After the expiry of its preceding period of eligibility, the Council continues to be an eligible council solely for the purpose of completing any activity undertaken in the exercise of the power to promote well-being which was not completed before the expiry of the Council's preceding period of eligibility referred to in standing order 25(b) above.

It was **resolved** that Standing Order 1(y) should not be revised.

1567 MATTERS OF REPORT

a) Footpaths

The second cut of designated footpaths has been undertaken by SCC in August.

The fingerpost is missing from the entrance to Beer Mill Farm and Mr Harvey will contact Les Braunton to arrange a replacement.

b) Highway matters

The pot holes outside the development at Manor Farm were discussed and Mr Harvey will approach the developers to request that these are made good before the development is finished.

1568 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

a. Clerk's salary £ 88.34

The Parish Council approved this payment

1569 COMPLETION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT AND INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk reported that the External Audit had been completed and the auditors had no comment to make. The Conclusion of Audit has been published.

An interim internal audit had taken place and the auditor had no concerns to raise.

1570 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The Parish Council had received invitations to the following meetings:-

SALC AGM – 28th September

South Somerset Together Assembly – 23rd October

South Somerset Area North Annual Meeting – 24th October

South Somerset Local Choice Event – 6th November

Mr Burrough and Mr Harvey agreed to attend the Area North Annual Meeting

Cllr Steele reported that the South Somerset Local Plan was in abeyance as the Planning Inspector was not satisfied with certain aspects. The District Council has eight months in which to submit amended proposals.

Until the local plan is approved the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will not be introduced and developers are using this delay as an opportunity to submit applications.

1560 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 18th November 2013 at 7.30pm

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 Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 18th November 2013

1572 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

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

Public: Cllr. Steele (SSDC), Cllr Yeomans (SCC)

Apologies: Mr. G Harvey

1573 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

1574 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September 2013 were approved and signed.

1575 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

e) **Parish Domesday Book**

Mr Davies reported that arrangements are in hand to update the Parish Domesday Book and it is hoped that the project will be completed early in the New Year.

1576 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

No parishioners were present

1577 MATTERS OF REPORT

• **Footpaths**

In the absence of Mr Harvey, there were no items of report.

• **Highway matters**

Mr Burrough reported that the ditch at Broadmead Road has been cleaned by John Down and John Mitchem and wished to record the Council's thanks to them. The obstruction to the watercourse at Broadbridge has also been cleared.

Mr Davies has recently cleared two blocked drains in the centre of the village. Cllr Yeomans reported that all drains in the County will eventually be numbered to aid identification when reporting problems.

Mr Dale expressed his disappointment at the state that the road was left in following the recent visit from the hunt. He will raise his concerns directly with the hunt.

- **Presentation at RNAS Yeovilton**

Mr Harvey has recently attended a presentation on the future of RNAS Yeovilton.

It was confirmed that the Lynx helicopter will be replaced by the Wildcat, and that the Army Air Corps will be transferred to RNAS Yeovilton, resulting in an increase in personnel and families in the area. However much of the increased air traffic will be heading towards Salisbury Plain.

It was confirmed that there is no possibility of Merryfield closing in the future.

- **Neighbourhood Watch**

Mr Reed reported that an incident of crime had occurred. A parishioner's telephone wire had been cut on more than one occasion. The matter has been reported to the police.

1578 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

- Clerk's salary £88.34
- Clerk's expenses £20.00

The Parish Council approved these payments

1579 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

- **Parish Highway Services Information Pack**

The Clerk has received a reference guide as to what parishes can expect in highway services from SCC. It details the service level agreements in place for various areas and provides information on reporting of problems.

The guide can be downloaded from www.somerset.gov.uk/localchoices.

1580 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 20th January 2014 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.15pm