

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 held on Monday 9th January 2023

2177 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors: Mr. R Burrough, Mr J. Down, Mr. G Harvey, Mrs. J Mann, Mr. A. Plumbly, Mr. M Rastrick,

Public: Cllr M Stanton, (SCC), Cllr M Cavill (SSDC)

2178 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

2179 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 10th October 2022 were approved and signed.

2180 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- **Update on Planning Application: 22/02392/S73**

A decision is yet to be made on this application, which was originally submitted in August 2022. Several letters in support of the application have been submitted. Cllr Cavill will speak to the planners to ascertain the reason for the delay in reaching a decision and update the Council.

- **Update on formation of Local Community Networks (LCNs)**

Following the consultation which took place in the autumn, the County Council is working to develop a model for LCNs and its proposal will be presented to the Executive Board in mid-January.

2181 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

There were no issues raised.

2182 MATTERS OF REPORT

- a) **Footpaths – Pauls Farm/Radigan Lane**

Mr Burrough has been in contact with the SCC Rights of Way Officer and having considered the options available, the most appropriate solution would be to install a wooden footbridge to skirt the ford. This would be quite costly to

implement, and Mr Burrough will explore funding opportunities, for example, the National Highways Designated Funds scheme.

There are no other footpath issues

b) Highway matters

Following the surface dressing, the roads are holding up despite the recent heavy rainfall.

The service provider for school transport from the village has changed, and a larger bus is now used, resulting in some damage to the Village Green. It was agreed to contact School Transport within SCC, requesting that the service provider is contacted and asked to take more care. As the Parish Council is the owner of the Green, it would be responsible for repairing any damage caused and may look to recoup these costs from the service provider.

c) A358 Update

The submission of the Development Consent Order, due in December 2022, has been delayed whilst a review into the proposed environmental mitigations is carried out. In readiness of the submission, the Community of Parishes (CoP) has completed a draft Registration of Interest document and has detailed its four main areas of concern: safety of the community, scale of development, access problems to the A358 and inadequacy of the Southfields Roundabout proposals. This document will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate at the appropriate time.

The CoP is continuing to lobby Somerset County Council to challenge National Highways proposals.

d) Neighbourhood Watch Update

There have been several thefts of Catalytic Converters from cars in Barrington and Shepton Beauchamp recently and as a precaution, owners should park their cars in a garage wherever possible.

2183 TO AGREE BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2023/24

The Council considered its budget for 2023/24. It was agreed to increase the grant to the Village Hall to £150, to match the contribution to the PCC for burial ground maintenance. It was also agreed to include a contingency figure of £200 to cover possible maintenance costs of the Village Green, and other unforeseen expenditure arising as a result of the formation of the new Unitary Council and Local Council Networks.

The total expenditure is estimated at £1660, and it was unanimously agreed to levy a precept of this amount. This would give a Band D property an annual precept of £25.13, a 12% increase on last year.

2184 TO CONSIDER DEVELOPING A PARISH RESILIENCE PLAN

Mrs Mann attended a conference to discuss how communities may wish to develop a resilience plan in case of emergencies. One of the suggestions is

that every property owner is aware of its 'What3Words' identification code to assist emergency services in locating the property as quickly as possible. The Council agreed that this would be useful, and parishioners would be encouraged to use this app. An article will be placed in the Parish Magazine and Beer & Curry Takeaway.

In addition, the Clerk and Mrs Mann will draw up a simple emergency plan detailing useful phone numbers and contacts that can be posted on the website and displayed in the Bus Shelter.

2185 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

It was **resolved** to make the following payments:

a. Clerk's salary	£193.32
b. Beercrocombe PCC	£150.00
c. CM & BC Village Hall	£120.00

2186 CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF REPORT FOR INFORMATION

- **Appointment of new signatory to bank account.**

The Council agreed that Mrs Mann should be nominated as an additional signatory to the Santander Bank account. The Clerk will obtain and action the necessary paperwork.

2187 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on **Monday 6th March at 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.32pm