

# **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 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### **2156 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

*Councillors:* Mr.. R Burrough, Mr. G Harvey, Mr. A. Plumbly,

*Apologies:* Mr. M Rastrick, Mrs J Mann

*Public:* Cllr M Stanton (SCC)

### **2157 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **2158 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were approved and signed.

### **2159 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising

### **2160 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

No issues were raised

### **2161 MATTERS OF REPORT**

#### **a) Footpaths**

Mr Burrough has spoken to the owners of Pauls Farm with regards to reactivating the old footpath to resolve the problem of crossing the ford when in flood. The current access over the bridge has been blocked by a locked gate which the owners have installed to prevent cars driving over the bridge, which has happened on several occasions. A solution would be to install an additional gate for walkers only and Mr Burrough will contact the Rights of Way Team to explore this option further.

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

The surface dressing within the Parish will take place shortly.  
The summer cut of the verges has been carried out.  
There are several large pot holes on the roads leading into the Parish which have been reported for repair.

**c) Planning**

No new planning applications have been received,

**d) A358 Update**

Members of Beercrocombe PC have been working with the Community of Parishes to respond to the supplementary consultation that has recently taken place. The response from the Community of Parishes is available on: [beercrocombe.org](http://beercrocombe.org).

Cllr Stanton (Somerset County Council) indicated his willingness to support the Community of Parishes (COP) with their representations to the Planning Inspectorate and offered to arrange a meeting between the COP and Mike Rigby, SCC Lead Councillor for Highways.

**e) LCN Updates**

The Clerk on behalf the Council attended a meeting of local Parishes to discuss the possibility of forming an LCN. It is proposed that the LCN would encompass rural parishes with similar concerns and priorities. The interested Parishes are currently Beercrocombe, Curry Mallet, Hatch Beauchamp, West Hatch, Ashill, Neroche, Stoke St Mary, Pitminster and Corfe. Further meetings will take place in the coming months to discuss the options further.

Cllr Stanton advised the meeting that the new administration is looking at the structure and purpose of the LCNs and there may be changes to how the LCNs were originally envisaged. It is anticipated that a consultation exercise will take place during late summer/early autumn.

**2162 TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE EXISTING OF CODE OF CONDUCT IS SUFFICIENT OR WHETHER THE NEW CODE RECOMMENDED BY SOMERSET COUNCIL SHOULD BE ADOPTED.**

The Local Government Association has drawn up a new Code of Conduct which will apply to all levels of Local Government and which Parish Councils are encouraged to adopt.

Members of the Council discussed the new Code but considered that the existing Code of Conduct was appropriate and still relevant to a small Parish Council. It was agreed that the existing Code should continue but that members would be mindful of the provisions contained within the new code.

**2163 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

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

- |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| a. Clerk's salary  | £ 96.66     |
| b. SALC - Training | £ 25.00 x 2 |

**2164 TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL SIGNATORY ON BANK ACCOUNTS**

At present, there are 2 signatories on the bank account and it was agreed that an additional signatory is needed, as a minimum of two signatories per cheque is required. Mrs Mann was proposed as the additional signatory and the Clerk will contact the bank and request the necessary paperwork.

## **2165 CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

- **Proposed date for Town and Parish Council Conference**

The provisional date for the next Town & Parish Council Conference is Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October. The format of the meeting, in person or remote, is still to be decided. The meeting is likely to cover LCNs and Asset and Service Devolution.

- **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

The Platinum Jubilee Celebrations were very successful. A BBQ lunch was held, the cost of which was covered by the organising committee and the Parish Council wished to place on record its thanks to Willie Vigus, Frances and Martin Saunders and Helen and Andrew Plumbly for their generosity and efforts in making the event so successful.

The Celebratory Beacon was well attended and thanks are due to James Marks of Weavo Fencing who donated the materials free of charge. The Chairman will write a formal letter of thanks to him.

## **2166 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on **Monday 10th October** at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm