

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 9th May 2023

2199 Attendance and Apologies

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

Public: Cllr M Stanton (SCC),

Apologies: None

2200 Election of Chairman.

Mr Plumbly was nominated by Mr Burrough and seconded by Mr Harvey. Mr Plumbly accepted the nomination, and the nomination was unanimously approved. Mr Plumbly signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

2201 Election of Vice-Chairman

Mrs J Mann was nominated as Vice-Chairman by Mr Harvey and seconded by Mr Burrough. Mrs Mann accepted the nomination which was unanimously approved.

2202 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

2203 Allocation of Members' Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and Responsibilities were agreed and allocated as follows: -
Neighbourhood Watch – Mr. M. Rastrick
Village Hall Representative – Mr. A. Plumbly
Highways and Footpaths – Mr. G Harvey
Planning – Mr. R. Burrough.
Community Communication Representative – Mr R Burrough
Village Trust – Mr. G Harvey.
Website – Mr. R. Burrough
LCN Representatives – A Plumbly and J Mann

2204 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 6th March 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2205 Matters arising from the minutes.

- **Damage to Village Green and response from First Bus**

First Bus has offered the Council £100 to repair the Village Green and the Council agreed that it should purchase some reflective wooden posts which could protect the corners of the Green. These are approx. £22 each and it was suggested that 6 posts would be sufficient, the cost of which would be covered in part by First Bus.

2206 Parishioners' Forum

There were no issues raised.

2207 Matters of Report

- **Footpaths**

The fingerpost at the Manor Farm end of Footpath L5/14 has rotten at the bottom and has fallen over. Mr Down offered to repair and reposition the post, and if he is unable to do so, the matter will be reported to Somerset Council for action.

- **Highway matters**

The collapsed railings at Broadmead Road still remain in the ditch. The hazard sign is causing vehicles to damage the opposite verge. Mr Harvey will contact Somerset Highways to ascertain when the repair work will be carried out.

- **Planning**

No new planning applications have been received since the last meeting.

- **A358 Update**

There is no further news to report.

- **LCN Update**

It is hoped that the first meeting of the LCNs will take place in June and July and the Council will be advised of the date and venue in due course.

2208 To receive the annual accounts and internal auditors report.

The annual accounts were presented to the meeting. The precept for the year 2022/23 was £1495, and expenditure was £1148 resulting in a surplus of £347. The Council's reserves stand at £2696.

The Council received the internal audit report and thanked Mr Jervis for undertaking this work for the Council.

2209 To approve Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 and confirmed that it had considered and agreed items 1-9 of the statement. The statement was signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

2210 To approve Section 2 Accounting statements 2022/23

The Council approved the Accounting statements for 2022/23. The statements were signed by the Chairman and RFO.

2211 To confirm that the Council wishes to certify itself as exempt from the limited assurance review.

The Council confirmed that it met the criteria for exemption and was eligible to certify itself as exempt from the limited assurance review. The Chairman signed the exemption certificate.

2212 To review and confirm the insurance arrangements for 2023.

Renewal documents have been received from Zurich Insurance. The Council has been offered a 3 Year Long Term Agreement, which will reduce the premium by approx. £10 per year. It was agreed to enter into this agreement and the Council agreed to renew its insurance with Zurich Insurance for a premium of £182.51.

2213 To review and confirm the risk assessment for 2023.

The Council received the risk assessment for 2023 and considers that it has adequate measures in place to mitigate any risks the Council may face. It was **resolved** to approve the risk assessment.

2214 To review the Council's financial regulations and internal audit controls.

The Clerk has reviewed the financial regulations which were adopted in September 2014 and considers that these are still appropriate. The Clerk has also reviewed the internal control procedures and considers them to be adequate. It was **resolved** to approve the financial regulations and statement of internal control.

2215 Formal Expenditure Approval

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

a) Clerk's Salary	£ 96.66
b) Community First	£182.51

2216 To confirm receipt of precept 2023/24

The Clerk confirmed that the precept of £1660 has been received from Somerset Council.

2217 Update on dog waste issues and to consider what further action the Parish Council should take.

The Chairman has spoken to a dog warden from Somerset Council who has agreed to patrol the Parish on a regular basis. New notices have been put up encouraging owners to take dog bags home if the dog bin is full and an article placed in the Beer & Curry Takeaway. The problem seems to have eased, although there is still the occasional bag left in the road.

2218 To consider whether the Parish should have a permanent memorial to commemorate the King's Coronation.

It was suggested that the Council should erect a plaque commemorating the King's Coronation on the bus shelter. Mrs Mann agreed to research what items are available and will bring examples and quotes to the next meeting.

2219 Correspondence for information and items of report

Cllr Stanton forwarded his monthly report in advance of the meeting. He stressed the importance of reporting road defects, preferably by the online reporting system, as extra money is available for pothole repairs at present. There are some concerns that contractors have been closing down issues before they have been resolved and if there were instances of this, he would like to be informed.

With regards to the LCNs, if Beercrocombe felt that a neighbouring LCN would be a better fit than the Moors and Levels LCN, to which Beercrocombe has currently be assigned, then movement should be possible. Cllr Stanton acknowledged that the proposed A358 improvements would be a priority for Beercrocombe in the coming years.

2220 To confirm date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 3rd July 2023 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.