

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 2nd October 2023

2233 Attendance and Apologies

Councillors: Mr. P Dibble, Mr. J Down Mr. G Harvey, Mrs. J Mann, Mr. M Rastrick

Public: Cllr M Stanton (SCC),

Apologies: Mr. A Plumbly

In the absence of Mr Plumbly, Mrs Mann took the chair.

2234 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

2235 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 3rd July 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2236 Matters arising from the minutes.

- **Update on damage to Village Green and purchase of posts**

Six posts have been purchased at a cost of £77.10 and a working party to cement the posts will be arranged shortly. First Bus has agreed that it will contribute £100 towards rectifying the damage caused by its drivers. The school bus provider has changed with effect from September, Redwoods now provides the bus and driver, and first impressions suggest that the driver successfully navigates the green without causing any damage.

- **Coronation Commemoration Plaque**

Mrs Mann has sourced a company that can provide a slate plaque with the wording of our choice for approx. £200. It was agreed that the wording should be 'To commemorate the Coronation of King Charles 111, 6th May 2023'. Mrs Mann will check the suggested size of the plaque and obtain a firm quote for the price.

The Parish Council has been advised that the Beercrocombe Trust may consider a grant towards the cost of the plaque and the Clerk will submit a formal request to the trust once the final costs are known.

2236 Parishioners' Forum

There were no issues raised.

2237 Matters of Report

- **Footpaths**

No new issues to report.

- **Highway matters**

Somerset Highways has confirmed that the contractors have been asked to replace the collapsed barriers at Broadmead but cannot advise when this work will be carried out.

- **A358 Update**

National Highways is currently carrying out a high-level review of all proposed schemes scheduled between now and 2030, with a shift in emphasis to prioritising and improving links to transport hubs. In a list of priorities, the A358 scheme is currently within Category H, and is the only scheme under review that needs the Secretary of State to approve before going before the Planning Inspectorate. It is possible that the scheme will be shelved or postponed due to monetary constraints.

In the meantime, National Highways has contacted parishes affected by the A358 offering a meeting to discuss and agree a joint position statement. Beercrocombe PC has declined this invitation, responding that its position remains that of the Community of Parishes, with whom National Highways should be engaging.

- **LCN Update**

The Vice Chairman and Clerk attended the second meeting of the Levels and Moors LCN held in September. The meeting discussed and agreed two priorities that the LCN would initially focus on – Active Travel and Health & Wellbeing and two working parties are to be established to progress the ideas.

Mr Harvey requested that the Council discuss at its next meeting the possibility of moving to the Ilminster & Crewkerne LCN, which may have priorities more relevant to Beercrocombe.

- **Planning**

No new applications have been received since the previous meeting, but the Clerk informed the Council that Planning Application 22/02392/S73 – relating to amendments at Middle Orchard, Capland Lane, has been approved.

2238 Formal Expenditure Approval

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

a) Clerk's Salary	£ 145.00
b) Website hosting	£ 85.82
c) SALC – Fees	£ 43.70
d) A Plumbly – posts	£ 77.10
e) Remembrance Wreath	TBC

2239 Correspondence for information and items of report

- **Winter 2023/24 Grit Bins**

Somerset Council will be checking and filling the grit bins by the end of September.

- **Bin Review and Recommend process.**

Following the implementation of Somerset Council, a consistent approach to the provision of dog waste bins is being taken and at present, no new dog waste bins will be installed.

Help will still be available with regards to patrols, signage and enforcement and problems within the Parish can be reported at:

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/report-it>

- **Promotion of Parish Council**

In order to increase public participation and engagement, it was suggested that a short article be published in the Parish Magazine and Beer & Curry Takeaway, giving contact details and dates of forthcoming meetings, and encouraging parishioners to attend and give their views.

A permanent notice will also be displayed in the bus shelter.

2240 To confirm date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.