

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday 28th January 2020 Timberscombe Village Hall – 7.30pm

20.01 Attendance Councillor(s): S. Searle (SS) - Chair, S. Campbell (SC), C. Collins (CC), J. Stitt (ST). Clerk C. Hornsby and members of the public: 2

20.02 Apologies for non-Attendance: P. Pilkington (PP), F. Nicholson (FN), S. Pugsley (SP)

20.03 Declarations of Interest - To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct: None

20.04 Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting on 25/11/19: Proposed by CC and 2nd by JS as a true and correct record and all agreed. The Chair then signed the minutes

20.05 Matters arising from the Minutes of 25/11/19 None

20.06 Report by the District Councillor - None

20.07 Report by the County Councillor – Clerk reported that FN had wanted all cllrs to read the report from SSC about the Single Unitary Authority

20.08 Highways – Clerk reported that the meeting had taken place about the recent road closures that had caused problems on Exmoor. Clerk to forward email concerning this. SS reported about a fence damage and will send the photos of the damage to the clerk who will contact Highways. The clerk state that the Cllrs should report potholes, blocked drains and road damage directly to SCC website where the area can be logged on a map. Clerk requested that any reports sent directly to SCC should be given at the following meeting for the clerk to keep a note of.

20.09 Salt bins: SS reported that PP had installed the grit bin at the church and filled it with 50kg salt. He has also purchased 5 more salt bags which are now in the seat box by the phone. There is a total of 225kg of salt in there now. PP to be reimbursed.

20.10 Bridle paths - None

20.11 Finance report

(i) Bank Reconciliation – **Current a/c £9738.14 Reserve a/c £2075.40 JAPF a/c £1151.94**

(ii) Exmoor Society membership – This was decided to be more useful for individuals and so it will be promoted on the website and noticeboard

(iii) Clerk Training at SALC: This will be shared between the three parishes that the clerk works for and so will only cost TPC £25.00 this will be authorised in February meeting

(iv) Laptop security – clerk to check how secure the laptop is and report back in February

TPC Invoices that were agreed to be paid:

Annual payment for Parish Lengthsman: **£417.38**

Timberscombe Village Hall for 3 evenings: **£44.25**

Clerk hourly pay and exp for Nov, Dec, Jan: Mrs C Hornsby **£697.75** (to be paid on 5th February)

JAPF Invoices that were agreed to be paid

Somerset Playing fields Association Membership: **£15.00**

Annual Playground Inspection: **£67.50**

Greenslade Rent of ground: **£50.00**

20.12 Planning Applications and Decision None. Clerk reported that the planning for a monopole at West Harwood Farm had been withdrawn.

20.13 Lengthsman – Jobs to do are: Change the pegs in the mats of the play area to cable ties. Look at the wobbly tiles on the pavement near the post office and beyond – Clerk to check if this is a Highways issue SC to forward photos to Clerk for clarification of area. See also **20.18**. PP will be seeing the Lengthsman on 6th Feb.

20.14 Village Maintenance – It was reported by a member of the public that the trough was owned by the residents of Knowle Manor over 100 years ago. It is mentioned on many of the Deeds in the area. The present owners are unknown. The work to repair the trough requires heavy lifting equipment and so whoever handles it needs to know who is responsible for it before they do any work. It was agreed that a notice should go in the shop, noticeboard and website asking for any

knowledge about the trough and its owner(s). There will be a deadline to respond and after that date if no one has come forward with information the TPC will decide the course of action. Clerk to arrange notice and a deadline of Friday 21st February will be given and a decision will be made at the February TPC meeting.

20.15 Play area (i) Swing basket update – SS to come back with information at next meeting (ii) pricing repairs to gate & fencing posts in park update – JS reported that he had contacted many people but as yet had received only one quote. Other contractors were suggested and JS to seek further information. (iii) Annual Play Inspection due and also the clerk reported that weekly inspections must be carried out and any risk (even low risk) to equipment must be dealt with immediately. JS to take over the responsibility of the weekly checks and will send reports to the clerk to archive. SS was concerned about lack of funds and spoke about a Table Top sale she was organising for 29th February 2020 in the Timberscombe Village Hall - £5 a table.

20.16 Climate Change CC reported on how well attended and successful the workshop for parish councils was. It was agreed that at the next meeting the TPC should consider signing up to the Climate Emergency Declaration (to be on the Agenda), then a village climate workshop can be organised which can include getting people together to create and run a village survey (see 20.17).

20.17 Village Survey it was raised that a professional survey might be something to consider rather than one done by volunteers in the village. The clerk had seen a few by other parish councils and will forward these to the Cllrs. It was seen as a village incentive not a parish council incentive. Issues such as climate, car parking, dog mess etc will be included in the survey. It was also noted that responses to door drops are very low and so it was suggested that a door to door might be a better way of talking to the whole community.

20.18 Church Noticeboard Due to the late response from the TPC the church were unable to take up there offer and had to use their grant to purchase a new noticeboard. The Parish Lengthsman will be asked to look at it to see if it can stop leaking from the top.

20.19 Correspondence and emails the clerk read out several matters of correspondence most of which was previously circulated amongst the Cllrs. (i) Websites and Mobile Applications - Accessibility Regulations Clerk to talk to Lesly Webb who runs the website to make sure all is up to date (ii) Cllrs invite to tea at the church - numbers needed by 4th Feb and SS and JS said they would attend (iii) CLOWNS grant request – Clerk to enquire what CLOWNS does for Timberscombe at present

20.20 Freedom of Information Act: Clerk advised Cllrs that their email address that they use for the TPC is available to the public and if they would like a specific email for the council the clerk will organise this. All emails between Cllrs and Clerk are available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act. JS requested a PC email.

20.21 Report from representatives of other groups: (i) Exmoor Panel (ii) Consultative & Parish Forum None

20.22 Items for next meeting agenda – (i) A dog bin on the end of Orchard way. Clerk to bring prices to the meeting. (ii) Climate Emergency Declaration.

20.23 Date of next Meeting - Monday 24th February 2020 Timberscombe Village Hall 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.55pm

Signed.....Date.....