

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 26th October 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Present: Councillor(s): S. Searle – Chair (SS) S Campbell (SC), C. Collins (CC), J. Stitt (JS) & Somerset West & Taunton District Councillor (SW&TDC) S Pugsley & Somerset County Councillor (SCC) F Nicholson, Clerk C Hornsby and two members of the public.

20/126 Questions from the public. None

20/127 Apologies of Absence – Cllrs P Pilkington and S Takle

20/128 Declarations of notifiable interests: None

20/129 Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 28th September 2020. These were proposed by SC and seconded by JS as a true and correct record and all agreed and the Chair duly signed them

20/130 Matters arising from the minutes of 28th September 2020. 20/124 Clerk reported that she had received a response from Highways about the cost of a Zebra crossing. It is in the area of £80K due to there being a lot of work involved. FN stated that she would be happy to propose this under the Small Improvement Scheme however the parish must be absolutely sure it is what they want. All Cllrs accepted and understood this and will take it to the parish in the Village Survey.

20/131 Report by the SW&T District Councillor and Somerset County Councillor. (i) SP spoke about the White Paper that will not allow parish and town councils to have views on specific planning applications but only have input to the Local Plan. Exmoor National Park (ENPA) are unhappy about this and have made their thoughts known to the Government. (ii) SP also spoke about the Unitary Authority and that both the County Council and District council proposals have been put to the Secretary of State. (iii) FN reported that the areas CV19 rates of infection, which had risen, is now stabilising but reminded all that care must be taken at all times to ensure that the cases do not increase dramatically. (iv) FN also reported that should anyone be in need due to the CV19 pandemic that they should contact the Somerset County Council helpline where advice will be given, this can be for health or financial situations. The person will be put in contact with the Village Agent who would be able to direct that person to whomever would be able to help them, eg: food banks.

20/132 Highways. (i) The Zebra Crossing versus a 20 mile an hour speed on the road from the Pub to Bemberry Bank was discussed. FN stated that the 20 mile an hour speed restriction near the school would happen at some time, but not next year. It was agreed to focus on the Zebra Crossing for the Village Survey. (ii) SS reported on a flood that happened just before Duddings and also a drain issue near her too and FN asked her and others to report on the SCC road faults website.

20/133 Bridle paths -SC asked whether the path for the school lane was a foot path or bridle path as a quad bike is using it. There was concern that people did not have space to move out of the way of the quad bike as it is narrow. CC reported that as the quad bike is checking sheep that they have on land near there, they have a right to access. This was accepted as a

valid reason for the quad bike to use the path, but to ask the owner to be aware of walkers on the path.

20/134 Finance report by RFO including (i) bank reconciliation £13,977.38 (ii) Invoices: Clerk's Pay and Exp for Aug, Sep and Oct £670.35, SALC training: £30 (this is shared equally with Exmoor PC and Withypool & Hawkridge PC who will each pay Timberscombe PC £10) both were agreed to be paid. Clerk reported that the Idverde 12 month of litter and dog bin collections for Nov2020- Oct 20201 was paid after the September meeting £863.28 (iii) RFO reported that she was nearly finished with the Poor Lands Trust bank account and that the parish council will transfer £500 to open the account and once the full money has been transferred by the past Trustees from the NatWest Account, the £500 will be transferred back to the Parish Council A/C. All Cllrs were happy with this.

20/135 Planning Applications and Decision (i) SP reported that a planning application for Knowle Farm from 2019 is up for approval and there was a meeting about it on the 3rd November. (ii) SC wanted to check the correct procedure if someone in the parish was unsure that planning permission had been obtained. SP advised SC to let the concerned parishioner know that they should contact the planning office as sometimes a planning may have been passed years before and the work had only just begun.

20/136 Parish Lengthsman (PLM) SS said that the strimming along the front of Orchard way needed doing. Clerk to inform PLM before next visit. Next scheduled days: 10th Dec, 4th Jan.

20/137 Village Maintenance –(i) The Trough had been hit again by a white van delivery driver. Clerk to inform Highways as it was noted that they repaired it last time. It was noted that PP had suggested that the trough be rotated with the back to the wall. Sadly, this would stop people access to the inscription but as that is now illegible it did not seem to be an issue. (ii) SS to report to Magna Housing the fallen Apples that needed clearing from Orchard Way.

20/138 Climate Change: (i) CC stated that there was nothing to report as yet as still waiting for a meeting to get the Forum 21 application in to SCC. (ii) Free trees from SW&TDC – Clerk reported that 2 Oak, 2 Beech, 2 Lime and 2 Hawthorn had been ordered and will be notified when they are ready to collect from the Minehead Depot in November.

20.139 Village Survey working group – The final draft is nearing completion for all Cllrs to view and JS will send out asap.

20/140 Correspondence None

20/141 Report from representatives of other groups: (i) Exmoor Panel is on 5th November(ii) Consultative & Parish Forum is on 12th November

20/142 COVID 19 update in the parish - none

20/143 Councillor Vacancy – Clerk reported that an advert had been placed on the noticeboard and on the website and there are 14 working days for people to apply directly to SW&TDC at Williton. If any one has put their name forward, they will be invited to the November PC meeting to give short summary as to why they wish to become a member and

then the Cllrs would vote. If there were more than 10 apply then an election would have to take place.

20/144Chairman’s notices and Items for next meeting agenda – Budget.

20/145Date of next Meeting - Monday 30th November 2020 via Zoom

There being no further busines the Chair closed the meeting at 8.23pm

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