

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday 25th January 2021 , 7.30pm via Zoom

PRESENT: Parish Councillor(s): P. Pilkington – Chairman (PP), S Campbell (SC), C. Collins (CC), S. Searle (SS), Somerset West & Taunton District Councillor (SW&TDC) S Pugsley (SP) & Somerset County Councillor (SCC) F Nicholson (FN) and Clerk C Hornsby
Public: 3

01/21 Questions from the public. None

02/21 Apologies of Absence J. Stitt,

03/21 Declarations of notifiable interests: None

04/21 Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 30th November 2020. Proposed by CC and 2nd by SC as a true and correct record. The Chair signed and will forward to the clerk.

05/21 Matters arising from the minutes of 30th November 2020 - None

06/21 Councillor Vacancy. Mr Paul Chisling spoke to the parish council on how he feels he could support the parish by being a councillor and after a private consultation amongst the councillors, it was agreed by all Cllrs present that Mr Chisling would be a welcome addition to the council. Chair, PP, formally accepted Mr Chisling as the seventh member of the parish council and asked the Clerk to organise the relevant paperwork.

07/21 Report by the SW&T District Councillor and Somerset County Councillor. (i) FN reported that over 200 staff had been seconded to support with the COVID 19 vaccination programme in Somerset and so some matter might be delayed. (ii) FN also asked everyone to stay safe and adhere to the latest Government guidelines and restrictions. (iii) SP spoke later as he was in another parish zoom meeting at the same time.

08/21 Highways: Details of a problem, raised by an email from a parishioner, was read out by the clerk. Concerning improving the road conditions in Knowle Lane as at times, it is almost impassable because of an accumulation of mud/leaves/general detritus - also there are a number of pot holes which get covered over with puddles that become an additional hazard. The clerk informed TPC that she had advised the parishioner to contact the SCC road defect and pot hole website to log the issue as this the most effect and efficient way of requesting action to damaged roads. Go to: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-pothole-or-road-defect/> The parishioner updated the clerk with details of the road sweeper that had passed through and had made quite a difference. The road sweeper comes through three times between October and March. They also noted that the sides of the lane (where the banks meet the tarmac) need to be cleared back which would effectively widen the lane and stop the mud etc being dragged back onto the highway.

09/21 Bridle paths -SC reported a tree down on a footpath – SC to give details to clerk so she can notify the ENPA. SC also noted a sign post that is not obvious on a bridle path, again SC to give full details to clerk to inform ENPA.

10/21 Finance report by RFO. Emergency payment in between the Nov and Jan meetings of £150 for Defib Battery authorised by SS and PP on 8th January 2021 (i) Bank reconciliation Res £8487.76 Cur £4036.27 (ii) **Invoices:** Clerks pay and exp Nov, Dec, Jan **£670.35** to be paid 5th February 2021; SW&T DC 2019 Election Admin fee **£100.00**; St Petrock's Church requested a donation from the Parish Council towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Historically it has been **£300**; **All Agreed invoices to be paid** (iii) PP proposed that the Timberscombe Parish Council donate £500 to the Good Neighbours Scheme. They had asked for this from the Timberscombe Poor Land Trust but due to CV19 the financial matters had not been transferred. PP also proposed that once the TPLT was set up they could pay back the **£500** to TPC. All Agreed and stated that if there were any problems with this, then the TPC would cover the cost of the donation. PP asked Lesley Webb spokesperson for the GNS to give a quarterly report to keep the council up to date with what was happening and what help was needed (no personal data will be given in the report)

11/21 Planning Applications and Decision: None

12/21 Parish Lengthsman (PLM): Clerk to let Dulverton TC know that TPC wish to continue with the PLM. *NB: clerk informed the council at the meeting that the 4th Jan was his last day for the year, but he is actually coming on the 4th Feb. There was a mix up with the dates on the PLM works calendar sent to the Clerk.*

13/21 Village Maintenance – Cllrs to report on any work required within the village. (i) Cllrs discussed employing either the PLM or someone else to do extra work in the village in addition to the PLM hours. Clerk to keep a list of jobs that will be ticked off as and when completed (ii) Trough damage update – report from LW. Many options discussed and Clerk to ask Highways if they will come and repair again as before.

14/21 Climate Change: (i) CC reported that she and PP planted trees at the Hill Fort, and along the foot path (ii) The Climate Emergency Fund (CEF) application had gone in but due to SCC now being short staffed due to helping with CV19 Vaccines, the CEF had been delayed. (iii) CC requested that the Council take the recent Emergency c and dec in to consideration when asking for the tenders for grass cutting in the village. This will be on the Feb Agenda.

07/21 Report by the SW&T District Councillor (i) SP reported on the ENPA planning training and recommended all Cllrs to view the training recording. (ii) Exmoor Panel – Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue came and spoke about their work in the area and also the village agent gave an update.

15/21 Village Survey working group – this is on hold at the present time.

16/21 Correspondence to include - None

17/21 Report from representatives of other groups: (i) Exmoor Panel as above (ii) Consultative & Parish Forum next meeting in March...

18/21 COVID 19 update in the parish. PP thanked LW for the Website updates and said that all were being kept up to date with the DC and CC weekly emails.

19/21 Chairman's and councillors notices These items will be on the next Agenda if they need to be voted on. None

20/21 Items for next meeting agenda. Wild flower garden project, mowing in the village,

21/21 Date of next Meeting - Monday 22nd February 2021 via Zoom

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm

Signed (Chair).....Date.....