

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 31st January 2022

at Timberscombe Village Hall – 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: P. Pilkington (PP) – Chairman, C. Collins (CC), K. Walker (KW), Sarah Campbell (SC), Lesley Webb (LW)- Clerk, County Councillor F. Nicholson (FN) arrived 8.05pm, District Councillor S. Pugsley (SP) arrived 8.15pm and three members of the public.

Item	Minutes	Action
21/208	Questions from the public. – Mr Marsh expressed concerns about access to his field on the A396 and asked if additional signage would be possible. The Parish Council supported this suggestion, FN later agreed to present this request to SCC Highways. Signs must be prescribed by Highways. LW to send full details to FN	LW
21/209	Apologies for Absence. – P. Chisling. K.Thomas has submitted her resignation from the Parish Council.	
21/210	Declarations of Notifiable Interests. – PP declared an interest in item 21/220 planning.	
21/211	Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 29/11/21 and planning minutes 10/01/22. Proposed by CC and seconded by SC. Accepted as a true record and signed by PP.	
21/212	Matters Arising from the minutes of 29/11/21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bridleway by the chapel has been cut back by the lengthsman. b) Water in Great House Street reported to SCC. c) 	
21/213	Co-Option of New Councillors. Two parishioners expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council. The councillors resolved to co-opt Katy Attwater (KA) and Allan Sutton (AS) to join the Council. AS agreed to work with Mr Rowland to monitor the footpaths. LW to complete paperwork for new councillors.	LW
21/214	Report by the SW&T District Councillor and Somerset County Councillor. SP reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Local and County elections would take place in May 2022. Approximately 20 Local Community Networks (LCNs) would be set up in Somerset. b) Following two recent fatalities the authorities have made drink/drive a priority area and some interesting suggestions have been put forward to tackle the problem. c) The signposting restoration project has restarted. More volunteers are needed. d) The National Park Plan review is open to comments until the end of February 2022. e) Consultation is underway on the Glover Report. f) Covid grants should be available for the village hall. SP to chase up. g) Recycle More begins in West Somerset at the end of February. 	SP
21/215	Report from other representatives. PP reported that SP had been re-elected as chair of the Exmoor Panel. Work was ongoing to establish a network of Local Councils in Somerset. A new handyman to be appointed to be paid for by the parishes.	

21/216	<p>Highways</p> <p>Snowdrop Valley - road closed 28th Feb- 27th Jan</p> <p>Great House Street closed 14th Feb for 4 days. FN confirmed that residents will be able to enter/exit.</p> <p>Church Street closed 25th Feb for 6 hours.</p> <p>Concern was once again expressed about the recent “emergency” road closures where diversions directed the public to closed roads. FN hoped that local control would improve the situation.</p>	
21/217	<p>Bridle Paths</p> <p>Path at Allercott has been cleared. The gate to Wanneroo has been scheduled for replacement.</p>	
21/218	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) Councillor Training – Lots of training now available for councillors. LW to send round again. Most are online and councillors were urged to make the effort to participate.</p>	LW
21/219	<p>Finance Report.</p> <p>a) Bank Reconciliation. The council currently has £16,280 in the bank. This includes £158.48 VAT rebate received in January.</p> <p>b) Invoices. The Council resolved to pay £2,200 to GB Ecology and Environment for the survey of Timberscombe, £87.60 to Tindle Newspapers for the grass cutting advertisement and £862.65 to the clerk for salary since Sept 21.</p> <p>c) Unity bank signatories have now been approved. The council, therefore, resolve to remove Mrs Hornsby from the Unity account.</p> <p>d) Elections costs for 2022 would be £100 if there was no election or £1500 if an election was necessary.</p>	LW
21/220	<p>Planning Applications and Decision.</p> <p>a) 6/34/22/101 Allercott Farm, change of use. Supported</p> <p>b) 6/34/22/102 Allercott Farm Lawful Development Certificate. Supported</p>	LW to inform ENP
21/221	<p>Parish Lengthsman (PLM)/ Village Maintenance. Path between Bemerry Bank and Forge Cottages still needs to be completed.</p>	PP
21/222	<p>Eco Update. CC gave an update to the Council.</p> <p>a) SW+T Council has recently been judged as the best local authority for its environmental policy by a climate emergency organisation. SP explained that much of the work towards this achievement had been carried out by PP, as the responsible portfolio holder.</p> <p>b) The living roof for the bus shelter had proved too expensive as the shelter would need to be rebuilt to hold the excessive weight.</p> <p>c) The Eco Timberscombe presentation will take place on 21st February in the village hall. Leaflet drop and posters to be completed. Nearby councils to be invited.</p> <p>d) April 11th – Timberscombe to host the West Somerset Together meeting on wildlife friendly gardening. Parish Council to fund this.</p> <p>e) Mowing tender has been advertised. Grass cutting around the village to be discussed with applicants.</p> <p>f) PP to talk to Magna about their mowing policy</p> <p>g) There have been two major incidents of fly tipping in the parish. Because they are on private land SCC will not clean them up. CC to discuss this with the Eco group to see if they were willing to assist the landowners to clear the rubbish. Police to be informed and the rules regarding CCTV to be checked.</p>	<p>CC/LW</p> <p>PP</p> <p>CC LW</p>

21/223	<p>Defibrillator. SC has temporarily taken over the guardianship of the village defibrillator. The control of the defib has been passed to the British Heart Foundation. Thanks to Mr Ware who has kindly agreed to clean the phone box regularly. The appeal for somebody to take over the guardianship did not bring forward any volunteers. It was resolved to permit the guardian of the defibrillator to buy new pads from council funds without the requirement to get council pre- approval, if the pads needed replacement.</p>	
21/224	<p>Poor's Land appointments It was resolved to appoint Mrs Joy Both and LW as trustees to the Poor's Land charity. Paperwork to be completed by LW.</p>	LW
21/225	<p>Chairman's and Councillor's Notices. a) PP asked councillors to consider the purchase of an electric mower to make it easier to complete selective mowing around wildflower planting. b) PP to buy more wildflowers. Signage re wildflower planting and no mow May to be put up.</p>	PP/SC
21/226	<p>Items for next agenda. Mower purchase, Reporting problems.</p>	

Meeting finished at 9.35pm

Date of next meeting Monday 28th February 2022