

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th February 2022

at Timberscombe Village Hall – 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: P. Pilkington (PP) – Chairman, C. Collins (CC), S. Campbell (SC), A. Sutton (AS), L. Webb (LW)- Clerk, County Councillor F. Nicholson (FN), District Councillor S. Pugsley (SP).

Item	Minutes	Action
22/21	Questions from the public. –None	
22/22	Apologies for Absence. – K.Walker	
22/23	Declarations of Notifiable Interests. None.	
22/24	Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 31/01/22. Proposed by AS and seconded by SC. Accepted as a true record and signed by PP.	
22/25	Matters Arising – See Correspondence (a).	
22/26	<p>Report by the SW&T District Councillor and Somerset County Councillor. SP reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Highways pilot scheme covering 23 parishes for the Local Community Network was well under way. A Highways Steward would be appointed to work across the parishes doing repair jobs. He will work alongside the PLM employed by some parishes. b) A Highways Broker will be appointed to coordinate the work across the parishes c) Regular meetings would take place to discuss issues such as road closures and speeding. It was hoped that this approach would improve the current disjointed system. d) SP commended the work done by Timberscombe residents, particularly the Timberscombe Good Neighbour (TGN) volunteers under the guidance of Joy Booth, for their work during the power outage. <p>The Parish Council agreed to write to MAGNA expressing their concern over the apparent lack of support for residents during the power outage. TGN would be looking to purchase emergency items such as hot water bottles, torches, flasks, etc. Only old-fashioned phones operated during the outage and concerns were expressed about the digitalisation of the phone network. Village resilience planning to be discussed further at the next meeting.</p>	LW/PP
22/27	Report from other representatives. No Meetings have taken place.	
22/28	<p>Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Great House Street closure advertised for 14th Feb for 4 days did not happen. Residents had not been informed of the change and are unaware of when the works will now occur. b) The signage for the Church Street closure was poor and left in place for days after the road was reopened. FN was hopeful that this situation would improve with the new system. She has pointed out to Highways that the diversion via Dulverton is not a practical one. 	

22/29	<p>Bridle Paths</p> <p>The parish now has a Parish Paths Liaison Officer – Garry Southon. He can undertake minor repairs and clearances. Major repairs should be reported to AS so that he can complete online reporting of the issue. AS now has the Parish Council maps folder. Tree down in School Lane has been reported. Recent reports using the site have been actioned promptly.</p>	
22/30	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Letter from the Returning Officer. The co-option of K. Attwater needs to be delayed as the government have not yet passed the necessary legislation to ratify the planned May 2022 elections. We are not, therefore, officially within 6 months of an election. The parish council are unable to appoint a new councillor without advertising until this legislation has been passed by the government. b) Election nomination papers have been received by the clerk for the elections and can be issued after 18th March 2022. c) The Parish Council resolved to pay St Petrock’s Church the sum of £300 for grass cutting in the graveyard. LW to write to St Petrock’s asking for their cooperation in maintaining eco-friendly maintenance of the area. d) Following an offer from another village, the clerk has ordered 6 free “20 is plenty” signs for the village. e) The clerk to circulate the letter re Local Heritage Listings via the website and to the history group. 	<p>LW</p> <p>LW</p>
22/31	<p>Finance Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bank Reconciliation. The Council currently has £12,823 in the bank. A further £1000 will be received shortly from the PLC. b) The Council resolved to pay £25 to SALC for the clerk’s training and £8, out of the Eco Grant, to CC for printing for the recent presentation. 	LW
22/32	<p>Planning Applications and Decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 6/34/22/101 Allercott Farm, change of use. Approved b) 6/34/22/102 Allercott Farm Lawful Development Certificate. Not yet decided c) River Steep application for PVC windows was turned down by ENP. The Parish Council expressed concern that “change of use” at River Steep was not discussed and resolved to inform ENP of this issue. 	LW to inform ENP
22/33	<p>Jubilee Celebrations.</p> <p>SC reported that there was a desire amongst residents to close the road in front of the pub and post office to enable celebrations to take place on 3rd June.</p> <p>LW to liaise with the school regarding their celebrations and the possibility of the council presenting the children with a souvenir of the event.</p> <p>A beacon would be lit at Allercott Farm on the Saturday.</p> <p>To be discussed further and coordinated at the village hall meeting on 10th March.</p>	LW to investigate costs, etc. LW
22/34	<p>Grass Cutting Tenders</p> <p>Tenders had been received from Darren Williams and Phil Sobolewski. LW to contact the applicants to ensure that their quotes include the collection of the grass and to ask for their hourly rate for further cutting around the village. It was agreed that once the conditions of the tenders had been checked the appointment could be agreed.</p>	LW
22/35	<p>Parish Lengthsman (PLM)/ Village Maintenance. Path between Bemberry Bank and Forge Cottages still needs to be completed. Bus stop needs to be treated.</p> <p>It was decided not to pursue the purchase of a mower at this stage.</p> <p>AS expressed concern about the amount of dog poo, particularly in Great House Street.</p> <p>Appeal to be sent out via the website.</p>	<p>PP</p> <p>LW</p>

	LW to investigate the possibility of changing the lid on the GH Street bin as it does not always shut properly and emits a smell.	LW
22/36	<p>Eco Update. CC gave an update to the Council.</p> <p>a) The Eco Timberscombe presentation on 21st February was well received. This will be written up and sent to the Council.</p> <p>b) CC would complete another eco blog in March. Next Eco Timberscombe meeting 21st March.</p>	CC
22/37	<p>Chairman's and Councillors' Notices.</p> <p>a) K.Attwater will attend the Taunton meeting with the Minister for the Environment.</p>	
22/38	Items for next agenda. Village Resilience, Jubilee celebrations	

Meeting finished at 9.02pm

Date of next meeting Monday 28th March 2022