

Aims and Objectives and Business Continuity of Timberscombe Parish Council

Aims

- To provide effective, efficient and accountable local government for the parish, enabling residents to be involved in the life of the community and its future development.
- To be a strong voice for residents and local businesses, working to improve the overall village area both built and natural, while preserving the uniqueness of heritage area.

Objectives

- To ensure that all councillors adhere to the Code of Conduct.
- To ensure that all councillors adhere to the Standing Orders.
- To ensure that at least one member of the Parish Council is aware of how the RFO runs the accounts in case the RFO is absent from work for any length of time and is unable to carry out the correct account keeping. This Cllr will meet with the RFO twice yearly to go through the accounts and record keeping procedure.
- To ensure that should the clerk be absent from a meeting at short notice, a member of the parish council can stand in to take the minutes.
- To understand and communicate the views, needs and aspirations of residents and businesses to statutory and non-governmental bodies as required
- Increase public involvement in the community through ensuring the parish council and its activities are open, transparent and accountable to residents.
- Support local business and economic activity in the parish
- Work with the District Council to provide safe, healthy and timely opportunities for recreation, leisure and education, and to provide, improve and maintain public recreation spaces
- Respond to planning applications and other statutory consultations on time, ensuring that recommendations made to the Exmoor National Park Authority adhere to the village plan, any statutory regulations, and the interests of the community.
- Promote, within our community activities which support the principles of environment sustainability and an ethical society and keep public spaces clean and safe.
- Ensure that Councillors and Staff have access to high quality training and development opportunities.

Business Continuity

This council resolves that:

- a) Should the council be unable to meet for whatever reason, the Clerk be given delegated authority to progress all ongoing matters and projects and authorise all regular payments and incur expenditure in line with the council's agreed budget.
- b) Any decisions taken under resolution (a) above will be taken, whenever possible, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of council and the relevant Committee Chairman (if appropriate). A record of all decisions and expenditure incurred under delegated authority will be kept and reported to members when the council next meets.

- c) The authority to decide the council's response to planning applications be delegated to the Clerk or Assistant Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Planning Committee and Chairman and Vice Chairman of council. Whenever possible, members of the Planning Committee (or council in the case of large applications) will be informed of applications out for consultation and will be invited to submit comments to the Clerk or Assistant Clerk.
- d) The provisions outlined in resolutions (a-c) above will override any requirements to the contrary in the council's standing orders, financial regulations or terms of reference.

Adopted at the Full Timberscombe Parish Council meeting 24th May 2021