

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th September 2023 at Timberscombe Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Flo Lloyd (FL) - Chairwoman, S. Campbell (SC), K. Walker (KW), A. Sutton (AS), I.Ware (IW), L. Webb (LW)- Clerk, Somerset Councillors - Frances Nicholson (FN) and Steven Pugsley (SP) (both arrived 8pm) and 1 member of the public.

Item	Minutes	Action
	<p>Questions from the public. SC, speaking as a member of the public, thanked all those who supported her in the purchase of the new Post Office windows.</p>	
23/105	Apologies for Absence K. Attwater (KA) and Scott Walker (SW)	
23/106	Declarations of Notifiable Interests. None	
23/107	<p>Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held 31st July 2023. Proposed by AS and seconded by SC. Accepted as a true record and signed by FL.</p>	
23/108	<p>Matters Arising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Wessex Water Update – Following their discussion with members of the Parish Council, Wessex Water are reconsidering their approach to the works which need to be completed in Timberscombe. They would look again at their plans and come back to the Council with their revised plans and timetable of works. b) Planned jetting in Great House Street which has now been completed revealed some irregularities in the system. Highways department to investigate further and come back to the Council. LW to chase. c) The Great House Street drain and roadway just below Holes Square has yet to be cleared by the Highway Steward. LW to monitor. d) The large amount of vegetation in the Timberscombe Stream is to be checked by the Environment Agency. Date for a site visit not yet agreed. e) Missing Holes Square sign reported by AS. Not yet replaced. LW to chase. AS also reported that the Willow Bank sign needs repair. f) FN/SP to be asked to investigate if the new 20mph areas could be combined under a single road traffic application, so that parishes could afford it. g) No response to three requests to Highways for approval of the SID design. FN/SP to be asked to move this issue forward, as the parish can do nothing without Highways prior approval. Two more accidents last week near Duddings. h) No offers were forthcoming from the advertisement for an odd job person. LW to get quotes for the repair of the bus shelter. Money still owing to SW for work on bus shelter. Mr Sobolewski to be approached re weed removal, etc around the village. KW to investigate tool station discount card for the Council. i) New horse in road signs and replacement 30mph sign by Sunnyside have been installed. j) AS reported that Ash Dieback is generally going to be left to run its course, unless the tree becomes dangerous. k) The Dog Exclusion Order applied for by LW had been incorrectly advertised by County and only the play area had been included. Repeated requests to include the football pitch had received no response. FN/SP to be asked to chase this up. l) Parents asked to look at getting a new gate for the football pitch. It was thought that this should be the responsibility of the landowners. m) Site visit to Wootton Ridge had been organised. If interested contact KA. 	<p>All</p> <p>LW</p> <p>LW</p> <p>LW</p> <p>FN/SP</p> <p>FN/SP</p> <p>KA/LW/KW</p> <p>FN/SP/LW</p> <p>KA</p>
23/109	<p>Report by Somerset Councillors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) SN reported that Somerset Council are very short of money and are looking for ways of making savings. Highways were particularly at risk. b) Winter maintenance would be undertaken on the red routes, but green routes were very unlikely to be treated. LW asked if the slope at Cowbridge could be 	

	<p>included as it would take seconds to do. FN/SP to bring this to the attention of Highways. Other parishes had employed people to clear green routes in their parish. LW had notified Highways that Timberscombe salt bins were not on the Highways map and asked that they be added. FN/SP to ensure that this was done. KW expressed concern that snow ploughs were funnelling snow across the entrances of smaller roads. FN said that if this occurred it should be reported to the contractor.</p> <p>c) SN reported that, in addition to a Highways sub-group, two new LCN sub-groups had been formed covering the Economy and Housing. New members were needed.</p> <p>d) The ENP consultation re reducing committees would close on Friday. LW to check that Timberscombe had responded.</p>	
23/110	KW expressed concern re the sunken metalwork outside of Duddings which had previously been marked up for work but had never been completed. FN/SP to chase.	FN/SP
23/111	Bridle Paths and Footpaths – AS no new issues to report. Sump by the Old Mill needs to be cleared. FN advised the Council to contact the West Somerset Flood Group. LW to check the EA’s main river maintenance program.	LW
23/112	Finance Report. a) Bank Reconciliation. The Parish Council currently has a total of £18,215.70 in the reserve account £1249.60 in the current account and £71.41 in the SOLDO account. Totalling £19,536.71. Reconciliation amounts from last minutes signed by SC. b) Invoices - Since the last meeting £260.00 has been paid for grass cutting. New invoices approved for payment were £25.00 to SALC for training, £19.20 to Wordpress for website. £24.50 to the village hall for meetings, £606.24 for clerk’s wages and £138.40 to HMCR for tax, £113.82 for annual SALC affiliation. All invoices approved for payment.	LW
23/113	Planning Applications and Decisions. None	
23/114	Village Maintenance/ Jobs for the Highways Steward – Mr Pluck to be asked to cut the play area hedging. Grass triangle at end of Bemberry Bank to be cut.	LW KA
23/115	Village Environment Items Otters seen by several people in the Timberscombe stream.	
23/116	Brewer’s green update. Councillors to put forward detailed ideas at the next meeting which could then be put to parishioners. Thanks to Mr Harris for edging the grass. FOTS to take over the erection of the Christmas tree. More solid base needed.	All FOTS
23/117	Correspondence FOIA request received from Mr Southon re proposals for Prideaux’s land. The Council possesses no plans, as the plan has not yet been agreed by ENP. The Council has had no contact with ENP regarding these proposals.	
23/118	Report from other Representatives. None	
23/119	Chair’s Notices It was agreed to plant daffodil bulbs, supplied by KA, around the end of the play area.	
23/103	Items for next agenda. None	

Meeting finished at 9.15 pm.

Date of next meeting Monday 30th October 2023 at 7.30pm.