

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 31st March 2025 at Timberscombe Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors k. Attwater (KA, Chair) S. Campbell (SC), C. Gibbard (CG), J. Daniel (JD) , L. Davies (LD), S. Pugsey (SP) L. Webb (LW Clerk).

Item	Minutes	Action
	Questions/Comments from the public. None	
25/31	Apologies for Absence I. Ware (IW), H. Moore (HM), F. Nicholson (FN)	
25/32	Declarations of Notifiable Interests. None	
25/33	Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 24 th February 2025. Proposed by SC and seconded by LD. Accepted as a true record and signed by KA.	
25/34	Matters Arising. (a) The SID cannot be sited until a councillor has undergone training. Unfortunately, no councillor was able to make the next training. LW to ask for a volunteer via the website. LW to also check next available course. (b) Mr Evans has agreed to repair the bus stop, possibly during the school holidays	LW
24/35	Report by Somerset Councillors SP reported a) That Somerset Council have finally agreed their budget. There will be a 7.49% rise in their portion of the council tax. This is necessary to cover the increasing cost of Adult Social Care and Children's Services. b) The boundary review report would be available soon. c) The Great House Street water problem was discussed again at the LCN meeting. Discussion is underway with the executors of two nearby houses to join up the drainage to the river outlet. The Highways representative indicated that work may start in Aug/Sept. d) National Park Planning event to be held on Friday 13 th May 2025 at Wootton Courtenay Village Hall. KA, LD and SC to attend. LW to complete return.	KA, LD, SC, LW
25/36	Highways (a) The 10mph signs have arrived and will be placed around the village. (b) Concern was expressed by SC over the edge of the roadway in Church Street , which is falling away.	JD, CG, LW
25/37	Bridlepaths and Footpaths a) Concern was expressed over the mud along the footpath between Bemerry Bank and Ford Cottages. The pavement has also narrowed over time and needs clearing. It was unanimously resolved to pay £90 for the clearance of this pavement. CG to supervise.	CG
25/38	Finance Report. a) Bank Reconciliation. The Council currently has a total of £20,848.49 in the accounts. £2000 of this is ring fenced grant money. b) Invoices. It was unanimously resolved to pay Mr Pluck £350 for the play area hedging, HMRC £206.00 for Clerk's tax, £892.46 for Clerk's pay. c) Since the last meeting £9.49 has been paid for clips for the SID. d) It was resolved to transfer £3000 to the Play Area account for payment of the extended lease, when the new contract is finalised.	LW LW
25/39	Planning Applications and Decisions. None. Further concerns were express regarding the continued work being undertaken at Ye Old Malt House. LW had already contacted ENP but just received a standard reply. SC had had extensive contact with ENP regarding parking, pod in the garden, windows in the roof, etc. KA to contact ENP again.	KA
25/40	Village Maintenance	

	<p>(a) An offer of a sand pit had been received from Mr Pervak. Unfortunately, due to regulations regarding hygiene this would need daily checking and the Council resolved not to take up this offer. LW to communicate the Council's thanks to Mr Pervak and explain their decision.</p> <p>(b) The Brewers Green sign is , once again, on the ground. LW to investigate a metal post holder.</p> <p>(c) Daffodils are growing well around the village.</p> <p>(d) Sign to be placed on car which is parking on the grass in Bemerry Bank, if seen again.</p>	<p>LW</p> <p>LW</p> <p>LW</p>
25/41	<p>Village Environment Items</p> <p>(a) KA had met with representatives of SRA and FWAG to look at flooding issues. Grants were available to mitigate the flow of water along the worst paths/roads. KA to investigate further.</p>	KA
25/42	<p>Correspondence. Free Cream Tea event on 12th April at 3pm. The idea of the event is to raise awareness of the help available to residents. Members of CAB, Somerset Green Forum and the Micro Providers team to be available. All resident invited to attend.</p>	
25/43	<p>Report from other Representatives. JD had attended the LCN meeting. Concern was expressed over the new boundaries proposal, which paired us with Wootton Courtenay and the coastal villages. The Council and some members have already responded to this proposal indicating that the village wished to remain with the rest of Exmoor.</p>	
25/44	<p>Chair's Notices.</p> <p>a) Magna have secured a grant to replace all the old heating in Orchard Way.</p> <p>b) The National grid post which supplied the bright light in Orchard Way has now been identified and it is hoped that the light will be changed shortly.</p> <p>c) KA has informed Mr Macdonald, Housing Enabler for Somerset Council, that the Parish Council have no interest in pursuing the development of housing in the village , as they simply don't have the expertise necessary. It was agreed that this was a job for somebody with specialist planning knowledge.</p>	
25/45	<p>Items for next agenda. None</p>	

Meeting finished at 8.55 pm.

Date of next meeting Monday 28th April 2025.