

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th September 2025 at Timberscombe Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors - K. Attwater (KA)- Chair, S. Campbell (SC), I. Ware (IW), J. Daniel (JD), C. Gibbard (CG) arrived 8.15pm, L. Davies (LD), County Councillors S. Pugsley (SP) and F. Nicholson (FN) both arrived 8.15pm, L. Webb (LW)- Clerk.

Item	Minutes	Action
	Questions/Comments from the public. None	
25/111	Apologies for Absence H. Moore (HM),	
25/112	Declarations of Notifiable Interests. None	
25/113	Approval of the Minutes of the last ordinary meeting held on 28 th July 2025. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by SC and seconded by JD. Accepted as a true record and signed by KA.	
25/114	Matters Arising. The Timberscombe Information Hub in September was very successful and another will be held on 20 th November at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. On this occasion, IT help was available and proved popular.	
24/115	Report by Somerset Councillors - Moved until after 25/123, after the County Councillors arrived at 8.15 pm . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Somerset Prepared addressed the LCN meeting. They continue to hold Flood Resilience sessions. The next one is in Taunton. Eric Norman, of Cutcombe PC, reported to the LCN on his experience of the recent coach crash. The importance of a landline was emphasised. b) The damage to the A396, at the accident site, is more extensive than first thought and will require major engineering work to repair. The traffic lights will, therefore, remain for some time. c) The winter maintenance program will continue unchanged this year. d) The Boundary Report is expected in December. 	
25/116	Highways – The has been chaos this year with road closures and diversions all over the area.	
25/117	Footpaths and Bridleways – No new concerns.	
25/118	Finance Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bank Reconciliation. The Parish Council accounts stand at a total of £25,583.54 b) Invoices. Invoices for grass cutting totalling £350 have been paid since the last meeting. Mr Dunsford has been doing a great job of tidying up around the Village. He has completed a total of 8 hours so far @£15ph. Payments totalling £120 have been paid, as previously agreed. c) It was unanimously agreed to transfer the remaining £1000 of grant money to TGN and give a £1000 grant to the JAPF account, to cover the new lease costs. The following invoices were unanimously approved for payment: £38.40 for the Wordpress website address for 2 years, £36 to TVH for hall hire, £1,316.09 to the Clerk and £363.90 to HMRC for the Clerk's pay and tax, covering 6 months work, £2406 to Mr Evans for the replacement bus stop shelter. £31.42 for the paint to repaint the road sign in Church Street, £252 to TQExcel for the SID training course (travel expenses will also need to be paid). Paying these invoices will take the PC account down to just under £19K. There will be a hedging invoice to follow at some time from Mr Pluck. 	LW
25/119	Planning Applications and Decisions. The applications for The Methodist Chapel, Pero Cottage and Beasley Farm were all supported by the Council. The latter two were	LW

	thought to greatly enhance the properties concerned, without any noticeable impact on other properties. Concern was expressed over the appearance of a white PVC window in the Methodist Chapel, which was thought to be out of character with the building.	
25/120	<p>Village Maintenance – a) Additional work was agreed for Mr Dunsford, to be supervised by CG: Trees at end of Bemberry Bank to be cut away from pathway. Cut back low hanging trees from the hedge between the football pitch and the main road. These are restricting the view of approaching traffic when exiting Vicarage Court and the footpath. Further mud/vegetation clearance to be completed around the village. Grass at the entrance to Vicarage Court to be cut.</p> <p>The addition of a fence by the bus stop was discussed. It was agreed that if a fence was put along the roadside children would sit on it or lean against it, potentially causing danger to themselves and others. The standing space has been increased by 9 paving stones and, if felt necessary, could be increased further.</p> <p>Concern was expressed over the removal of a tree near the Old Dairy leaving a dangerous metal spike exposed. It is understood that the tree has been removed in order to increase the parking area, with the possibility of an e-charger being installed. LW to check if this would need planning permission.</p>	<p>LW/CG</p> <p>LW</p> <p>LW</p>
25/121	<p>Village Environment Items a) JD and KA have met with a representative of the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group regarding flooding issues and the erosion of top soil. The representative is in contact with local farmers on this issue.</p> <p>b) Flood alarms have been installed in Luxborough and Cutcombe to warn the local area of potential flooding.</p> <p>c) Diocese field containing overflowing sewage must be reported by the owner or the tenant.</p>	
25/122	Correspondence – The Village Hall has once again secured a Hallmark 3 award, which is the highest possible level.	
25/123	<p>Report from other Representatives. a) IW has now completed the required SID training course and will be able to put the SID up. A CCTV warning sign to be purchased.</p> <p>b) LW reported on the Magna residents meeting with regard to the Retro Fitting in Orchard Way. The work is expected to start in the next few months. All houses are currently being surveyed and the work done to each house will depend on what is reported for individual houses.</p> <p>c) At the recent LCN meeting Somerset Prepared agreed to put on a resilience roadshow for Exmoor parishes , which would focus on power outages and road traffic accidents. This should take place before Christmas. The launch of the Village Emergency Plan will be held back until after this meeting.</p>	<p>IW</p> <p>LW</p>
25/124	Chair's Notices. One developer has expressed an interest in developing the Diocese land.	
25/125	Items for next agenda. Budget and Precept, Grass Cutting contract.	

Meeting finished at 8.45 pm.

Date of next meeting Monday 27th October 2025.