

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 30th March 2026 at Timberscombe Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors - K. Attwater (KA) - Chair, C. Gibbard (CG) arrived 8.30 pm, J. Daniel (JD), S. Campbell (SC), I. Ware (IW), , County Cllr F. Nicholson (FN), County Councillor S. Pugsley (SP) arrived 8pm , L. Webb (LW)- Clerk.

Item	Minutes	Action
	Questions/Comments from the public. None	
26/29	Apologies for Absence L. Davis (LD)	
26/30	Declarations of Notifiable Interests. None	
26/31	Approval of the Minutes of the last ordinary meeting held 23 rd February 2026 Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by SC and seconded by JD. Accepted as a true record and signed by KA.	
26/32	Matters Arising (i) Mrs Moore has resigned for the Council due to ill health. The vacancy has been advertised and the advert must run until 15 th April. If no person requests an election then the Council would be free to co-opt at the next meeting. LW to check the regulations regarding co-option. (ii) The following works have now been completed: Gate to football pitch installed, pothole in Great House Street, solar panel erection (thanks to IW and CG), “give way” light in The Glebe, edge of roadway in Church Street, catch to field at the top of School Lane, dog signs purchased and installed on The Green. (iii) The following works are still outstanding: Tree leaning on the wire in Church Street. (iv) The football pitch goals to be completed after the Easter holidays. (v) A quote of £600 has been received for the external painting of the phone box but the workman concerned does not have the tools to plane the door. LW/JD to try to find somebody who could do this. It was unanimously resolved to accept the quote but the work could not commence until the door has been altered. (vi) The clerk has met with Mr Williams regarding the grass cutting and cutting has just started. (vii) The Anna a card discussed at the last meeting will not take on Parish Councils. The clerk will look for other alternatives.	LW to chase up Openreach. LW/JD LW
26/33	Report by the County Councillors (<i>SP and FN arrived</i>) SP reported that : (i) The Somerset Council rates would increase by 4.99%. There is still a large deficit in the budget. (ii) The Parish Council should expect contact from Somerset Council consultants who are looking to improve the engagement of Somerset Council with the parishes. Thanks were expressed to SP and FN and our clerk for their efforts in ensuring that Timberscombe remained in the Exmoor division, when the boundaries are changed next year. The elections for wards and Parish Council will be held in May 2027. <i>CG arrived.</i>	
26/34	Highways The Dunster Steep works are due to be completed this week.	
26/35	Footpaths and Bridleways No new issues.	
26/36	Finance Report. (i) Bank Reconciliation. The Parish Council accounts stand at a healthy total of £11,744.79. This is approximately 110% of the precept which is above the	

	<p>recommended reserve level for a Parish the size of Timberscombe. There are still projects in need of funding to complete.</p> <p>(ii) Pre-approved payments made since the last meeting- £67.50 to Mr Dunford for village maintenance, £8.99 for dog fouling signs, £340 to Coast Builders for the football pitch gate. Thanks also to villagers who have donated earth and stones to build up the sides of the gate.</p> <p>(iii) Invoices. No new invoices.</p>	
26/37	<p>Planning Applications and Decisions. No new applications. ENP have stated that the previous incorrect labelling of the chapel was by the agent. Planning has now been granted for the works. The clerk read a letter from Mr Jeffrey re a future application for change of use for the chapel. Concern was expressed about this change of use into housing by the back door. Others agreed that another community facility would be detrimental to existing community spaces. LW to check what is happening re the archives that it was suggested were stored there. It was also suggested by SP that a condition be placed on the Chapel tying it to the Mill and preventing it being used as separate housing in the future. The Council would have a vote and make a formal response once the application had been made.</p>	LW
26/38	<p>Village Maintenance and Village Environmental Items</p> <p>(i) LW has reported the decaying fence between the road and river by The Green to somerset Council as a danger to life. They have accepted responsibility for the work but felt it was “not urgent but still needs attention” and have placed it on their regular maintenance schedule. LW to attempt to find out how long this might take.</p> <p>(ii) SC proposed that the school be permitted to display their banner on the village green, to try to increase numbers in the school. It was unanimously agreed to permit this for a limited period. JD to speak to villagers who live on the green.</p> <p>(iii) A letter from Mrs Chaffey was read out requesting permission to place a bench on the green in memory of her husband, Barry. It was unanimously agreed to permit this. LW to communicate this to Mrs Chaffey.</p> <p>(iv) IW reported on the speeding results for the SID. A general reduction of speed has been noted but instances of excessive speed where still evident.</p>	LW JD LW.
26/39	Correspondence. None.	
26/40	Report from other Representatives. None.	
26/41	Chair’s Notices. None	
26/42	Items for next agenda.	

Meeting finished at 8.52 pm. Date of next meeting Monday 27th April 2026.