

BEERCROCOMBE PARISH

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 24th May 2021

ATTENDANCE

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Clerk to the Parish Council, SCC County Councillor and 6 parishioners

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th May 2019 were received and approved. No Annual Parish Meeting was held in 2020 due to the national lockdown resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Mr. Harvey gave the following report:

The last report I prepared for the Annual Meeting was in 2019. Where has the last two years gone? Well for a large part of that time we have been shut away indoors due to Government Regulations in regard to the virus. During this period Julia Wright resigned from the Council on moving away from Beercrocombe and thanks were given to her for all her hard work as a councillor for many years. Brian Longstaff also resigned. The Council welcomed Margaret Ramsbotham and Rose Overton onto the Council in 2019 and 2020 respectively.

There has been a few planning applications and I will ask Bob to explain them and the decisions by the Parish Council and South Somerset District Council. Due to the lockdown regulations, there have not been any social events on the village green in 2020 which was a great shame. However, the Church Plant Sale held each year on the 1st Saturday of May was able to take place in the open in 2020 and 2021 and this year's sale made a profit of £800. The stalls were spread throughout the village to comply with Government Regulations. A Parish Social Event took place on the 11th of June 2019 which was a great success and the profit of £90 was donated to the Halcon Centre in Taunton in memory of Robert Eminson. Hopefully this year after the 21st June we may be able to have a BBQ and have the Morris Dancers to perform which is very popular.

I had a conversation with Malcolm Cavell yesterday and regrettably he is not very well at the moment. I wished him a speedy recovery and he is out of action as our South Somerset District Councillor for the foreseeable future.

The Parish Council's financial situation is in good order.

A working party in November 2019 sorted out the dead tree on the village green and cut back other trees and the one behind the seat next to the Bus Shelter was removed. Two new trees were purchased and planted on the green with a donation from the Beercrocombe Trust. A big thanks to the working party and in particular Anthony Stone who kindly brought his digger down to remove the two trees and make holes to plant the two new trees. A Christmas tree was put up on the Village Green in December 2020 kindly donated by Simon and Nicky and we were able to have Carol Singing around the tree. Two wooden barrels have been purchased for the village green together with Roses to go in each barrel.

The Nexus Road Project at junction 25 on the M5/A358 has been completed. The proposed route for the A358 dualling has been decided but there are issues in regard to access to the new route and Bob will explain in more detail his correspondence and Zoom meetings with Highways England. The two road markings in Beer Street have been renewed. In regard to the roads in Beercrocombe I will present a detailed report later in the meeting. A salt bin has been installed by the dog bin in Beer Street.

Finally I would like to thank Gillian again for all her hard work over the past two years and keeping the Council on the straight and narrow in regard to all the regulations. I would also like to thank my fellow councillors for their support. This is my last report as chairman as not seeking re-election.

REPORTS FROM PARISH INTEREST GROUPS

Neighbourhood Watch

Mr Rastrick reported that apart from the computer & phone scams, dodgy tree surgeons in June, torches shone up driveways in November & dodgy tarmac in December, it was another fairly smooth year for Beercrocombe.

We now are policed from Ilminster which is a lot closer & therefore more relevant to us than Somerton. The two PCSO's are:

John Martin, John.Martin@avonandsomerset.police.uk Mobile;
07889659178

Stephen Trace, Stephen.Trace@avonandsomerset.police.uk Mobile;
07511213849

Obviously in an emergency, or crimes in process, the contact is still the old favourite of 999, with non-urgent stuff still on 101.

I'd like to read a few lines from the last N/W message I had.

"We frequently receive information of crimes and reports of suspicious activities from members of Avon and Somerset Watch, which in turn we forward to the Constabulary. However, reporting to us is often 'the first port of call' - when it really should be to the Police"

Roads and Footpaths

Mr. Harvey delivered his report on roads and footpaths as follows:

Roads.

There continues to be considerable difficulties in keeping roads within the village in good order particularly the deep potholes that occur from time to time on the side of roads within the Parish. As you know the County Council have a policy of not repairing any holes that are less than 40mm deep. Minor repairs have been carried out over the past two years in Broadmead Road and Stocks Lane and on occasions John and James down have carried out repairs to farm entrances where they impact on the edge of the road. The main concern at present remains Broadbridge Road and I have been in touch last Friday with SCC Yeovil Office concerning the failure to carry out remedial work on this road although marked in orange for some time. This work should have been carried out by the 13th May but due to contractor issues the work was not completed. Apparently, a new contractor has the job, and the work should be completed in the next 14 days. Last year Highways dept put all our roads on the list to be patched before a new surface was put down. However, this work was struck out for 2021-22 due to cutbacks on road repairs in Somerset. So unfortunately, only minor patching will continue this year. Always worth reporting any serious holes in the road.

Very little work is to be carried out in Radigan Lane this year and this road is in Ashill Parish. On a matter outside the Parish many people complained about the state of the verge edge along by Hatch Court and after complaints work has been done to repair the affected area and the dangerous drops have been filled in and tarmac used in certain areas. Hopefully Beercrocombe Roads will be done next year and are in the estimates for 2022-23. Sorry no better news.

Footpaths.

As far as I am aware most footpaths remain in reasonable order. There is one issue involving footpath L5/16 which goes through Mrs P Rutherford's property from Beer Street to the Church. The first gate on the footpath which goes behind a wooden barn has been fixed with a new metal gate and hanging post. There is trouble with the second gate post on the footpath which has broken, and a report has been made requesting it be repaired with a new post and possibly a new metal gate.

Beer & Curry Takeaway

Most of the articles in the newsletter are from Curry Mallet residents and it would be nice to have more contribution from Beercrocombe residents. Some parishioners have questioned the relevance of the newsletter as it is only issued on a quarterly basis, whereas the Parish Magazine is published monthly.

Village Hall Report

The Village Hall re-opened briefly in September & October following the first lockdown but has since been shut again.

Grants totaling £18000 from SSDC have been received to offset loss of income, and as a result of this, the finances are healthy with several years running costs covered. The maintenance costs are low and the rent to the Duchy has been reduced as the Village Hall no longer have access to one of the fields.

Village Trust

Mr. Harvey reported:

There have been five meetings of the trust since the last annual report to the Parish in May 2019. During the period 2019-20 Grants were made to the Church PCC of £1575.00 which included a contribution towards repairs to the inside of the church, 4 Student Grants totalling £800, and £89.21 for the provision of two trees on the village Green. The Trust remains in good order but due to the circumstances on the stock market and grant payments the total assets have fallen over the past two years.

QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

There were no matters raised.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm

BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall on Monday 24th May 2021

2065 Attendance and Apologies

Councillors: Mr. R. Burrough, Mr. P Dibble, Mr. G Harvey, Mr. A Plumbly, Mr. M. Rastrick, Mrs. M Ramsbotham

Public: Cllr C Paul (SCC), one parishioner

Apologies: Mrs. R. Overton, Cllr M Cavill (SSDC)

2066 Election of Chairman.

Mr Harvey had previously notified the members that did not wish to stand for re-election as Chairman. Mr Plumbly was nominated by Mr Burrough to be the new Chairman and following his agreement, the nomination was unanimously approved. Mr Plumbly signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

2067 Election of Vice-Chairman

There were no nominations and the position remained unfilled.

2068 Allocation of Members' Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and Responsibilities were agreed and allocated as follows: -

Neighbourhood Watch – Mr. M. Rastrick

Village Hall Representative – Mr. A. Plumbly

Highways and Footpaths – Mr. G Harvey

Planning – Mr. B. Burrough.

Community Communication Representative – Vacant

Village Trust – Mr. G Harvey.

Website – Mr. B. Burrough

2069 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests

2070 Minutes of the last meetings

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meetings held on 28th September 2020, 15th October 2020, and 21st December 2020 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2071 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

2072 Parishioners' Forum

Two issues relating to footpaths were raised.

The footpath at Mushroom Farm (L5/13) is often waterlogged and the Council was asked if the path could be raised to prevent this. The Council thought that it would be unlikely that the landowner would agree to this and it would be quite a task.

A parishioner has a Parish map of 1912 which shows there was a footpath at Pauls Farm, but this does not appear on the definitive map held by Somerset County Council. The parishioner recalls members of his family using the footpath.

The Council will contact the Rights of Way team and ask them to investigate the issue.

2073 Matters of Report

- **Footpaths**

There is one issue involving footpath L5/16 which goes from Beer St to the church as one of the gate posts is damaged and needs repair. The matter has been reported to SCC.

- **Highway matters**

The surface dressing of the Parish roads which was due to take place in the current financial year has been put back to 2022/23.

The Chairman has written to Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council with regards to the continued deterioration of the road at Elmbridge as this is within Hatch Beauchamp Parish and has asked that the defect be reported to Highways.

- **Planning**

Following the submission of revised plans, Planning Application 20/03016/FUL – Demolition of 2 barn conversions and replacement with 1 dwelling at Stewley Orchard, Capland Lane, has been approved.

2074 Update on A358 improvements

Highways England has appointed Taylor Woodrow to be the 'design and build' contractor for the A358 improvements.

A community liaison forum has been established and Mr Burrough has attended two forums as the Beercrocombe PC representative, together with representatives from nearby parishes.

The current proposed plan limits access to and across the A358 and will greatly impact on the connectivity to other parishes for residents. Mr

Burrough is liaising with neighbouring Parish Councils to ensure that the parishes are united in their response to Highways England.

As part of the planning process, the Parish Council were asked for its views on the Environmental Impact Assessment that has been carried out by Highways England and its response is published on the Beercrocombe website together with information from the Community Liaison Forums.

2075 To discuss broadband issues within Parish

Following a discussion with the members, it is apparent that there is a variance in broadband speeds throughout the Parish. To achieve the best speeds, it is important that the copper fibre is fault free and parishioners are encouraged to contact Openreach if there are crackles on the line so that remedial work can be carried out.

2076 To receive the annual accounts and internal auditors report

The annual accounts were presented to the meeting. The precept for the year 2020/21 was £1495, and expenditure was £1180, resulting in a surplus of £315.00. Expenditure includes the purchase of a salt bin at £184. The Council's reserves stand at £2360.

The internal audit report has been completed and no issues have been raised.

2077 To approve Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 and confirmed that it had considered and agreed items 1-9 of the statement. The statement was signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

2078 To approve Section 2 Accounting statements 2020/21

The Council approved the Accounting statements for 2020/21. The statements were signed by the Chairman and RFO.

2079 To confirm that the Council wishes to certify itself as exempt from the limited assurance review

The Council confirmed that met the criteria for exemption and wished to certify itself as exempt from the limited assurance review. The Chairman signed the exemption certificate.

2080 To review and confirm the insurance arrangements for 2021

It was **resolved** to renew the Council's insurance through Community First at a renewal premium of £185.73. The Council has previously entered into a Long Term Agreement resulting in a reduced premium. This agreement is due for review in 2023.

2081 To review and confirm the risk assessment for 2021

The Council received the risk assessment for 2021 and considers that it has adequate measures in place to mitigate any risks the Council may face. It was **resolved** to approve the risk assessment

2082 To review the Council's financial regulations and internal audit controls

The Clerk has reviewed the financial regulations which were adopted in September 2014 and considers that these are still appropriate. The Clerk has also reviewed the internal control procedures and considers them to be adequate. It was **resolved** to approve the financial regulations and statement of internal control.

2083 Formal Expenditure Approval

It was **resolved** to make the following payments:

a) Clerk's Salary	£193.32
b) Community First	£185.73
c) Barrels for Village Green	£ 80.00
d) Roses for Village Green	£ 35.93

2084 To confirm receipt of precept 2021/22

The Clerk confirmed that the precept of £1495 has been received from SSDC.

2085 To receive the resignation of Margaret Ramsbotham

The Council regretfully received the resignation of Mrs Ramsbotham as she is leaving the Parish. The Chairman thanked her for her contribution to the Council.

2086 Correspondence for information and items of report

A new recycling timetable will be introduced in the Parish at the end of June. Most plastic items will now be recycled and as a result, the collection of general waste will be reduced to every three weeks. The collection of food waste and recyclable items will continue on a weekly basis.

2087 To confirm date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 19th July at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Gillian Midworth
Clerk, Beercrocombe Parish Council

BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall held on Tuesday 20th July 2021

2088 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors: Mr. R Burrough, Mr. A. Plumbly, Mr. M Rastrick,

Public: Cllr C Paul (SCC), one parishioner

Apologies: Mr. G Harvey,

2089 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

2090 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 24th May 2021 were approved and signed.

2091 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising

2092 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

It was reported that Footpath L5/16 was becoming impassable due to thick stinging nettles and thistles. The Chairman will speak to the landowner regarding this.

2093 MATTERS OF REPORT

a) Footpaths

SCC have agreed to replace the broken gate on Footpath L5/16 although the contractor has a back log of work so there may be a delay.

b) Highway matters

Major patching has taken place in Broadbridge Road and Radigan Lane. The gullies in Radigan Lane have also been cleared and the Council is grateful to Mr Vigus for ensuring that the work was completed to a satisfactory standard.

Markings have been made on the Elmbridge bridge and it is hoped that work will be carried out there shortly.

Wessex Water have been advised that unpleasant odours are emanating from a couple of manholes and they are coming out to inspect the problem.

c) Planning

Three planning applications have been received since the last meeting and have been supported by the Parish Council:

21/01746/COL Certificate of Lawfulness application for the existing use of land to be used as residential & as an extension to domestic curtilage at 2 Broadmead Road.

21/01057/HOU The erection of a single storey side extension and alterations to existing dwelling house to improve wheelchair access at Chy Pendra

21/00880/FUL Erection of a steel framed agricultural building for the storage of dry fodder and farm machinery at Manor Farm

d) A358 Improvements

Mr Burrough gave an update on the A358 improvements. The local community was faced with the prospect of closure of the majority of local connections to our A358, with all local traffic diverted through country lanes and roads to either Mattock's Tree Green junction (next to Thornfalcon) or Ashill junction. This would mean that most local traffic would have to drive through either Hatch Beauchamp or Ashill. Since May eight local Parish Councils have worked together to develop proposals to improve connectivity to the new dualled carriageway. We sent these Community Proposals to Highways England on 14 June, and they are now being evaluated. Four of our proposals have so far been accepted.

The proposal and all related documents are published on the Beercrocombe website: beercrocombe.org.

e) Dog Waste

There have been incidences recently where filled dog waste bags have been left on the roadside. There has been an issue with regards to clearing of the dog waste bin as a result of an error in the collection rota. This issue has been resolved and should not recur.

It was agreed to put a notice up reminding residents to use the dog bin and not litter the Parish with waste bags.

2094 TO DISCUSS FILLING THE VACANCY FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF MRS RAMSBOTHAM

Mr John Down has expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council but was unable to be present at the meeting. It was agreed to formally co-opt him at the next meeting.

2095 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

It was **resolved** to make the following payments:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------|
| a. Clerk's salary | £96.66 |
| b. SALC | £42.41 |

2096 CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF REPORT FOR INFORMATION

- **Recycle More**

There have been some teething problems with the roll-out of the new recycling arrangements, due mainly to the shortage of collectors. Usually missed collections are picked up within two days but at present, residents are advised that if the collection is not picked up within two days, the waste will not be collected until the next due date.

Further information has been published in the bus shelter.

2097 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on **Monday 18th October 2021**. at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

BEERCROCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Beercrocombe Parish Council held at Beercrocombe & Curry Mallet Village Hall held on Monday 18th October 2021

2098 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors: Mr. R Burrough, Mr. G Harvey, Mrs R. Overton Mr. A. Plumbly, Mr. M Rastrick,

Apologies: Mr. P. Dibble, Cllr Paul (SCC)

2099 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

2100 TO CO-OPT MR J DOWN TO THE COUNCIL

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr J Down to the Council to fill the vacancy caused by Mrs Ramsbotham's resignation.

2101 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 20th July 2021 were approved and signed.

2102 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising

2103 PARISHIONERS' FORUM

No matters were raised.

2104 MATTERS OF REPORT

b) Footpaths

The broken gate on Footpath L5/16 has still to be repaired. The landowners would like the gate to be moved to the end of the path rather than at the dog leg as present. Andrew Plumbly and Graham Harvey will meet to discuss this with the landowner and SCC.

The summer growth previously reported on this footpath has been cleared.

b) Highway matters

Further markings for extensive patching has taken place throughout the Parish in preparation for resurfacing which is due to be carried out next year.

f) Planning

No new planning applications have been received.

2105 TO CONFIRM PARISH COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO A358 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The public consultation on the proposed dualling of the A358 has commenced and will close on 22nd November.

Prior to the consultation, the Parish Council which has been working with 11 neighbouring parishes, submitted alternative proposals to National Highways. These proposals suggest alterations to the scheme which will be beneficial to the local community.

The group of local parishes intend to submit a community response to the consultation and a draft response was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

The draft response was discussed and it was agreed to wait for input from the other local parishes. The final wording of the response will be agreed by consultation with members and submitted by the closing date.

2106 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL

It was **resolved** to make the following payments:

a. Clerk's salary	£96.66
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2107 CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF REPORT FOR INFORMATION

- **Village Hall**

The Village Hall has now fully re-opened. Since March 2020, it has received grants of £18000, to compensate for the enforced closures due to Covid.

2108 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on **Monday 24th January**, at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm