

# 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 on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

### **2253 Attendance and Apologies**

*Councillors:* Mr. A Plumbly (Chair), Mr. R. Burrough, Mr. P Dibble, Mr. J Down, Mr. G Harvey, Mrs. J Mann, Mr. M Rastrick

*Public:* None

*Apologies:* Cllr M Stanton (Somerset Council)

### **2254 Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **2255 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### **2256 Matters arising from the minutes.**

- **Update on damage to Village Green and reimbursement from First Bus**

Reimbursement is still awaited from First Bus and the Chairman continues to chase this matter.

- **Coronation Commemoration Plaque**

The Parish Council has decided not to proceed with the Coronation Commemoration Plaque, as it considers that the money earmarked for the project would be better used to refurbish the old telephone box.

Every Parish Council has been given the opportunity to receive a framed portrait of the King, free of charge, and it was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Curry Mallet PC to enquire whether they would be taking up the offer as the Village Hall would be the most appropriate venue to house the portrait.

## **2257 Parishioners' Forum**

A parishioner has raised the issue of fly tipping in the vicinity of Broadmead Road. On several occasions during the past four years, large quantities of raw meat and other foodstuffs have been left in the area, sometimes on residents' properties. The matter was reported to Somerset Council on the last occasion and subsequently cleared within 48 hours. There is no identifying evidence left with the items and realistically little that the Parish Council can do to prevent future occurrences.

## **2258 Matters of Report**

- **Footpaths**

Mr Harvey reported that Somerset Council responded quickly to the damaged footbridge on L5/13 and has installed a new handrail. As a result of the heavy winter rainfall, the footpath and watercourse have come together, and the adjacent ditch is blocked. The ditch may be the responsibility of the Duchy, but Mr Harvey will contact the Footpath Officer and ask her opinion.

- **Highway matters**

The bottom of Stocks Lane has recently been subject to prolonged flooding due to a blocked drain. This matter was referred to Highways, who confirmed that 2 gullies were not working properly and would be added to the list of locations to be jetted but they could give no guarantee when the work would be carried out.

The gullies in question receive an annual clean funded by Somerset Council and an additional clean funded by the Somerset Rivers Authority. However, part of the issue is the pipe between the gullies blocks on a regular basis and it was agreed that the Parish Council would consider the feasibility of employing a jetting machine for a short time to carry out some additional drain maintenance to alleviate the situation.

Several parishioners have undertaken to solve some of the issues caused by flooding and the Parish Council wishes to record its thanks to Henry Cole and Peter Rust for clearing the gully at the northern end of Stocks Lane and to John and James Down for clearing the grips, ditches, and culverts at Broadmead Lane, allowing the standing water to disperse. This is a great help to the community.

- **A358 Update**

There is no further news to report and the A358 scheme is currently held in abeyance.

- **LCN Update**

The Chairman will attend the next meeting of the Crewkerne and Ilminster LCN to be held on 21/03/24 to gauge whether this grouping would be a better fit than the Levels and Moors group.