

# **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 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### **2263 Attendance and Apologies**

*Councillors:* Mr. R. Burrough, Mr. P Dibble, Mr. J Down Mr. G Harvey, Mrs. J Mann, Mr. M Rastrick

*Public:* Cllr M Stanton (SCC),

*Apologies:* Mr. A Plumbly

### **2264 Election of Chairman.**

Mr Plumbly was nominated by Mr Burrough and seconded by Mr Harvey. Mr Plumbly had previously indicated that we would be prepared to stand again as Chairman if nominated, and the nomination was unanimously approved.

### **2265 Election of Vice-Chairman**

Mrs J Mann was nominated as Vice-Chairman by Mr Harvey and seconded by Mr Burrough. Mrs Mann accepted the nomination which was unanimously approved. She agreed to chair the meeting in the absence of Mr Plumbly.

### **2266 Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interests.

### **2267 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. R. Burrough.

Communication Representative – Mr R Burrough

Village Trust – Mr. G Harvey.

Website – Mr. R. Burrough

LCN Representatives – A Plumbly and J Mann

## **2268 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## **2269 Matters arising from the minutes.**

- **Damage to Village Green and response from First Bus**

Mr Plumbly has finally received the £100 from First Bus as compensation for the damage caused to the Village Green. This amount covers the cost of the posts that have been placed around the edges of the green.

- **Village BBQ**

The Village Trust is unable to contribute as the event does not fall within the criteria as laid down by the Trust's constitution.

A parishioner has offered to donate £100 towards the cost and it was suggested that there should be a collection on the day towards the cost of future events. The Parish Council has committed to pay half the costs.

## **2270 Parishioners' Forum**

There were no issues raised.

## **2271 Matters of Report**

- **Footpaths**

There are no new issues to report.

- **Highway matters**

There is water constantly on the road near to Beer Mill Farm and it is likely that the gully is blocked. This will be reported to Highways for action.

- **Planning**

No new planning applications have been received since the last meeting. The Certificate for Lawfulness for Manor Farm Cottage has been approved, thus releasing the property from its agricultural tie.

- **A358 Update**

There is no further news to report.

- **LCN Update**

Mr Plumbly attended a recent meeting of the Crewkerne & Ilminster LCN, and the Council will decide at a future meeting whether to change LCN areas.

## **2272 To receive the annual accounts and internal auditors report.**

The annual accounts were presented to the meeting. The precept for the year 2023/24 was £1600, and expenditure was £1212. In addition, the Council

received a CIL payment of £145, resulting in a surplus of £679. The Council's reserves stand at £3375.

The Council received the internal audit report, which confirmed that there were no issues that needed addressing. The Council thanked Mr Jervis for carrying out the audit.

#### **2273 To approve Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2023/24**

The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 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)

#### **2274 To approve Section 2 Accounting statements 2023/24.**

The Council approved the Accounting Statements for 2023/24. The statements were signed by the Chairman and RFO.

#### **2275 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 was eligible to certify itself as exempt from the limited assurance review. The Chairman signed the exemption certificate.

#### **2276 To review and confirm the insurance arrangements for 2024.**

Renewal documents have been received from Zurich Insurance. The Council had previously entered into a 3 Year Long Term Agreement which expires in 2025. The Council confirmed that the insurance cover was still suitable for its needs and agreed to renew the insurance for a premium of £182.50.

#### **2277 To review and confirm the risk assessment for 2024.**

The Council received the risk assessment for 2024 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.

#### **2278 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.

**2279 To confirm the dates for the period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit regulations.**

The Council confirmed that the period for the exercise of public rights in respect of the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 would commence on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** and end on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July**.

**2280 Formal Expenditure Approval**

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

a) Clerk's Salary	£ 116.66
b) Community First	£ 182.50
c) Beer & Curry Takeaway	£ 145.98
d) J Mann – Village Green plants	£ 13.20

**2280 To confirm receipt of precept for 2024/25.**

The Clerk confirmed that the precept of £1860 has been received from Somerset Council.

**2281 Correspondence for information and items of report**

- A working party within the Parish has started to refurbish the Telephone Kiosk. The Parish Council will cover the costs without prior authorisation up to £300.
- Wessex Internet, has been contracted by Connecting Devon & Somerset to bring superfast broadband to the rural areas of South Somerset, including Beercombe. They are currently in discussions with landowners in the Parish over access rights for the laying of cables.

**2282 To confirm date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.