

TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th June 2026

at Timberscombe Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: J. Daniel (JD) - Chair, S. Campbell (SC), R. Jeffrey (RJ), C. Gibbard arrived 8.25 (CG) R. Blomfield Richards (RR) , L. Webb (LW)- Clerk. County Councillor S. Pugsley (SP).

Prior to the meeting Mr C. Mc Donald (Rural Housing Enabler) and Ms S. Makroum (Church of England Housing Project) spoke about the possibility of houses being built on Diocese owned land near the Old Dairy. The Diocese have appointed an architect to carry out a feasibility study of the land and they hope to run a public consultation in the village hall in September. It was pointed out by the councillors that there was a serious sewage problem in the field which would need to be addressed before any housing could be considered and that the village already had a very high number of social houses (28%). It was queried if there was sufficient demand in the immediate vicinity. Mr Mc Donald to forward further statistics to the clerk for distribution.

Item	Minutes	Action
26/81	Apologies for Absence. I. Ware (IW), K. Attwater (KA) and F. Nicholson (FN)	
26/82	Declarations of Notifiable Interests. No new interests declared.	
26/83	Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 th April 2026. Proposed by SC and seconded by JD. Accepted as a true record and signed by the chair.	
26/84	Matters Arising. (i) RJ reported that inquiries at ENPA had confirmed that it was not possible to establish the Heber Vale track as a right of way unless the owner consented to this. (ii) Jobs now completed in the village – Kerb stones by the Post Office repaired, dog waste signs purchased and installed, Give Way sign repaired in The Glebe, goal posts installed, fence posts between the football pitch and play area replaced, white lines have been repainted throughout the village. (iii) The dog waste bin from Great House Street/ Willow Bank has been taken away by Somerset County as the post was broken. LW has contacted the Council and they anticipate that it will be replaced in the next week. LW to monitor. (iv) The agreed West Somerset CAB grant has not been paid as the organisation has closed down.	LW
26/85	Report by Somerset County Councillors. SP reported that: (i) A memorial tree, paid for by Somerset Highways, has now been planted in the Cutcombe recreation ground in memory of the child who sadly died in the Cutcombe bus crash. It was hoped that people would no longer place flowers at the crash site as this is a dangerous road at that point. (ii) The winter salt bin map was distributed at the recent LCN meeting. Clerks were asked to contact Highways re salt requirements for this winter.	LW

	(iii) Luxbrough Council have written a letter to Highways re the road damage at Nutcombe Bottom, which is causing severe problems to its residents and additional traffic through Timberscombe. It was reported that £99,000 has so far been spent on monitoring signage for the road closure. It was agreed that Timberscombe Council would add their signature to the letter. Local councillors were also willing to sign the letter. The work has been scheduled for this financial year. (iv) The SPCC grant fund for SID installation has now closed. SP recommended that the Council try Thrive or the Exmoor Trust grants. (v) The Great House Street leak repair is planned for this financial year.	LW LW
26/86	Finance Report (i) Total funds currently stand at £15,234.45 with around £5000 to come from the second half of the precept in September. (ii) Invoices- Previously agreed invoices paid since last meeting - Mr Hodgson £160 for setting up new emails and website, £117 to Mr Evans for repair to the fence posts. It was resolved to pay the following invoices- Painting of the phone box £707.08, Hall Hire £84, Dog Bin signs £37.98, Clerk's pay £472.52, HMCR £109.	LW
26/87	Highways (i) SC reported that the white triangles on the roadway would not be repainted, as Highways stated that the double white lines were sufficient. She reported that the lines had made a noticeable difference to traffic outside the Post Office.	
26/88	Bridleways and Footpaths (i) The Hill Fort pathway was once again overgrown. RJ to report (ii) The lamppost near the Orchard Way/Great House Street pathway is not working. RJ to report (iii) The Heber Vale footpath has been repeatedly blocked by cars. RJ to report. (iv) The footpath in the field leading to Heber Vale has very long grass which needs to be cut. RJ to report. (v) A bends in road sign has been placed at Totterdown, as requested by the Parish Council. Unfortunately, it is now situated in the landowners hedge. Landowner in discussion with Highways.	RJ LW RJ RJ
26/89	Planning Applications and Decision. None	
26/90	Village Maintenance and Environmental Issues (i) RR reported a strong smell of oil coming from the school oil tank. LW to report to school. (ii) It was resolved ask Mr Dunford to clean the inside of the phone box and remove unwanted paint. (iii) A bench in memory of Mr Chaffey has been installed on the village green. LW to write to Mrs Chaffey and thank her for her efforts at tidying up the other benches. (iv) LW to thank Mr Summersgill for cutting the pathway near the football pitch.	LW LW LW LW

	(v) Mr Dunford to be asked to remove the wood on the triangle at the end of Bemberry Bank and to postcrete the signs on the green. (vi) LW to contact the owners of the Great House and request that the vegetation alongside the roadway is trimmed back. (vii) SC suggested that we approach Magna with a view to placing a defib in Orchard Way. LW to contact. (viii) CG reported that a river clearing session would shortly take place.	LW LW LW
26/91	Correspondence. No further correspondence	
26/92	Report from representatives of other groups. None	
26/93	Chair's and Councillors' Notices. None.	
26/94	Items for next agenda. None	

Meeting finished at 8.55pm

Next meeting 27th July 2026