TIMBERSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28th September 2026

at Timberscombe Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: - I. Ware (IW)- Chair, J. Daniel (JD), C. Gibbard (CG) arrived 8.15pm, R. Blomfield Richards (RR) , R.Jeffrey (RJ) L. Webb (LW)- Clerk and 2 members of the public

Questions/Comments from the public:

The owners of Garden and Brook Cottage requested help with their drop curb application. IW offered to assist them.

Item	Minutes	Action
26/112	**Apologies for Absence.** K. Attwater (KA), S. Campbell (SC), County Councillors S. Pugsley (SP) and F. Nicholson (FN).	
26/113	**Declarations of Notifiable Interests.** No new interests declared.	
26/114	**Approval of the Minutes** of the last meetings held on 27th July and 16th September (planning).Proposed by RR and seconded by JD. Accepted as a true record and signed by the chair.	
26/115	**Matters Arising.** None	
26/116	**Report by Somerset County Councillors**. None. LW to contact councillors to check what is happening with the SID grants	 LW
26/117	**Highways** (i) IW brought along figures for the SID . Some data appeared to be incorrect, so he would check this. (ii) A letter has been received from Highways regarding the Cutcombe Bottom closure. It is anticipated that the surveyor's report would soon be available and a decision on how the works would be completed should be made by the end of the year. The work should be completed in the current financial year. (iii) Diversion signs for the above roadwork were causing problems and it was requested that these were labelled as "Nutcombe Bottom only". JD reported that damage had been done by large vehicles trying to follow these diversions. LW to relay this to Highways.	 IW LW
26/118	**Bridleways and Footpaths** (i) Tree leaning over the footpath near Wanneroo Farm has been removed (ii) Damaged sign for the school has been reported by RJ.	
26/119	**Finance Report** (i) Total funds currently stand at £18,228.72 with just over £5000 recently received as the second half of the precept in September. (ii) Invoices- Invoices paid since last meeting £40 to SALC for clerk's Data Handling training. It was resolved to pay the solicitor's invoice of £390 for ID verification for the Land Registry along with 3 x £10.99 for photographs of councillors and £5.95 for recorded delivery.	 LW

	It was resolved to donate £150 to Minehead Community Defib Group following their excellent free training last week and to donate £23 to the British Legion for a poppy wreath. It was resolved to pay the clerk's salary of £558.13 and the HMRC bill of £129.60. (iii) We have had no invoices for grass cutting this year, so a large bill is expected at the end of October. (iv) The clerk informed the council that she would be standing down as soon as a new clerk could be found. It was agreed that, in order to attract a good clerk, is would be necessary to raise the current hourly rate to around £16. LW to find the nearest scale on the clerks salary scales and put out advertisements in the local press and on the internet.	LW LW
26/120	**Planning Applications and Decision.** No new applications.	
26/121	**Village Maintenance and Environmental Issues** (i) Mr Dunford has some clearance jobs to complete around the village. (ii) Thanks to the unknown person who cut the bank immediately next to the village hall. (iii) A letter had been received from Mrs Chaffey regarding the cutting of the grass on The Green. It was agreed that the grass should be cut completely in October. (iv) CG arrived and reported that the pub bins have finally been emptied. (v) The manhole cover had been reset by Openreach (vi) Thanks to Mr Orme for his assistance in repairing the Orchard Bungalow sign and to Mr Finney for cutting back the brambles around the dog bin at the Willow Bank entrance. (vii) CG reported a low hanging branch over the road at Duddings. LW to report. (viii) It was requested that we publish the SID results once they have been corrected. (ix) A defib was still being sought for Orchard way. Unfortunately, Mr Bliss , from Magna , has been on holiday and no response has yet been received. LW to chase up. Magna would have to agree a position and an agreement would be needed to cover the electricity.	 LW IW LW IW LW
26/122	**Village Emergency Plan** LW explained the purpose of the Emergency Plan. IW, RR and JD volunteered themselves as coordinators along with LW, Mr and Mrs Booth. The plan could now be completed and circulated.	
26/123	**Correspondence.** (i) The clerk has received a number of complaints about the fires lit at Wanneroo Farm during the dry period , despite warning signs saying that no fires were permitted. The Fire Brigade and the Police were contacted. ENPA agreed to send a ranger to speak to the residents. (ii) Several members of the public have complained about aggressive dogs running around the village without their owners. Concerns have also been expressed about the smell of cannabis and the presence of rats in the same area. Magna and the Police have been involved and the issue with one dog has been resolved. IW is meeting with Magna	

	next week regarding this issue and will report back. If a satisfactory resolution is not found the council would write to support the residents. (iii) SC had raised concerns about events in the village only being put on the internet, thereby excluding those without a computer. (iv) There were no offers to complete the Heritage at Risk response.	
26/124	**Report from representatives of other groups**. None	
26/125	**Chair's and Councillors' Notices.** None	
26/126	**Items for next agenda**. Precept for 2027/8	

Meeting finished at 8.45pm

Next meeting 26th October 2026