

Minutes of the Ordinary Cutcombe Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th March 2025 in the Edwin Beckett Room, Moorland Hall

Present: Parish Councillors Jon Levenson (Chair), Eric Norman (Vice Chair), Sarah Cook, Richard Norman, Claire Rooke, Oliver Yiend

In attendance: Liz Stitt – Clerk, Cllr Frances Nicholson, Cllr Steven Pugsley

Item	Minutes	Action
	Public Question Time. There were no members of the public present.	
25/24	To receive Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from Cllr Foxwell.	
25/25	To receive declarations of Interest. Cllr E. Norman, the Rest and Be Thankful item 25/38 ii)	
25/26	To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the 18th of February 2025. These were approved and signed.	
25/27	To receive the Clerk's Report. This was received by Councillors.	
25/28	To receive the Chair's Report. The chair didn't receive any comments from Councillors about the Exmoor National Park Plan. So, no formal comment has been made on this by the council.	
25/29	<p>To receive reports from Somerset Councillors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since the last meeting the budget for Somerset Council has been fixed. Due to the increase in council tax, people may now look at re-banding their properties to try and get it cheaper. - We managed to get the overnight parking charge removed from the proposed new car park charges policy, but charging for on-street parking and current free car parks are still included within the proposal which includes the Rest and Be Thankful car park, however we are doing our level best to get it taken out. A consultation will be sent to all parishes, but nobody knows exactly what form it is going to take. - The surface water issue regarding the development of houses behind the Moorland Hall is still ongoing and we should know within the next four weeks whether it can be resolved. 	
25/30	To consider highways and transport matters. The chair highlighted how it would be good to have a joint highways representative as it can be a big task for one person to do and asked Cllr R. Norman if he would be able to do it with Cllr Yiend. Cllr R. Norman agreed. No further highways and transport matters were raised.	
25/31	<p>To Consider any planning matters.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">i) Application No: 6/15/25/001 - TRISCOMBE FARM, WHEDDON CROSS, MINEHEAD, TA24 7HA. Proposal: Proposed removal of Condition 3 of approved application 6/15/18/107 to allow the use of extension by those persons not occupying the holiday accommodation or Farmhouse at Triscombe Farm. After discussion it was proposed and seconded to submit no objection to this planning application, which was carried with four votes to two.</p>	
25/32	Update on Snowdrop Valley and to approve the following payments from the Snowdrop Valley Account: Snowdrop Valley got more in maps/car park sales than estimated this year which was £6,815.73. Out of the four weeks, we were only functioning for three due to the weather and cattle markets etc. A big thank you to all the volunteers. We also give thanks to Phil Farmer and Paul Parfitt for clearing the trees. The school raised over three and a half thousand pounds which we had a lot of positive feedback about from visitors who were glad to have refreshments before making their way back. We also need to say on behalf of the whole parish council that Jim Winzer does an amazing job and is just fantastic, he and Gary, neither of whom	

	<p>live in the parish between them of the time spent manning the trailer did 60% of the shifts just the two of them which is quite phenomenal, and in some ways a bit embarrassing that we couldn't do better ourselves from within the parish so we are going to try and really push for next year to get more help. And Cllr E. Norman as chairman, has done a lot of the heavy lifting literally after Storm Darragh.</p> <p>i) £200 to JFix Services for electricity supplied to the trailer during the event. This was approved.</p> <p>ii) £185 to Brendon Electrics to renew a cable to the Snowdrop Valley Trailer. This was approved.</p> <p>iii) £170 to re-imburse Cllr E Norman for payment to Nick Winzer to Clear and Strim the Path. This was approved.</p> <p>It was also approved to give a donation of £200 to Rob Richards for storing the Snowdrop Valley trailer throughout the year under CCTV.</p>	
25/33	Update on Moorland Hall & Recreation Ground. Exmoor Rangers have been disbanded which potentially changes what was needed to do with regards to showers. However, they are still probably going to proceed with them as it is part of a grant application to make it a hub in case of emergencies.	
25/34	Update on the Warm Space Initiative. Cllr Rooke has been in contact with Spark Somerset who she is waiting for hear back from. They can give grants for heating, cooking, food etc. for anyone that needs help in the parish.	
25/35	Update on the Community Review Project. This has been moved to a sub-committee of the Moorland Hall so will be taken off the Parish Council agenda.	
25/36	Update on the communication survey of the gaps in good broadband and mobile phone signal. The main thing that come out of the survey is that it is patchy. Some people say that it is expected due to living in the countryside, but we can expect to have decent communications because it is not the physical layout, it is just money that is stopping it through lack of investment. Hopefully it might trigger other parishes to do a similar survey so we can get a whole view of Exmoor and maybe it might help to bring about some change for improvements.	
25/37	To note correspondence which Councillors have received in the correspondence report. This was noted and received.	
25/38	Finance: <p>i) To approve adding Sarah Cook as a signatory on the Unity Trust Savings Account. This was approved.</p> <p>ii) To receive and approve the schedule of payments and note receipts. This was received and approved.</p>	
25/39	Items for consideration on the next agenda No items were put forward.	

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.26pm

Signed:

Dated:

Appendix:

- i) Clerks Report**
- ii) Communication Survey Results**
- iii) Schedule of Payments**
- iv) Correspondence Report**