

Minutes of the Beaworthy

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held in the Parish Hall, Patchacott

On Thursday 16th May 2024 at 7.15 pm

Present: Beaworthy Parish Cllrs: Bob Rendell (Chairman), S Coleman, I Sanders, P Wonnacott, P Balsdon, S Higgins.
Also present Mrs A Braidwood, Parish Clerk.
No residents attended.

Minutes of Previous Annual Parish Meeting. The minutes of the 2023 Parish Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's Report for 2023/24: Chairman's report was presented by Cllr Rendell. A copy of the report is attached.

Democratic 20 minutes: No residents were present

Meeting Closed at 7.30pm

Signed.....

Beaworthy Parish Council - Chairmans Annual Report 2023

I am pleased to provide this summary of the council's activities over the past 12 months.

Parish Council Meetings

A second year of being able to meet at the new Parish Hall in Patchacott. 2023 was an election year and I am pleased to say we have a full Council of elected members. The Annual Meeting of the Council (at which the chair is elected, and other formal administrative business conducted) will be held directly after this meeting. The PC have held 11 Parish Council Meetings during 2023, with a break in August.

Planning/Development - Since March 2023 the parish council has considered 13 planning applications sited within the parish. Of these, 5 had the support of the PC.

The PC conducted a residents housing survey to with a view to considering future housing needs in the parish. The information we received will be used by the Parish Council for decisions on future planning applications, which the Parish Council respond to as a statutory consultee. Allow us to make meaningful and relevant decisions and provide. Of the 100 sent out we received 19 responses.

Roads and Footpaths - The council continues to monitor local roads, footpaths and verges in the parish and receives reports from residents which are reported to DCC on their website. Potholes are regularly reported and meetings with highways have taken place to discuss future works. The PC urge residents to report any potholes or issues within the Parish using the links found on the Beaworthy PC website at www.beaworthyparish.com. The Council applied and received a Localities Grant from Devon County Council for a new grit bin for Patchacott.

Finance - The parish council budget is planned in November for the following year and the precept is set from the budget in January. The precept for 2023 was set at £4261. Again, the following November the precept was set for 2024 at £4869, the PC managed to keep the precept the same in 2022 and 2023. However, due to inflation and additional increases in some costs the Council budget for FY 2024 had to increase. Full details of the budget which sets the precept are available on the website and directly from the clerk. The council maintains and monitors its reserves to allow for additional or unexpected expenses.

We also have a grant fund of £300 per annum available for Community Organisations, Local Charities and Community Interest Groups. Please speak to the clerk for an application form and information. The Parish Hall have recently received the full grant.

All the finances are open for viewing on the website and are audited annually during May/June. Any further information is available from the Responsible Financial Officer.

Website - The parish website www.beaworthyparish.com contains a lot of information that we hope will be useful to residents. There are links for reporting issues in the parish, links to funding, all Council minutes and a noticeboard for any other useful information. We have opened a new page on the website for the Parish Hall where you will be able find information on events and bookings as we receive them.

The Emergency Plan: The Emergency Plan for the Parish has been initiated but will take some time to put together. It will be in conjunction with the Parish Hall and will require some volunteers to help with the planning and working of the Plan.

We contribute to several consultations from WDBC and have a representative for the Police and Crime Commissioners Advocate Scheme, the Parish Hall and highways.

Acknowledgements - Many thanks to my fellow parish councillors and to our clerk, for their work and commitment over the year.

I would also like to thank our Borough Councillors, Caroline Mott and Terry Southcott, for their advice and valuable support over the past year.

Bob Rendell

Chairman, Beaworthy Parish Council