

DRAFT Minutes of the Beaworthy

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held in the Parish Hall, Patchacott

On Thursday 19th May 2022 at 6.30 pm

Present: Beaworthy Parish Cllrs: Bob Rendell (Chairman), S Coleman, I Sanders, P Wonnacott, P Balsdon and M Johnstone. Also present Mrs A Braidwood, Parish Clerk, Cllr T Southcott (WDBC). Two members of the public in attendance.

Minutes of Previous Annual Parish Meeting. This was the first Annual Parish Meeting to be held. Both meetings in 2020 and 2021 had been cancelled due to Covid 19.

Chairman's Report for 2021/22: Chairman's report was presented by Cllr Rendell. A copy of the report attached.

Cllr Southcott gave a presentation on the Speed Watch initiative.

Democratic 20 minutes: both members of the public spoke and raised the issues of the condition of the roads in the Parish, of particular concern were Blackhill, from Beaworthy Cross to Halwill where it is necessary to drive on the verge to avoid the potholes. There was also significant subsidence on the shoulder of the roads. It was highlighted that the roads are used by residents of local villages to access the shop and other services available at Halwill Junction.

It was noted these can be reported on the website and the Parish Council also report them as they are notified and as part of the ongoing liaison with the highways department at DCC.

Correspondence had also been received regarding the planting of trees for the Jubilee by the PC. It was noted that the PC do not own any land in the Parish.

Meeting Closed at 7.30pm

Signed.....

Beaworthy Parish Council

Chairmans Annual Report 2020/22

Now we have reached the end of the FY on 31 March 22 and looking into the following year, I am pleased to provide this summary of the council's activities over the past 24 months.

Parish Council Meetings & COVID-19 - Before our Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for May 2020, the Government ordered us all into the first lockdown. The parish council meeting in April was postponed and from May 2020 our meetings were all held by online video call, Zoom, rather than in person, as permitted under emergency Government legislation. That same legislation allowed us to cancel the 2020 Annual Parish Meeting, and to defer the Annual Meeting of the Council (at which the chair is elected, and other formal administrative business conducted) from May 2020 to May 2021. Despite the upheaval the PC managed to hold the Annual meeting of the council on 6th May 21 virtually and to hold 11 Parish Council Meetings during 2020 and 11 in 2021, which included an extraordinary meeting to deal with urgent matters.

The emergency legislation expired on 7th May 2021 and we resumed physical council meetings the following month in the new Parish Hall in Patchacott in which we were delighted to co-opt Sandra Higgins as our seventh parish councillor.

Planning/Development - Since March 2020 the parish council has considered 22 planning applications sited within the parish. Of these, 16 had the support of the PC.

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 WDBC on their website. Potholes are regularly reported and a meeting is planned with highways to discuss future works. The ditch at Madworthy was an issue for a while but finally resolved.

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 2021 was set at £4132. Again, the following November the precept was set for 2022 at £4261, although a slight increase, due to some development in the Parish this resulted in no change to the cost per household. 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.

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 are opening a new page on the website for the Parish Hall where you will be able find information on events and bookings.

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.

Acknowledgements - Many thanks to my fellow parish councillors and to our clerk, for coping well with the difficult circumstances we have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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