

LUXBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Luxborough Parish Council held on 26 Mar 2025 at Luxborough Village Hall at 8.00 pm

Present: Cllrs D Powell (Chair), C Henson, A Sparling, G Tucker, M Bolland, J Waller, R O'Hare Clerk: Mary Andrews

Public Question Time. One member of the public was present

25/13 The Chairman opened the meeting at 8.05 pm.

25/14 Apologies for absence. Apologies received from Cllr Pugsley, Cllr Nicholson

25/15 Declarations of Interest. No interests were declared.

25/16 Invitation to members of the public to speak. The Chairman introduced Tim Fookes from the Motorcycling Club and invited him to speak to the councillors about the upcoming rally that would pass through the village on Good Friday. Mr Fookes gave us an overview of the Lands End Rally which is sanctioned by the government under the Road Traffic Act of 1964 and allows for up to 400 vehicles to be run/rally. This year will be the 101st running of the Bridgewater to Redruth route and there are 330 vehicles registered. It is anticipated that they will pass through our village at 3 minute intervals starting at 9pm and ending around 3am. The route will run from the Roadwater road past the Pub, Village Hall, over Kingsbridge, through Pooltown and then up the hill to the B3224. Race Marshalls will be posted along the route through the village to ensure speed and noise will be kept to a minimum. He explained that every household within 100m of the rally route will have an explanation leaflet delivered to their door 10 days in advance of the event. Once the councillors had finished their questioning, the Chairman thanked Mr Fookes who then left the meeting.

25/17 Minutes of the meeting of 15 Jan 2025 Cllrs resolved to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting. (P: Cllr Powell, S: Cllr Henson)¹.

25/18 Chairman's Report. Cllr Powell expressed continued exasperation with the timing of the roadworks being carried out by Highways as we are now experiencing multiple, lengthy road closures between Luxborough and Minehead which is making access to necessary services difficult. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Highways and complain. He expressed dismay with Openreach, our broadband provider as we have had several multiple-day outages over the past few months which is not acceptable for the people in the village who rely on the internet for work and/or communication with the outside world (eg, elderly, shut-in members of the village). It was agreed the Clerk would write to OpenReach and challenge them to explain why this is happening and ask what they are doing to make sure it does not continue to happen. The Chairman reported that he had now purchased replacement defibrillator pads for our machine and requested the Clerk to order a Blood Kit from the police which could be stored with the defibrillator unit on the exterior of the Village Hall. It was agreed the Clerk was to ask the ENPA about the dimensions of a new notice board that Cllr Tucker has offered to build to replace the one that perished and was removed from the Village Hall carpark several months ago. We

¹ P- Proposed. S – Seconded

also want to know if they can provide us with a replacement map and information panel to go onto the new notice board. Cllr Powell said it was time for us to carry out our annual Spring Litter Pickup and 6 villagers stepped up to cover all the routes in and around the parish. Cllrs Sparling and Powell offered to clean the fingerposts through the parish and the Clerk offered to clean the phone box opposite the pub.

25/19 Update from Somerset Councillors. No updates as neither councillor was present.

25/20 Planning. Planning Application 6/20/25/001 has now had its planning conditions discharged by the Exmoor National Park Planning Officer.

25/21 Highways Cllr Bolland reported that the stretch of road from the sewage works through the village to Charget Lodge has now been successfully top dressed.

25/22 LCN Cllr Pugsley arrived at the meeting in time to give an update on the latest information from the LCN. Unfortunately, he had nothing new to report concerning the Boundary Commission as they have not issued any updates on their decisions. He was able to report that our LCN was working well and he was pleased with how it was functioning. Cllr Pugsley reminded us the next LCN meeting will be held on 5 June 2025 and said we could access the minutes to the last LCN meeting online.

25/23 West Somerset Flood Group The last meeting was held on 22 January 2025 but no one from Luxborough was able to attend. The minutes to the meeting can be found online.

25/24 Finance 1.) Q4 2024/25 Financial Statement. Councillors resolved to approve. (P: Cllr Bolland, S: Cllr Tucker) 2.) Mar 2025 Schedule of Payments. Cllrs resolved to agree the Schedule of Payments (P: Cllr O'Hare, S: Cllr Tucker) 3.) Clerk's Pay. Cllrs resolved to agree the Q4 payment to M Andrews, Clerk (P: Cllr Powell, S: Cllr Waller)

25/25 AOB The Chairman stated he would be away from 19 July – 2 August which means he will be absent for the Luxborough Village Fete this year.

Date of next meeting: **Regular Meeting Wednesday, 28 May 2025 (AGM and Annual Parish Assembly) starting at 7.30pm.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Schedule of Payments: Function 28 £36.00, Mary Andrews £468.70 (Q4 salary), HMRC £57.80 (tax on Clerk's pay), ICO subscription £52.00, Minehead Defib Group £52.50, Dave Powell £77.94 (defib pads reimbursement)

Signed:_____.

Date:_____.