**DRAFT**

**BERRY POMEROY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Berry Pomeroy Parish Council Meeting**

**held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 at Berry Pomeroy Parish Council**

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Graham Bennett (Chair),). Cllr. Marie Flay. Cllr. Joy Harris. Cllr. Sam Penfold, Cllr Mills (Vice Chair)

District Cllr. Birch. County Cllrs Hawkins & Hodgson

Clerk: Mrs S Watt

THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT AND NO QUESTIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED

The meeting commenced with Reports from the County/District and Ward Cllrs on the Devolution White Paper and how it impacts on our Parish and County. Half an Hour had been allocated to this discussion. Reports available from The Clerk.

District/County & Ward Reports followed provided by Cllrs Hawkins, Cllr. Hodgson and Cllr. Penfold. All Reports available from the Clerk..

There were no Police Reports.

 **STANDING ORDERS**

**1. 04.02.25 Apologies:** None: Noted – Cllr Hooper Absent

**2. 04.02.25 Declarations of Interest**: None

**3. 04.02.25 Approve Minutes of:** The Parish Council meeting held 7th January 2024 – were agreed and signed on behalf of the Parish Council, by the Chair, as a true record of the meeting.

**4. 04.02.25 Clerk’s Report:**

 DEFIB: There had been no response from English Heritage. A discussion followed regarding siting the 2nd defib in the Village Hall as the hall usage was going to be increased. Further, the Defib would not need a box at a cost of approx. £500+ as the Defib would be inside and not require heating. After a proposal by Cllr.Bennett and seconded by Cllrs.Flay & Mills, it was unanimously agreed to donate the 2nd Defib to the Village Hall.

 80thANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: It was suggested and agreed that the Parish Council lead on the Celebrations to mark the 80th Anniversary of the end of WW2. It was hoped to include the School, The Church, The Village Hall and the Community. Funding could be sourced from various organisations. We already have had offers from Cllr Presswell of £250.00. Cllr. Allen & Cllr Birch to be approached. Cllr. Penfold offered £250 from her Locality Fund – the Clerk to go through the required process. Thanks were extended to Cllr. Penfold & Cllr Presswell.

 DALC – SMALLER COUNCIL MEETING: The Clerk attended the Smaller Council’s meeting organised by DALC and the SLCC ( The Clerk’s Governing body) regarding the Devolution White Paper and how it ‘may’ affect local Councils. The Clerk gave a brief outline of the discussions. The Report is available from The Clerk.

 PARKFIELD PLAYPARK: Five organisations are being approached to provide quotes for 1. Safety surfacing. 2. Play equipment. However, the old metal swing still needs removing – Cllr. Bennett has offered to do this and will liaise with the Clerk so that the appropriate notices can be displayed stating the Play Park will be closed whilst this action is taking place. Cllr. Bennett stated that the metal poles in the ground will be cemented in and would need specialist removal – Cllr Penfold stated that we needed quotes. The Clerk confirmed that she was already obtaining quotes as per legislative requirements. Once these had been received the Council could proceed with the removal and then installation of new play equipment. It is hoped that this can be completed by the Easter Holidays which this year fall at the end of April.

 BRIDGETOWN MAP: There was concern regarding the size of the map and also how the map would be fixed to the Bus Shelter. Previously, the Shelter had been subject to criminal damage and a claim had been made to our insurers. It was unanimously agreed that Clerk obtain the approval of our Insurers before agreeing. It was further agreed, that all costs should be met by the requester if indeed, permission was granted. It was noted that the Bridgetown Safari Map did not include the sculptures in Berry Pomeroy Village.

 MISC: It was confirmed that the Lengthsman had agreed to complete the P3 Survey. It was also noted that there had been a Working Party arranged by Bridgetown Alive to cut back verges in Parkfield Close and Dukes Road, both in the Berry Pomeroy Parish – it was noted that the Parish Council had not been approached and could have assisted as our Lengthsman already maintained our Play Park in Parkfield. The Council members then requested the Clerk write to Bridgetown Alive and request that any complaints, problems etc which occurred in the Berry Pomeroy Parish boundaries, were sent to the Clerk in the first instance 1. To see if we were already aware and actioning and 2. Whether we could help in any way.

 The Clerk stated that our Lengthsman must attend a Chapter 8 course as a matter of urgency, especially as more responsibility is going to be placed on Parish & Town Councils. Cllrs Penfold, Flay, Bennett, Harris and the Clerk are all to attend a Chapter 8 course. The Clerk will source the appropriate training provider.

 Cllr. Penfold asked if the meeting was being recorded. It was stated that any meeting being recorded would be announced prior to the meeting commencing. At the last meeting the Clerk had stated that meetings were going to be recorded for the benefit of the Minutes, however, on this occasion the Recording Equipment had not been available.

 PLANNING: There were two Licensing requests one for pavement seating and one for a new Licence – both were unanimously supported.

Renewals of Pavement Licence - The Angel Totnes, 50 High Street, Totnes, TQ9 5SQ

New Premises Licence application Orchard Drinks Ltd, Unit7 South Devon Food Hub, Longcombe, Totnes, TQ9 6PW

 HIGHWAYS: There is a road closure notice for Wednesday 19th March 2025 to Thursday 20th March 2025 affecting the A385, True Street Cross to Longcombe Cross – this is due to safety work on behalf of Devon County Council and is the removal of trees.

The Road will be closed from 9:30am to 3:30pm.

Cllr Bennett stated that the trees probably involved are the Ash Trees which all have Ash dieback.

**5. 04.02.25 Village Hall Update:**  Cllr Bennett stated that although there were a few on going issues, the Management Committee were meeting and discussing regularly. The Council was given a full brief on the issues, including concerns regarding the Kitchen and the security of the premises. The Clerk had worked tirelessly through reams of paperwork and documents which in turn will be sent to the Solicitors.

**6. 04.02.25 Noticeboard Updates:** Cllr Bennett apologised that he had not been able to complete the removal and installation of both Noticeboards, along with the completion of the Village Sign, due to being under work pressure. Cllr. Bennett assured those present that he will attend to as soon as possible

**7, 04.02.25 Date of Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 4th March 2025 at Berry Pomeroy Village Hall.

The Meeting Closed at 20:40hrs

Signed:………………………………………………….Date: 4thMarch 2025

Chair: Cllr. Graham Bennett