

Minutes of the Pitcombe Parish Meeting held on Monday 12th May 2003 in the Village Hall, Hadspen

30 July 2003

Present: Approximately 15 members of the public, County Councillor Carroll, District Councillor Winder.

In the chair: Cllr Roy Taylor, Chairman of the Parish Council

1 Opening Remarks and Welcome.

Cllr Taylor welcomed the newly elected Parish Councillors to the meeting, thanked former councillors Anita Pheby, Roland Vernon and George Bunting for their work over the past year, and recorded with sadness the death of Cllr Barbara Jennings, after many years of service. George Bunting was particularly thanked for his work as Chairman of the Planning Committee, and his experience will be hard to replace. Cllrs Bell, Brook and Taylor continue their work as councillors. The Chairman also welcomed County Councillor Carroll, and thanked him for his active support over the past year; and congratulated Cllr Alexandria Winder on her election to the District Council.

2 To receive the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th May 2002.

The date of Item 4, Previous Minutes, was corrected. With this amendment, the minutes were **approved**.

3 Matters Arising.

None

4 To Receive a Report on the Work of the Parish Council for the Year April 2002-March 2003. (Roy Taylor)

Apart from planning matters, it was notable that things have been substantially quieter than in previous years. Most notable has been the introduction of various new obligations on Councillors to declare interests, to accept a new Code of Conduct, and adopt new Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Mr Peter Wyatt agreed to be appointed as Internal Auditor, for which we thank him.

The Parish Council continued to monitor the use of the slurry pit at the Green Lane site, and smell continued to be a problem. It was noted that a new hedge had at long last been planted beside the lane, although a condition to provide a bridleway within the field, separate from the tanker deliveries along the road had not been met.

The District Council agreed to remove silt from the River Pitt on either side of the bridge, and the Parish Council made a contribution of £50 towards the cost. Silt was also removed from the detention pond at Hadspen.

Cllr Brook was congratulated for his work on the committee, which organised the Golden Jubilee event at Hadspen House, and was pleased to report that a surplus had been achieved, and had been distributed to the participating Parish Councils.

The Council had adopted a Model Publication Scheme, under the Freedom of Information Act, in which we are in advance of many local councils, and Race Relations and Equal Opportunities policies.

As usual there were several complaints from the public concerning vehicle speed and volume on the C 125. It is hoped that speed limits will be introduced in the next few months.

5 To discuss Motions of which Notice has been given.

None received.

6 Open Discussion.

6.1 The notice board at Ludwell's Elm has now fallen down.

6.2 Mr Ken Elliott:
Congratulated the newly elected parish Councillors, the first contested election for 16 years. It was a very good thing that enough people were prepared to stand for office.
Congratulated Tim Carroll and Alexandria Winder on their election successes, and was extremely grateful for Tim's assistance over the past year over the changes to Sexey's School admissions policy.

Reported that the stench from the slurry pit in the hot weather before Easter was appalling.

Traffic problem on C125 will continue.

Reported on the large bus used as a caravan, parked on Ridge (Rodge?) Lane. Dogs cause annoyance and concern to walkers.

6.3 Ms Susan Chamberlain:
Also complained about the smell from the slurry pit. She had reported this to the SSDC Environmental Health Officer at Wincanton, but was not aware of any positive steps to improve the matter. Cllr Carroll urged residents who were concerned at smells to report them to the Environmental Health Office, who kept a log of complaints.

Complained about blocked road gullies in Lime Kiln Lane.

6.4 Mr Peter Wyatt:
Confirmed that small slippages of the bank in Lime Kiln Lane, over the years, had blocked various road gullies. He also noted that the Monday meetings of the Parish Council clash with meetings of the Women's Institute.

The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.