

# Pitcombe Parish Council

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30 July 2003

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on  
Monday 10 March 2003.**

Present: Cllrs. Bell, Brook, Bunting, Pheby, Taylor (from Item 6)

In the Chair: Cllr. Brook

In attendance: County Councillor Tim Carroll.

The Chairman opened the meeting with the sad news that Councillor Barbara Jennings had died. The meeting stood and observed a minute's silence in her memory.

1 To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2003.  
Minutes **approved.**

2 Matters arising from the minutes.

2.1 C125 Speed Limits.

Colin Fletcher (WS Atkins) expected to contact the Clerk within a month, to discuss proposals for introducing speed limits. Cllr Carroll reported that he had been approached by residents in Cole Road, who were concerned over the speed of traffic on Strutters Hill, and had requested that the 30MPH speed limit should be extended further down the hill. To be discussed with Colin Fletcher.

2.2 Mud on road leading to St. Leonard's Church.

WS Atkins have carried out some local resurfacing, which had been of some success. However, the promised 'ramp' in front of the Lych Gate had not been installed. To be raised with Mr Higgins.

2.3 Road Signs near Cole Farm Barn. Should be erected within a few days.

3 Apologies for Absence.

Cllr. Vernon.

4 Declarations of Interest.

None.

5 Public Participation.

None

6 Data Protection Act

The Clerk had discussed the application of the Data Protection Act with Peter Lacey, SALC. It was agreed to take no further action.

7 Rights of Way Improvement Plans

The County Council has a duty to produce Rights of Way Improvement Plans, and were requesting information and ideas from the Council. To be referred to the new Council at the next meeting.

8 To approve accounts to be paid.

8.1 M J Millican

Salary and expenses, Jan-Feb 2003

£157.46

9

Parish Council Elections 2003.

A special edition of 'Pitcombe News' was planned in early April, to give all candidates for the Parish Council election the opportunity to publish a small statement or CV. Nomination Papers were available from the Clerk. Electoral Roll numbers needed for the Nomination Papers were also available from the Clerk. Elections would be either by postal voting from 16<sup>th</sup> April, or electronically (phone or Internet) from 28<sup>th</sup> April.

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Correspondence.

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|-------|--------------------------|--|
| 10.1  | SSDC                     | Community Chest Grants   |
|       | (also SCC)               |  |
| 10.2  | Mendip PCT               | Draft Local Delivery Plan 2003-06 (to Cllr Pheby)  |
| 10.3  | CPRE                     | Countryside Voice.   |
| 10.4  | SSDC                     | Local Plan Deposit Draft: Public Enquiry now formally closed.  |
|       |                          | Cllr Carroll reported that the Inspector would report back to the District Council in June. After this time, considerably more weight may be attached to the emerging plan (relative to the existing Wincanton Local Plan) in Planning Applications. |
| 10.5  | SCC                      | Rights of Way Improvement Plans – Parish Consultation  |
| 10.6  | DEFRA                    | Ministerial statement on Licensing Bill  |
| 10.7  | SSDC                     | Local Elections, 2003.   |
| 10.8  | CVS                      | Community News   |
| 10.9  | CVS                      | Appeal for Funds   |
| 10.10 | SSDC                     | Tree Talk (Tree wardens' Newsletter)   |
| 10.11 | SCC                      | Community Learning Partnership Newsletter  |
| 10.12 | CPRE                     | Planning Update (to Cllr Bunting)  |
| 10.13 | SSDC                     | Somerset Community Recycling   |
| 10.14 | Mendip PCT               | Modernising Mental Health Services for older people  |
| 10.15 | Information Commissioner | Freedom of Information Act publications scheme accepted.   |
| 10.16 | SCC                      | Parish Council Emergency Planning  |
|       |                          | The SCC has discontinued its practice of listing names willing to act in emergencies, and has requested local councils to consider whether there is a need for plans in their own areas. To be referred to the new council.                          |
| 10.17 | SSDC                     | 'Out and About' and 'Health Walks'   |

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Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000.

Council resolved to adopt the following motion:

The Council acknowledges its continuing duty under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and resolves that in the provision of its services due regard must be given to (i) the elimination of unlawful discrimination; (ii) the promotion of opportunity; and (iii) the promotion of good race relations between people of different racial groups.

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Council Equal Opportunities Policy:

Council resolved to adopt the following Equal Opportunities Policy:

No member of the public, job applicant, elected member, or employee shall receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, race, sexual orientation, marital status or disability.

In future, Summons of Meetings will contain a statement of the Council's policy and duties.

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Freedom of Information Act

The Publication Scheme adopted by the Council on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2002 had been accepted by the Information Commissioner. A statement is to be posted on notice boards.

14

Report of the External Auditors.

The Audit for 2002 had been closed. The accounts were approved. No points were raised, with the exception of the reference that no External Auditor had been appointed for that year. Mr P Wyatt had been appointed for the current year.

15

Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting, and First Meeting of the new Parish Council.

The usual arrangements would be continued, with the Annual Parish Meeting preceding the First Meeting of the New Parish Council. Cllr. Taylor would take the chair at the APM and would produce a review of the Council's activities for the year. The meeting would be held on 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m., to be followed by the First Meeting of the New Council, and the Planning Committee.

Any Other Business.

16.1 Cllr Pheby reported on an incident, which had occurred recently where a window had been broken.