

Pitcombe Parish Council

16 October 2003

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on
Tuesday 14th October 2003.**

Present: Cllrs. Bell, Brook, Elliott, O'Leary, Smith.

In attendance: County Cllr. Carroll, District Councillor Alexandria Winder.

In the chair: Cllr. Brook

1 To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 9th September 2003.
Minutes approved.

2 Matters arising from the minutes.

2.1 Previous Minute 6.1: Hedge, Old Station Lane
Cllr Smith had not been able to obtain a contact address for Lydford Developments.

2.2 Previous Minute 8: Notice boards.
The clerk was asked to include insurance cover for the Pitcombe notice board.

3 Apologies for Absence.
Cllr. Holt

4 Declarations of Interest.
None.

5 Public Participation.
None.

Reports from Portfolio Holders.

6 Environment, Health (Cllr Elliott)

A summary of the Annual Report for Mendip PCT had been received.

Over the coming three weeks, South Somerset District Council is to hold a series of 'Roadshows' to promote interest in Broadband Internet access.

Mrs Pheby drew attention to information in local papers that South Somerset PCT is monitoring drinking water quality.

7 Highways (Cllr Holt)

Local opinion was divided on whether to request additional local speed restrictions on the C125, because of the obtrusive road signs that would be needed. Cllr. Carroll referred to a review of County Speed Management Policy, being carried out. It is possible that following this review, other options may emerge, which might be more acceptable in rural locations. Council agreed to defer further discussion until the results of the policy review were available.

The Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators are recording road safety incidents/accidents. All incidents should be reported to the co-ordinators.

The location and visibility of road signs at Grove Cross are being investigated by County Highways. Mr Leach is

also checking on farm machinery in roads in Pitcombe.

Repair work on the bridge at Pitcombe is in hand.

The location of the 'Pitcombe' sign on the A359, approaching from Bruton to be reviewed.

(Cllr Brooks)

8 Parish Tidiness (Cllr O'Leary)

Cllr O'Leary has been investigating the supply of 'litter pickers', which could be made available for anyone prepared to pick up litter. This is required to ensure a safe system of work. The District Council is able to supply at a cost of £5.50 each. The Clerk to order seven.

9 Slurry Lagoon (Cllr Smith)

Contractors are having difficulty in removing the residual semi-solid slurry from the lagoon. It is likely to take a further two weeks. Considerable odours are being generated in the process. Residues have to be ploughed in to land.

The Environment Agency and the Environmental Health Officer will be on site on Thursday to review progress.

10 Footpaths, Trees, CPRE (Cllr Taylor)

It was noted that the bridle path on the field side of the new hedge, which was a requirement of the original Planning Permission, has never been reinstated near the slurry lagoon. Cllr Carroll to raise the matter again with the County Planning Department.

11 Law and Order (Cllr Bell)

Nothing to report.

12 General Matters (Cllr Brook)

Nothing to report.

13 To consider Budget proposals for 2004-2005.

Parish Council financial reserves were low, and would not permit any major expenditure. It was agreed to increase the reserves, over a period of two-three years, to about £3,000. Current expenditure would be trimmed, and the Precept for 2004-05 increased by about 5%, to £17.50 per Band D property. The Chairman to write to the PCC and the Village Hall Committee to inform them that grants in 2004-5 would be reduced to £450 and £460 respectively.

14 Planning Applications

None received.

15 Planning Determinations (Passed unless otherwise indicated)

15.1	03/02056/FUL	Bruton School for Girls	Erection of dwelling.
15.2	03/02005/REM	Land East of Cumberledge House	Erection of dwelling.

16 Bank Mandate.

The Mandate Form supplied by the Bank in May had been incorrect, as only three signatories are now permitted by the Bank for Community Accounts.

The following bank mandate was **agreed**: to appoint Barclays Bank as bankers to the Parish Council, to accept the terms of the Barclays Customer Agreement, and to appoint Cllrs. Brooks, Elliott and Smith to sign cheques for the Council, any two signatories being required.

17 Correspondence.

17.1	SCC	'Unlocking Somerset's Historic Environment' (Notice boards)	
17.2	Barclays Bank	Bank Mandate	
17.3	SSDC	Postponement of Parish Council Workshop. New date: 19 th November.	
17.4	SSDC	Seminar on 'Adults and Young People Working Together.' (to Cllr Holt)	
17.5	SSDC	Parish Council Precepts 2004-2005	
17.6	SSDC	Broadband Roadshow	(to all, by email)
17.7	SCC	Waste Management Strategy	(to Cllr O'Leary)
17.8	Waste Action Programme	Offer of talks	(to Cllr O'Leary)
17.9	Mendip PCT	Annual Report	(to Cllr Elliott)

17.10 SSDC Workshop on Local Plans (to Cllr Brook/Cllr Smith)
17.11 SLCC Conference on 'Quality Councils' (to Cllr Brook)

Date of Next Meeting: 11th November. District Councillor George Chinnock to attend, with Ms Helen Rutter, Area East Development Manager