

Pitcombe Parish Council

10 September 2003

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on
Tuesday 9th September 2003.**

Present: Cllrs. Bell, Brook, Holt, O'Leary, Smith, Taylor.

In attendance: District Councillor Alexandria Winder.

In the chair: Cllr. Brook

1 To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 12th August 2003..
Minutes approved.

2 Matters arising from the minutes.

2.1 Previous Minute 2.1: Verges in Green Lane

Cllr. Brook had had discussions with Mr Henry Hobhouse (Snr). It transpired that ownership of the verges to Green Lane had not been transferred to the Parish Council, but had been retained by Mr Hobhouse. The width of the verges was believed to be six feet, but this needed to be confirmed.

2.2 Previous Minute 2.4: Development at the Riding Stables.

A meeting had been held with Mr & Mrs Hobhouse. It was confirmed that the developments in hand were approved in 1990.

3 Apologies for Absence.

County Cllr. Carroll, Cllr. Elliott.

4 Declarations of Interest.

None.

5 Public Participation.

None.

Reports from Portfolio Holders.

6 Environment, Health

6.1 Hedge, Old Station Lane

Cllr Winder reported that when the houses were built in Old Station Lane, Lydford Developments had retained ownership of a two-metre width strip of land, on which the hedge was planted, and therefore were responsible for its maintenance. However, Lydford Developments could not be contacted. Cllr Smith would enquire locally.

7 Highways (Cllr Holt)

7.1 Speed Limits, Strutters Hill

It had not been possible to contact Mr Greenhalgh, SCC. It was understood that Bruton School for

Girls was pressing for a 20 MPH speed limit, and this would require buffer zones. Bruton Town Council had decided against supporting 20 MPH limits outside schools, and this might affect Pitcombe, since it could create inconsistency between the treatment of Sexey's and Bruton School for Girls.

A full discussion on speed limits on the A359 and the C125 to be held at the next meeting. The views of residents had been canvassed through 'Pitcombe News'.

7.2 Speed Management; SCC Speed Management Review Questionnaire.

SCC had issued a questionnaire to provide feedback on its current Speed Management Policy. Copies were distributed to Councillors, to return individually.

7.3 Pitcombe Bridge

Mr F Dixon (WS Atkins) had reported that the parapet was scheduled for repair, but no date was available.

7.4 Other Items

It was reported that road signs at Grove Cross (junction A 359 and A 371) obstructed the vision of car drivers approaching from the Pitcombe direction. The 'Pitcombe' sign was reported to be missing. To be reported to WS Atkins.

8 Parish Tidiness (Cllr O'Leary)

A licence had been obtained from County Highways to erect the new parish notice board in Old Station Lane. The Clerk had written to Cornhill Insurance to place the new notice board and the replacement notice board in Hadspen on cover.

9 Slurry Lagoon (Cllr Smith)

The emptying of the lagoon was taking longer than expected, but was still continuing.

10 Footpaths, Trees, CPRE (Cllr Taylor)

A fallen tree blocking a footpath near Lancombe Lane had now been cleared by the landowner. 'Red Tags' were available from Cllr Taylor, to identify saplings in hedgerows, which should not be cut down when hedges were cut.

A response had been received from the Ramblers Association supporting the suggestion that there should be a continuation of footpath 22/7 from St Leonard's Church along the river to the A 359.

A resident complained that a stile near to Old Station Lane had been wired at a low level, which prevented access by dogs. Cllr. Smith declared a personal interest and left the meeting for this discussion. The problem is to prevent lambs escaping, while allowing access for dogs. It was pointed out that there is only a legal requirement to provide access for humans. There are other possibilities, which will be raised with the landowner.

11 Law and Order (Cllr Bell)

11.1 Anti-Social Behaviour Count.

There is to be a count of Anti-Social Behaviour incidents on 10th September. Any incident to be reported to Cllr Bell, who would co-ordinate a response.

12 General Matters (Cllr Brook)

Council intends to consider the shape of the budget for next year over the next two months and would welcome opinions from residents on what Council should be doing, and what should be included in the budget for next year.

13 Planning Applications.

13.1 03/02498FUL Hedley's Hay, Redlynch Road Erection of Tool Store (retrospective)

Mrs Rees spoke on this item. She had constructed a small toolshed, the outline of which had been softened by the addition of a roofgarden. It had not been appreciated that Planning Permission would be required.

Council had no comments to make on the application.

14 Planning Determinations

None.

15 To approve Accounts to be Paid.

The following accounts were **approved** for payment:

15.1	Clerk's Salary and Office Expenses, July-Aug 2003	£157.50
15.2	CPRE: Membership renewal	£25.00

16 Correspondence.

- 16.1 SALC Minutes, Agenda and Annual Report (to Sue) New Councillors' Training Events: 18th and 22nd October
- 16.2 Tree Talk (to Roy; copy of article on SOD to all)
- 16.3 SCC Speed Management Review, Questionnaire (to Erica)
- 16.4 SSDC Area East Parish Council Workshop(15th October at 7.30 p.m.) (to Charles)
- 16.5 defra Rural Services Standards 2003 (to Charles)
- 16.6 SSDC SSDC supports Broadband Campaign.
- 16.7 SSDC Anti-Social Behaviour Count (to Iain)
- 16.8 CVS Community News
- 16.9 The Local Channel: Free Website for Parish Councils (to Charles)
- 16.10 MJM Cornhill Insurance
- 16.11 Community Council 'Thatch' magazine (to Roy)
- 16.12 Mendip PCT 'Positive Aging Day': Wells Town Hall, 4th October

17 Any Other Business.

- 17.1 A resident was concerned that a haulage business in Mill Lane, was being run from residential premises. He was requested to raise this with Mr Meyer, SSDC, Wincanton.
- 17.2 Cllr Brook drew attention to the Area East Parish Council Workshop, to be held on 15th October. Any items for discussion should be raised with Cllr Brook.
- 17.3 Cllr. Brook reported that Cllr. George Chinnock, Chairman of SSDC Area East, had asked to attend the Parish Council meeting to be held on 11th November, with Ms Helen Rutter, Development Manager.

Date of Next Meeting: 14th October.