

Pitcombe Parish Council

25 January 2004

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on
Tuesday 13th January 2004.**

Present: Cllrs. Bell, Brook, Elliott, Holt, Smith, Taylor.

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

In the chair: Cllr. Brook

1 To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on November 11th 2003.
Minutes Approved.

2 Matters arising from the minutes.
None

3 To approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on December 19th 2003
Minutes Approved.

4 Matters arising from the minutes.
None

5 Apologies for Absence.
Cllr O'Leary, absent on business.

6 Declarations of Interest.
None.

7 Public Participation.
None

Reports from Portfolio Holders.

8 Environment, Health (Cllr Elliott)

8.1 Travellers, Rudge Lane

Cllr Elliott had discussed the situation with Mr Hobhouse. The travellers were itinerant agricultural workers, who had worked on apple picking, and were now pruning apple trees. It was believed that they might have some protection in law. However, the concern was that the bus, in which the travellers lived, was parked next to a bridleway, and the dogs were threatening to passers by. The situation might be acceptable if the vehicle were parked elsewhere. It was hoped that the vehicle might be moved within the next few weeks.

8.2 Shatwell Farm

The District Council had responded that it was unlikely that action would be taken unless there was structural change, and if there were complaints from neighbours.

8.3 Hedges in Old Station Lane.

Cllr Elliott reported that Highways (SCC) was responsible for verges within one metre of the kerb. A small ransom strip was owned by the beneficiaries of Mrs Showering. It had been stated that the Parish Council had planted the hedge, but this was not believed to be the situation. The Council would not object if the

current owner pruned the bushes.

- 9 Highways (Cllr Holt)
- 9.1 Road Closures
A number of temporary road closures for maintenance work, had been notified to the Parish Council. The one of most concern was a five week closure of the A359 at Wanstrow, for culvert maintenance.
- 9.2 Local Road Maintenance.
Mr Bunting agreed to have his hedge clipped.
Cllr Holt to report the condition of Lime Kiln Lane, which required minor attention.
- 9.3 Winter Road Service (road salting)
Consideration should be given to providing salt bins in a few places in the Parish. These would have to be provided by the Parish Council, but Highways would fill them with salt.
- 10 Parish Tidiness (Cllr O'Leary)
- 10.1 Litter bins
It had been suggested that small litter bins should be provided near each of the Parish Notice boards, however this was not agreed.
- 10.2 Litter picking
The road from Hadspen to the Wagon and Horses requires regular litter removal. It was agreed that Councillors would take turns on a rota. Cllr O'Leary to organise.
- 11 Slurry Lagoon (Cllr Smith)
- 11.1 Legal action is being taken by the County Council against Mr Walters, for non-compliance with one of the planning conditions in the original agreement, concerning the provision of a bridleway.
- There was currently no odour problem.
- 12 Footpaths, Trees, CPRE (Cllr Taylor)
- A missing style, on footpath WN22/17 had been notified, and had been replaced.
- There had been some further discussions on the possibility of obtaining agreement for a 'permissive footpath', between St Leonard's Church and the A359. This was unlikely be successful, as it was not acceptable to the landowner. The Clerk was asked to write to the Countryside Officer, (Mr Paul Attwell) to record the situation.
- 13 Law and Order (Cllr Bell)
- Two break-ins had been reported locally, where garden equipment had been stolen after forcible entry. The Police had been informed. Cllr Bell was to attend a workshop on 'Crime and Disorder'.
- 14 General Matters (Cllr Brook)
- 14.1 Parish Workshop.
Attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Notes were available.
- 14.2 SSDC Centralisation
Some concern was expressed that the changes introduced in the management of the four Areas of the South Somerset District Council had resulted in some remoteness and slower response. Cllr Carroll, Leader of SSDC, noted the comments.
- 14.3 Parish Clerk Recruitment
The Chairman reiterated that it was essential to find a replacement for the Parish Clerk within a short time. Advertisements would appear in both Parish Magazines. Cllr Brook asked that all Councillors should try to locate a suitable person to take over.
- 15 Planning Applications:
- 15.1 04/00015/TCA Pacets, Hadspen To reduce tree overhanging the car park to the village hall by half/two thirds.
Council had no objections.

16 Planning Determinations:

To note following Planning Determinations (*Passed unless otherwise indicated*)

16.1	03/03077/COU	Hadspen House	Construct open air swimming pool
16.2	03/02498	Hedleys Hay, Redlynch	To erect a tool shed (Refused)

17 To approve Accounts to be Paid.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

17	M J Millican	Salary and Office Expenses, November-December	£156.09
17.3	M J Millican	Renewal of website licence (2 years)	£23.99

18 Correspondence.

18.1	Winsham PC	Withdrawal of Recreational Maintenance Grant	
18.2	SSDC	Committee Meetings to consider Local Plan report	
18.3	SSDC	Parish Information on SSDC Website	(to Cllr Brook)
18.4	WS Atkins	Temporary closure of A359 at Cole Road, Bruton (15 th January)	(To Cllr Holt)
18.5	WS Atkins	Temporary closure of A359 at Wanstrow (19 th January) five weeks.	(To Cllr Holt)
18.6	WS Atkins	Winter Service	(To Cllr Holt)
18.7	SSDC	Youth Issues, Notes from public forum, 12 November	(To Cllr Holt)
18.8	SCC	“Somerset Schools Need Governors”	(Copies to all)
18.9	SCC	Bridleway at Green Lane	
18.10	SYRP	Review	(To Cllr Holt)
18.11	SALC	Training Events	(Internal Audit, to Cllr Brook)
18.12	SSDC	Letter from Helen Rutter, re visit to Pitcombe PC meeting in November	
18.13	CPRE	“Our Countryside in Somerset in Danger”	(to Cllr Taylor)

19 Any Other Business.

Problems concerning tractors and trailers at Pitcombe had been reported to the Police, although it was not clear where responsibility lay.

It was reported that repairs to the bridge still waited for lime mortar.