

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 8th June 2004

Present: Councillors Bell, Brook, Holt, Jennings, O'Leary, Smith

In attendance: District Councillor Alexandria Winder

In the Chair: Councillor Brook

1 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2004

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2004 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Minutes Approved

2 To review the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11th May 2004

Minutes were noted.

3 Matters arising from the minutes of 11th May 2004

Para 24. - Proposed removal of BT Payphone in Hadspen

Cllr Brook informed the meeting that he had written to BT on 13th April expressing the Parish Council's views on the need to retain the payphone. BT had replied on 19th May advising that the sheer volume of responses to their consultation letter meant that there would be a delay in a decision but BT assured that the recovery of the payphone would not proceed until the issues raised had been solved.

4 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Elliott.

5 Declarations of interest

None.

6 Public Participation

a. Slurry lagoon. Mr Mike Taylor stated that at the end of last year he understood that the problems with the slurry lagoon and the associate spreading of waste had been solved and therefore made no further complaints about the continuing odours as he thought these would come to an end. However, in view of the continuing problems with the odours, especially in this hot weather, he considered that it was necessary for a public meeting to be arranged in the Village Hall with all the interested agencies as soon as possible. He asked the Council to explain exactly the current position.

b. Mr Taylor also asked why the last minutes posted on the web site were February. Cllr Brook advised that Mike Millican had agreed to continue running this and the matter was in hand.

c. Western Gazette Photo Call – It was asked why there had not been prior notice given for the photo call. Cllr Smith explained that the Gazette had not given prior warning and that the opportunity for a photograph had to be taken, even at such short notice.

Reports from Portfolio Holders

7 **Environment, Health** (Cllr Elliott's report presented by Cllr Holt)

- a. Council was advised that the problems with the hedge in Mill Lane had been dealt with.
- b. The ownership of the hedge in Old Station Lane is still unclear and enquiries with the Local Planning Authority and the Land Registry will be made.
- c. Cllr Brook drew Council's attention to an advertisement for the 'Nomads Tent'. District Councillor Winder agreed to notify the DC.

8 **Highways** (Cllr Holt)

Cllr Holt reported that she was endeavouring to have the drains in Honeywick Hill cleared and the mud removed from Lyme Kiln Lane.

9 **Parish Tidiness** (Cllr O'Leary)

- a. Cllr O'Leary reported that there had been problems with the collection of Recycling boxes in certain areas but this had been resolved.
- b. An increase of litter was noticed over the half term period.
- c. It was reported that a letter had been sent to the Bursar of Bruton School for Girls in advance of Parents Day. Last year there had been severe congestion caused by double parking at Sunny Hill. The Principle has replied stating he will make sure parking is on one side of the road only.

10 **Slurry Lagoon** (Cllr Smith)

Cllr Smith reported that there is currently no exemption registered and so no waste should be imported or spread. The lagoon is not in use. Tim Carroll and David Heath have both written to Dr Owen of the Environment Agency about this matter and David Heath has requested that a representative of the Agency attend a meeting with the Parish Council and all interested parties. There is an Area East Committee Meeting tomorrow, 9th June to recommend the DC to support the Environmental Protection Unit in writing to the Environment Agency expressing serious concerns over the future of the site. Cllr Brook will attend and speak to the meeting. Cllr Smith agreed to write a synopsis of the current situation for the Parish News. The meeting was advised that all odours from the site should be reported to the Environmental Agency and that evidence of further deliveries of waste should also be reported, i.e. registration number of vehicle, name of firm, date and time.

11 **Footpaths** (Cllr Jennings)

Cllr Jennings reported that repairs to the styles will take place within the next few weeks.

12 **Law and Order** (Cllr Bell)

Cllr Bell read out a letter from the SSSDC regarding the formation of Area Action Panels. They are looking at four areas: Anti Social Behaviour, Drugs and Alcohol Abuse, Communications and Vandalism. The PCs were asked to let the Panel know of any problems in their area. No problems relating to these topics were identified.

13 **General Matters** (Cllr Brook)

Nothing further to report

14 **Clerk's arrangements for PAYE**

The Clerk informed Council that arrangements had been made with the Inland Revenue for her salary to be included as a deduction against her allowances. A letter to this effect is attached to these minutes.

15 **Planning Applications**

15.1 04/01314/COU Barn at Grove Farm Change of use of agricultural building to storage of hedge and tree plants for wholesale

Council had no objections to this application.

Approved

16 **Accounts for payment**

It was proposed and seconded that the following accounts be approved for payment.

Approved

16.1	Soft Mat Bowling Club	Grant	£50.00
16.2	M J Humphry	Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£70.31
16.3	Hadspen Village Hall	Hire of Hall - June 2003 -May 2004	£76.00
16.4	Allianz Cornhill Insurance	Amended renewal – balance	£ 3.52

17 **Arrangements for Audit**

The Clerk advised Council that Pitcombe had been selected as one of the 5% of local councils for intermediate audit.

18 **Correspondence**

18.1	SALC	Clerk's Training Events	To Clerk
18.2	SALC	Clerk's Workshop	To Clerk
18.3	SSDC	Area East Action Panel – Law & Order	To Cllr Bell
18.4	SSDC	Standards Committee – Meeting 18 th May	
18.5	S. Playing Fields Ass	Newsletter	
18.6	SCC	Licence for Notice Board at Pitcombe	Held by Clerk
18.7	Scottish Widows Bank	Change of Clerk – signature required	Clerk
18.8	CCS	Summer Conference 30 June - Taunton	
18.9	Somerset & Exmoor Nation Park	Notice of Joint Structure Plan Alterations 1996-2016 – Deposit draft June 2004	
18.10	SSDC	Minutes of Standards Committee Meeting 18 May	
18.11	Base Leisure	Latest News	
18.12	Avon & Somerset Police Authority	Policing Plan Summary 2004/05	Cllr Bell
18.13	The Balsam Project	Newsletter – Summer 2004	
18.14	CPRE	Spring 2004 Newsletter	
18.15	CPRE	Countryside Voice	
18.16	BT	Extension of consultation period to 12 th July 2004	
18.17	Hadspen Short Mat Bowling Club	Formal thanks for the grant	
18.18	CPRE	Fieldwork – Stepbystep guide to good campaigning	Cllr Brook
18.19	SSDC	Notice of meeting 9 th June 2004 Agenda item 7. – Hadspen lagoon –odour nuisance	Cllr Brook

Councillors are welcome to inspect any correspondence, or ask for copies.

