

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 9th November 2005

Present: Councillors: Brook, Elliott, Jennings, O'Leary and Smith

In the Chair: Councillor Brook

In attendance: County Councillor Robinson

1. Presentation by Inspector Neil Pitman

Inspector Neil Pitman was welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman. Inspector Pitman introduced himself advising he had been appointed six months ago to this sector, covering all of South Somerset, except Yeovil. He stated that one of his aims was to improve performance and advised Council that Wincanton Station was now the sixth best performing station in the sector with detection rates improved from 13% - 28%. Inspector Pitman further explained that he wished to improve relations with the Community and had worked closely with County Councillor Hobhouse to introduce Neighbourhood policing. A meeting was arranged for 21st November to draw up the agreements /contracts between the police and the parishes. The scheme would run for six months and then be reviewed to see what had been achieved. Inspector Pitman was advised that the main areas of concern to the parish are a police presence, speeding and the volume of traffic. Inspector Pitman stated that he would ask Sergeant Lee Jones to attend the next meeting. The Chairman thanked Inspector Pitman.

2. Public Participation

Mr Elliott stated that the recently installed church signs were not useful as they did not state specifically 'Pitcombe Church'. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways to see if the sign on the A359 could be changed to read 'Pitcombe Church'.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 11th October 2005

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meetings held on 11th October 2005 be adopted as a true and accurate record after an amendment to the names of Councillors was made by the Chairman.

Minutes Approved

4. Matters arising from the minutes of 11th October 2005

Para 9 – Traffic Calming at Sunny Hill The Clerk advised Council that Councillor Holt had contacted Bev Norman of Highways and passed on the concerns and comments made by them at the last meeting as follows:

- speed cushions will further entice the use of C351 as a cut to Castle Cary
- C351 to have cushion/lights as this is a busy crossing from boarding houses
- speed cushions will be noisier for residents
- as lights are a similar cost Council prefers this option
- 30mph to be extended along whole of Mill Lane.

5. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Bell and Holt.

6. Declarations of interest

None

7. Precept

a. Grants

Council considered the applications for grants and it was agreed that the following grants should be awarded.

Hadspen Village Hall	£460.00
St Leonard's Churchyard	£550.00
Victim Support	£ 50.00

Approved

b. Hadspen Village Hall rebuilding fund - addition to precept

Councillors O'Leary and Smith passed on the views of residents, who while supporting the village hall, were not in favour of contributing in this way. Mr Peter Wyatt, Chairman of the Hadspen Village Hall Committee was allowed to address the meeting and stated that the further funding needed was reliant on Parish Council support. After much discussion the Chairman proposed that the Parish Council raise the precept by an additional 35p per week per Band D property to assist the fund raising for the rebuilding of Hadspen Village Hall. This was seconded by Councillor Elliott and a vote taken. The proposal was adopted. There was one abstention.

Approved

8. Reports

Environment - Councillor Elliott

Council was informed that the apple pickers are still at Rodge Wood having arrived in September and that the situation was being monitored.

County Councillor Robinson

Council was encouraged to attend the Council Tax Consultation at Caryford Hall on Wednesday 16 November.

County Councillor Robinson also advised Council that in response to the representations regarding the 20mph speed restrictions on A359 the matter had been passed to the portfolio holder for highways.

9. Accounts for payment

It was proposed and seconded that the following payment is approved.

M J Humphry	Clerk's Salary for October 2005	£67.60
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Approved

10. Correspondence

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| 1 | SCDC | South Somerset State of the District Council Debate – Thursday 17 th November at Haynes Motor Museum 7pm - 2 representatives only |
| 2. | CPRE | Voice magazine – to Chairman |
| 3. | SSDC | Highway weeds – contact southsomersethighways@somerset.gov.uk |
| 4. | SCC | Council Tax Consultation – Caryford Hall, Ansford – Wednesday 16 th November -6.30 pm coffee start 6.45 – numbers required |
| 5. | SSDC | Area East News |
| 6. | SSDC | New public access arrangements for Development Control Service |
| 7. | SALC | Items of interest – November 2005 |
| 8. | SALC | South Area meeting 12 th December – Tatworth Memorial Hall |
| 9. | Community Council | Interim Parish Plans – Application for funding |
| 10. | SSDC | Mendip & South Somerset Community safety Partnership – Contact /advice booklet |
| 11. | Clerks & Councils Direct | Newsletter |
| 12. | SSDC | Area East meeting 9 th November 9.30 a.m. |
| 13. | Bruton Way Forward | Information event – 10 th November -3pm – 7 pm |
| 14. | Carymoor Environmental Trust | Somerset Waste Action Programme – talks available |
| 15. | SSDC | New scheme of delegation – parish council workshop |

Item 1 – Councillors O’Leary and Smith agreed to attend.

Item 4 – Councillor Elliott agreed to attend and will ask Councillor Holt on her return.

11. Items for the next agenda

Precept

Next meeting Tuesday 13th December 2005

Members of the Council considered the matters in the exercise of their functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability): Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.