

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 12th July 2005

Present: Councillors: Brook, Elliott, Holt, Smith

In the Chair: Councillor Brook

In attendance: County Councillor Robinson
District Councillor Alexandria Winder

1. Public Participation

No comments received.

2. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 14th June 2005

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It was agreed that the minutes of the meetings held on 14th June 2005 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Minutes Approved

3. Matters arising from the minutes of 14th June 2005

a. Para 4 – Slurry lagoon – Councillor Smith stated that the 29th July remained the firm date for the lagoon to be emptied and that Brian Payne of the Environment Agency (EA) was prepared to go down the legal route if necessary. It was emphasised to Council that all incidents of the “smells” should be reported immediately to the EA and the Environmental Health Agency (EH) and to Councillor Smith. Mr Taylor stated that it was of great importance that complainants should insist that EH come out at whatever time they are called as it is vital that they witness the smells themselves to establish a Statutory Nuisance. It was agreed that a leaflet drop should be made to all households in the parish. Councillor Brook agreed to write this and deliver copies to Councillors for distribution. It was also agreed to send a copy to Bruton Town Council as they too have experienced problems from the lagoon.

b. Para 8 – Priddle Hill Farm

Councillor Brook read out a letter from Colin Winder, Winder Design, which advised Council of the work being carried out. A copy is attached to the minutes.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Bell, Jennings and O’Leary

5. Declarations of interest

None

6. Planning Applications

05/01544/FUL J Lockley, Priddles Hill Stables

Replacement of defective building with

05/01656/FUL Bruton School for Girls, Sunny Hill
switchroom

Installation of new 500Kva transformer and

The Council had no objection to this application

7. **Bank Mandate**

Council approved the following bank mandate:

- to appoint Barclays Bank as bankers to the Parish Council
- to accept the terms of the Barclays Customer Agreement
- to appoint Councillors Brook, Elliott and Holt to sign cheques for the Council, any two signatories being required.

Approved

8. **Accounts and the Annual Audit Return for 2004/05**

Council approved annual return to the Council's external auditor and the Chairman signed the Statement of Assurance.

Approved

9. **Reports**

a. **Portfolio Holders**

Councillor Elliott - Environment

Trafalgar Celebrations - It was reported that the Hall Committee has agreed to light a beacon and hold a supper in the Hall on Friday October 21st. Details will be announced nearer the date.

Weeds – It was stated that no reports had been received of notifiable weeds but that Councillor Elliott would monitor the situation.

Councillor Holt - Highways.

Drain at Cole - It was reported that the drain at Cole by the bridge had been reported but as yet no action taken.

Mill Lane - The subsidence has still not been sorted out. A further hole appeared to which the Highways emergency team attended and after some confusion a metal plate and bollard have been placed over it. Councillor Holt will make further enquiries.

Drain Lancombe Lane - Efforts have been made using special equipment to find the missing drain in Lancombe Lane but to no avail.

Footpaths – Councillor Brook raised the question of the lack of maintenance of the Parish footpaths. District Councillor Winder stated that she would inquire but stated that this could have something to do with the fact that Pitcombe had not signed up to the Parish partnership scheme. In the absence of Councillor Jennings the Clerk was asked to make enquiries.

b. **County Councillor**

County Councillor Robinson advised Council that he was the holder of a new portfolio – Adult and Community Services – which was keeping him very busy. He stated that he had a meeting with Colin Fletcher, Highways to discuss Bruton road problems and would take the opportunity to visit Mill Lane. He also advised that the speed limit outside Bruton School for Girls was funded for this financial year and should go ahead subject to planning etc. Councillor Robinson produced a letter/leaflet concerning fire safety in the home. Free advice was available for the elderly and it was suggested that this be advertised in the Parish magazine. Councillor Elliott agreed to

arrange this.

c. **District Councillor** - Nothing to report

d. **Chairman** - Nothing to report.

10. Accounts for payment

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

M J Humphry

Clerk's Salary for June 2005

£67.60

Approved

11. Correspondence

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| 1. | DEFRA | Clean neighbourhoods & Environment Act 2005 |
| 2. | SSDC | Flood Awareness Workshop – 26 th July |
| 3. | Avon & Somerset Constabulary | Newsletter |
| 4. | SSDC | South Somerset Local Plan Deposit Draft 1998 – further proposed modifications |
| 5. | Countryside Agency | Focus magazine |
| 6. | SSDC | Area East News |
| 7. | SSDC | Standards Committee minutes |
| 8. | SSDC | Area East Committee Agenda 13 th July 2005 |
| 9. | Clerks & Councils Direct | Magazine |
| 10. | Ironman UK Triathlon | Volunteers required for 21 st August |
| 11. | SSDC | Countryside Day at Wincanton 13 th August |
| 12. | SSDC | Hackney carriages - Delimitation |

12. Items for the next agenda

Items to be sent to the clerk by Thursday 28th July 2005.

Next meeting Tuesday 9th August 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.