

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 14th June 2005

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

In the Chair: Councillor Brook

In attendance: District Councillor Alexandria Winder

1. Chairman's statement

The Chairman advised Council that the matter relating to Councillor Smith's withdrawal last month had been solved and welcomed her back to the Council.

2. Public Participation

Mr Taylor asked for permission to speak at item 4. This was granted.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 10th May 2005

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It was agreed that the minutes of the meetings held on 10th May 2005 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Minutes Approved

4. Matters arising from the minutes of 10th May 2005

Para 5(b) – Slurry lagoon – Councillor Smith stated that, as already advised by e-mail and a notice on the Parish Notice Boards, the Environment Agency had written to Mr Walters following a meeting with him, Sue Everett, Paul Sanders and Brian Payne, confirming that operations to empty the lagoon should recommence on 15th June and be completed by 29th July. The residue to be disposed of by direct injection onto land previously set aside that becomes available from that date. Walters is to update the EA on a weekly basis.

Mr Taylor stated that he was not happy over the length of time it has taken to get to this stage and was concerned that Mr Walters would not comply with EA letter. Events of last year led him to be sceptical about Mr Walters intentions. He also expressed his concerns that the Parish Council would not keep up the pressure but was assured that a close eye was being kept on the situation.

5. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Robinson and Councillor Jennings

6. Declarations of interest

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None

7. Planning Determinations Granted

05/01019/TCA
05/01063/FUL

Hadspen Village Hall
Mr Taylor, Nettlecombe Cottage

Application to remove tree
Erection of conservatory

8. Planning Applications

05/01388/FUL L Dewey, Valley Head, Cary Hill, Application to amend access to highway

The Council had no objections to this application

05/01318/LBC Mr & Mrs Scott. Cole Manor provision of internal alterations to
kitchen wing

The Council had no objections to this application

5/ECS/7552 Creech Hill Farm, Pitcombe Energy Crop Scheme – large scale
planting of Miscanthus (elephant) Grass

After much discussion the Council asked the Clerk to write to the Forestry Commission to express their concerns about the evasiveness of the crop and it likely spread, its effect on drainage especially as it is harvested in February and the fact no reference had been made on the plans that there is an existing footpath running through area 3.

Works at farm/ Valley head

Concerns were raised about activity and works being carried out at the farm next to Valley Head. Apparently earth is being moved and there has been talk of land fill. Councillor Smith suggested that the Council write to the owner, Andrew Hopkins, to ask him what is planned. Clerk was asked to write expressing the Council's anxiety over the activities and works being carried out.

9. Annual Accounts for Annual Audit

Council approved the accounts and the Chairman signed the audit form.

Approved

10. Wheeled Bins

Councillor O'Leary stated that he had contacted SSDC and been advised that there would be a two month consultation before wheeled bins would be introduced. SSDC also stated that as the vehicles needed to deal with the bins are larger, access could be a problem and the wheeled bins might not be introduced to Pitcombe at all. If this was the case the existing black sack system would continue. Black sacks would not be supplied by SSDC.

11. Reports

a. Portfolio Holders

Councillor Holt – Highways. It was reported that the drains in Honeywick Lane had been cleared, by hand yesterday. The area of subsidence in Mill Lane has been marked with red paint but there is no date for the work to be carried out.

b. District Councillor - Nothing to report

c. Chairman - The Chairman stated that Councillor Jennings had expressed his wish to stand down as the Council's representative on the Hadspen Hall Committee. After much discussion Councillor Elliott agreed to be the representative with Councillor Brook deputising as necessary.

12. Accounts for payment

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

M J Humphry	Clerk's Salary for May 2005	£67.60
Hadspen Village hall	Rent for Hall	£76.00

Approved

13 Correspondence

1	SCC Environment	Community Access Fund 2005
2	SALC	Items of Interest for Councillors & Clerks
3	SALC	An evening for the newer Councillor
4	SALC	Procedures for responding to planning applications
5	SALC	South Area meeting – 13 th June – Long Sutton
6	SCC	Equal Opportunities
7	St Margaret's Hospice	Newsletter and request for grant
8.	SSDC	Country Breaks 2006
9	Commission for Patient & Public Involvement in Health	A Chance to have your say on health in Somerset
10	SW Regional Assembly	RSS Update
11	CPRE	Newsletter
12	Parrett Catchment Project	Newsletter
13	Bruton Town Council	Report of Bruton: The Way Forward
14	SSDC	Notification of member appointments
15	SSDC	Corporate Plan
16	Playing Fields Association	Newsletter
17	SALC	Items of interest for June
18	CPRE	Countryside Voice
19	CPRE	Fieldwork
20	Community Council	Thatch
21	South Somerset NHS Trust	Putting People at the heart of service - Questionnaire

14. Items for the next agenda

Items to be sent to the clerk by Thursday 30th June 2005.

Next meeting Tuesday 12th July 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.