

# *Pitcombe Parish Council*

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## **Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

Present: Councillors: Brook, Carter, Elliott, Holt, Jennings O'Leary

In the Chair: Councillor Brook

In attendance: County Councillor Robinson  
District Councillor Winder

### **1. Public Participation**

**Richard O'Leary** advised Council that the ever increasing number of silos being erected at Wyke Farm in unsympathetic colours is becoming a blot on the landscape. He stated that he has been in contact with the Clothiers and after some negotiation they had agreed to paint the silos dark green and also to plant a screen of trees. It was agreed that this information should be published in the Parish magazine.

### **2. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2006 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

**Minutes Approved**

### **3. Matters Arising from the minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

#### **a. Noise nuisance from Motor Cyclist**

The Chairman informed Council that the police has given extremely good support and PCSO Mead has been very proactive. Council was advised that if the bikes cause a nuisance it was very important to get the registration number of the vehicle they arrive in so that the police can ascertain the registered owner. The police will then write to them telling them not to ride on Hadspen Hill. Council was further informed that the wall by the Quarry, which has been damaged, is to be rebuilt and the stones replaced.

#### **b. Quiet Lanes**

The Chairman stated that the County was not considering the matter of 'Quiet lanes' at the present time and therefore there was little point in pursuing the matter. CPRE are apparently to lobby government and if this produces a positive outcome the Council will look at it again.

### **4. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Bell.

### **5. Declarations of interest**

All Councillors declared a personal interest in item 7.

## *Draft minutes subject to confirmation*

### 6. Parish Boundary Review

The Council strongly objected to the proposal from North Cadbury and Yarlington PC to change the boundary. It was stated that the change would put the boundary directly through the Hadspen Estate and Grove Farm thereby dividing the properties between parishes. The owners are robustly opposed to these proposals. Councillor Elliott stated she had consulted the parishioners and around 95% do not want any change to the parish boundary. Council was also concerned about the effects this would have on the precept. The Clerk was instructed to convey these points to the District Council.

### 7. Planning Appeal

#### **05/03107/COU – Andrew Hopkins Concrete Ltd – Priddles Hill Farm, Castle Cary**

The Chairman stated that the original planning application had been refused on four points: it was outside development limits; there was no justification for the siting; it fosters more car use; and traffic considerations, the contour of the road and the bend. The Chairman read out the grounds for appeal and it was agreed that three of these were of no relevance to the grounds of refusal. After discussion it was further agreed that the Chairman would write to the Planning Inspector with Council's comments on the appeal including the removal of the footpath signs. The Chairman will copy his response to Council.

Concern was also expressed that work has continued, despite the refusal, and during the last two weeks excavation has been taking place resulting in a large quantity of spoil. The enforcement officer, Mr Myers, has told the agent that the work is not authorised and not to proceed any further. The heap of spoil is a cause for concern in relation to flooding and the Environment Agency have been notified. The Chairman said that if work was seen in progress this should be reported to Mr Myers.

### 8. Reports

#### a. Portfolio Holders

**Highways, Councillor Holt** reported that the potholes at Pitcombe Rock and Lime Kiln Lane had been repaired. Council was advised that the plan for changes in the speed limit in Pitcombe as discussed at last month's meeting had been agreed with County Highways but this did not include a pathway for the houses at the top of Strutter's Hill but there will be slow signs painted on Strutter's Hill and also pedestrian warning signs.

**Environment, Councillor Elliot** reported that she had spoken to the enforcement officer, Mr Myers, regarding the mobile home in Hadspen and was told that this would be sorted by the end of May by agreement. She had further spoken to him regarding the mobile home belonging to Mr Hobhouse, apparently planning permission is required and this is being dealt with.

**Parish Tidiness, Councillor O'Leary** reported he had received the refuse and recycling dates for bank holidays and would put these in parish magazine.

**Footpaths/Trees, Councillor Jennings** informed Council that a walk around Sparkford Wood was to take place on 6<sup>th</sup> May at 9.45 am and anyone interested should let him know. He also advised Council of the SSDC walks festival from 28<sup>th</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June.

#### b. County Councillor

County Councillor Robinson stated he was pleased that the 30mph limit had been agreed and advised that major resurfacing was scheduled this financial year for Pitcombe Rock. It was

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also reported that the eviction order for the travellers at Sheepwash Gritting Store is being held up by the Crown Court.

**c. Chairman**

The Chairman was pleased to report that he had received excellent references for Jean Linden, the new clerk and that the contract had been signed.

**9. Accounts for payment**

It was proposed and seconded that the following payments are approved.

M J Humphry	Clerk's Salary for March 2006	£67.60
SALC	Affiliation fee 2006/07	£76.05
		<b>Approved</b>

**10. Correspondence**

1	South Somerset Together	Newsletter
2	SCC	Somerset Statement of Community Involvement – Minerals & Waste Development Framework
3	SSDC	Parish Paths Stewardship Scheme Bulletin
4.	SSDC	South Somerset Local Plan – Notice of Intention to Adopt
5.	Community Council of Somerset	Council is asked to consider if they wish to subscribe to the Community Council of Somerset
6.	Postwatch	News from the South & West watchdog for postal services
7.	DEFRA	Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act 2005
8.	David Heath MP	Notification of advice centre from April – July
9.	Parrett Catchment	River Festival 21 <sup>st</sup> May – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
10	SCC	Highways Questionnaire
11	SSDC	E-mail Contacts
12	Avon & Somerset Police	Newsletter
13	SSDC	Area East News
14	Pendragon Cycling club	Notice of Cycling event 27-29 <sup>th</sup> May
15	SSDC	Agenda Area East Committee 12th April
16	SSDC	Refuse & recycling bank holiday dates

Item 5 – the Council agreed that they did not wish to subscribe to the Community Council of Somerset

**11. Items for the next agenda and arrangements for Annual parish Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Council agreed that the Annual Parish meeting would commence at 7.30 pm followed after tea/coffee by the Annual Parish Council meeting. It was agreed that the Chairman would report on the Council's work for the year and councillors are asked to provide the Chairman with the necessary information.

The Chairman then thanked the outgoing Clerk for her work for the Council and presented her with a plant.

***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.***