

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in
The Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 14 August 2007 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors, Taylor, Elliott, Beech, Carter, Hartnell, Jury
In the Chair Councillor Taylor

In attendance: District Councillor Felton

1. Public Participation

The removal of road signs around the Parish was still a concern to residents. Councillor **Jury** advised the matter had been reported to Highways and that some of the missing signs had been recovered. Instructions for their replacement had been issued.

It was reported that litter and its removal is a nuisance in the Parish. Councillor **Elliott** advised on the whereabouts of litter pickers owned by the parish council, which are available for use in dealing with the problem.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 10 July 2007

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2007 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 10 July 2007

Referring to item 6, Councillor **Carter** advised that Network Rail had dug out and cleared the ditch in Sunny Lane improving drainage in the area. It was suggested that Sexey's School might consider clearing and joining a further section of ditch to increase effectiveness.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Robinson, PCSO Tim Russell and Councillor Whittaker.

5. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hartnell declared an interest in Item 6 – 07/03644/FUL.

6. Planning Consultation - Refused

07/01705/FUL – Mr R Comer & Mr D York – Erection of dwelling house for Quarry Manager, formation of new vehicular access and change of use of land from agricultural to domestic curtilage. Grove Farm Quarry, Lime Kiln Lane, Hadspen BA7 7NX.

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Planning Determination – Granted

07/01798/FUL – A H Farming – Landscape works to valley - Priddles Hill Farm, Cary Hill, Castle Cary, BA7 7NJ.

Planning Consultation

07/03644/FUL – Ms M Atkins – The erection of a two-storey rear extension to dwelling house to provide kitchen/diner with ensuite bedroom over.

Location: 2 Sunny Hill Cottages, Mill Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset

The Council had no observations on this application.

7. Registration of Members' Interests

Following adoption of Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 Councillors reviewed their existing registration entry and signed a statement of confirmation.

8. Reports

Councillor **Carter** reporting on the condition of the footpath at Ring House stated that Mrs Coghill-Smith had not had any success with Council Contractors in clearing the nettles. Mrs Coghill-Smith has been asked to consider clearing the nettles herself as so many people are getting stung.

Councillor **Carter** reported that complaints had been received about the number of live electric fences on Mr Hobhouse's land. The fences were obstructing Footpaths and Bridleways making them difficult to negotiate. Councillor **Elliott** agreed to investigate the matter.

Councillor **Jury** gave an update on highway issues (listing attached). Councillor **Jury** referred to the 5-day temporary closure of Honeywick Lane commencing 28 August for BT repair work and suggested contacting the Highways Department requesting clearance of banks and verges during this period. It was agreed Councillor **Jury** would write to Highways.

The Chairman mentioned an overhanging tree at Cole Barn, which was causing an obstruction to road users. Councillor **Jury** agreed to investigate.

Councillor **Elliott** mentioned an area of flooding on the C125 near Cole which requires channelling into the field to improve drainage.

Councillor **Elliott** mentioned a refuse problem at the Old School House in Pitcombe. Refuse collection has not been taking place as the premises is rented and therefore regarded as a commercial enterprise. The Caretaker has contacted the owner and it is hoped that the matter will soon been resolved.

Councillor **Jury** mentioned Sunny Hill School tip, and slippage of the bank. Councillor **Jury** raised the question of what permissions were allowed in this area. Concern was felt regarding fire in the woods, and in the past week a lot of noise was coming from the area with distribution of reinforced concrete.

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The **Chairman** announced that Councillor **Beech** would be taking over the Police Liaison portfolio.

The **Chairman** reported that he had spoken with Mr Benzie, Headteacher of Ansford School regarding the school walk. Mr Benzie had given his apologies for the disruption caused during the event. The **Chairman** suggested that a clean up party should follow to remove any posters and debris after any future event.

District Councillor **Felton** stated that the Unitary Council bid for Somerset had not been approved by the Secretary of State. District Councillor **Felton** also announced that the Police office at Somerton would be moving to Wincanton Area East Offices.

In response to a parishioner question the **Chairman** referred to the new building at Hadspen Quarry. The Council had not seen permission for this building, but it had been reported by Mr Myer that the building was a replacement. Its appearance is considered larger than the original.

The **Chairman** extended his thanks to Jean Linden outgoing Clerk and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

9. Accounts for Payment:

J Linden	Clerk's salary July 2007	£139.27
J Linden	Admin/Postage	£ 5.52

10. Correspondence:

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

1.	Erica Holt	Missing Road Signs (2 e-mails)
2.	W Constantine	Acknowledgement of Village Hall Grant 2007/08
3.	S Chamberlain	Acknowledgement of Pitcombe News Grant 2007/08
4.	P Wyatt	Acknowledgement of St Leonard's Grant 2007/08
5.	SSDC	SSDC Performance Plan 2007/078
6.	Somerset Road Safety Partnership	Leaflet Working Together to reduce Casualties
7.	Ansford School	School and Community Forum Notes 3 July 2007
8.	CHICS	Summer Activities 2007
9.	Somerset Highways	Road Closure – Honeywick and Wyke Roads 28 Aug 07
10.	SCC	Information from Somerset Freight Quality Partnership
11.	WaterLinks	Information Sheet
12.	SSDC	Area East Bulletin Issue No. 1 – July 2007
13.	SSDC	South Somerset Local Development Framework –Adoption of the Statement of Community Involvement
14.	SALC	Items of Interest to Councillors and Clerks – July 2007
15.	Somerset Playing Field Association	Newsletter – Summer 2007
16.	SCC	One Council for Somerset
17.	SSDC	Small grants available to groups and parishes
18.	SCC	Temporary Road Closure – B3081 Stoney Stoke
19.	SSDC	Dog Waste Bin - Sponsorship

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Meetings/Workshops:

SSDC Area East	Sustainable Community Strategy for South Somerset - Workshop at Wincanton on 1 August 2007 at 7.00 pm
SCC	Regulation Committee Meeting at Taunton on Tuesday 21 July 2007 – 2.00pm
SSDC	Area East Committee Meeting at Wincanton on 8 August at 0.30 am

11. Items for the next agenda

PPC Meetings during Village Hall rebuild.

Next meeting Tuesday 11 September 2007.

Members of the Council considered the above 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

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Pitcombe Parish Council Highways - Portfolio August 2007

1. **Sheepwash Chipping Dump**
Reported: 6th June 2007
SCC Highways Ref No. 145254
Concerns regarding barrier to prevent unlawful access by travellers.
Current status: Work Completed

2. **Pitcombe Bridge**
Reported: 6th June 2007
SCC Highways Ref No. 145252
Damaged handrail to protective barrier.
Current status: Work Completed

3. **Mill Lane**
Reported: 3rd July
Clothier Builders.
Construction traffic restriction sign.
Current status: Replacement for stolen sign is still awaited.

4. **Mill Lane**
Reported 3rd July
Sunny Hill School.
Pot holes in hard standing outside employees cottages in Mill Lane are expanding into the highway.
Current Status: Discussions with Bursar who agreed to instruct their maintenance man to complete repairs, Anticipated completion end of August. Work is still outstanding.

5. **C125/Lime Kiln Lane**
Reported: 3rd July
SCC Highways Ref No. Def.23512
Resident reported hazard when turning right into Lime Kiln Lane from the C125 when travelling from Castle Cary. Vision round bend blocked by over grown hedge.
Current status: Spoke with landowner Oliver Dowding on 13th July who agreed to cut back the hedge

6. **A359/Lime Kiln Lane**
Reported: 9th July
SCC Highways Ref No.149480
HGV No access sign removed from top of lane near to quarry. Probably stolen.
Current Status: See SCC letter dated 3rd August - work instruction issued 31st July. 3-month priority. Work is still outstanding.

7. **Verges and banks/overhanging trees Lime Kiln Lane**
Reported: 11th July
SCC letter 3rd August ref: Ti/DR/4.89
Requested that the verges and banks be cut back to restore road to original width.

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Current Status: Verges have been cut and SCC have issued a work instruction dated 31st July with a 3 month priority for the bank trimming. Work is still outstanding.

Cllr Jury also spoke with Peter Wyatt regarding residents concerns regarding the overhanging trees. He stated that he would check the lane for any immediate concerns and would be undertaking a tree trimming exercise this coming winter.

8. **Patching/road edge erosion**

Reported: 11th July

SCC letter 3rd August ref: Ti/DR/4.89

A number of areas were identified in Mill Lane and the main C125 near Cole.

Current Status: These have been recorded and marked by SCC on the 31st July with a 3 month priority. Work is still outstanding.

9. **Missing Road Signs**

Reported: 11th July

SCC letter 3rd August ref: Ti/DR/4.89

In addition to the HGV restriction sign in 6 above. Two further hazard warning signs were found to be missing.

a. Slow sign approaching bend just prior to Cole.

b. Bend and Road narrows sign on the bend at the junction of the C125/Lime Kiln Lane.

Current Status: Both these signs have been recovered and works instructions for their replacement were issued on the 31st July with a 3 month priority. Work is still outstanding.

10. **Blocked Drains outside Honeywick Cottage**

Reported 19th July

SCC Ref No. DEF 24060

Current Status: SCC inspected these drains on the 26th July and have agreed to undertake works to rectify the situation. Work is still outstanding.