

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in
The Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 12 June 2007 at 7.30 pm**

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

In attendance: County Councillor Robinson

1. Public Participation

The current situation regarding repair/replacement of overhead telephone cabling was reported by a member of the public who has been informed that work will be completed in approximately 3 weeks time. The Chairman stated that he had been advised that road closure is necessary before the work can be carried out and therefore it is more likely to be 6 weeks before completion.

It was reported by a resident that pesticide spraying, had taken place, without prior notice on the morning of 22 May 2007, at the apple orchards in Hadspen. Pesticide spray rising high over the apple trees had drenched the windows and washing belonging to local residents. A letter of complaint from one of the residents has been forwarded to the Landowner concerned, requesting information on the nature of pesticide that had been applied. It was noted that the bee population along with other insect life had disappeared totally from the resident's garden since the incident. A reply is awaited from the Landowner.

Mr Meyer, Enforcement Officer SSDC had written a letter in response to comments and concerns from a Hadspen resident concerning the restoration of the monastic fishponds on land OS 5031 at Lime Kiln Lane.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 15 May 2007 and Extraordinary Meeting held on 22 May 2007

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2007 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

The Council proposed and seconded the following amendment to the minutes of the meeting of 22 May 2007:

Paragraph 2. Page 89

Planning Applications

a. 07/01705/FUL

(Bullet point 5)

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- With the formation of a new access Road at Grove Farm Quarry there will be better visibility from Lime Kiln Lane.

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3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 15 May 2007

There were no matters arising.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from District Councillor Felton, PCSO Tim Russell, Councillors Hartnell and Beech.

5. Declarations of Interest

None.

6. Planning Consultation (Amended Plans)

07/01798/FUL – Landscape works to valley

Location: Priddles Hill Farm, Cary Hill, Castle Cary, Somerset BA7 7NJ

There were no observations on the amended plans.

7. Planning Determinations – Granted

07/00872/FUL – Mr & Mrs D West – Amendment to Approval 06/04460 – change of window to french doors with low parapet wall and railings to provide balcony.

Location: Gristways, Hadspen, Castle, Cary, BA7 7NQ.

07/01166/FUL – Ms Caroline Donald – Removal of existing timber garage and replacement with single storey, shingle roofed timber garden room/storage

Location: Pacets, Hadspen, Castle Cary BA7 7LX

Planning Determinations - Refused

07/01393/FUL – A H Farming – Change of use of barn to light industrial and refurbishment into 3 units

Location: Priddles Hill Farm, Castle Cary, Somerset BA7 7NJ

8. Annual Audit of Accounts – year ended 31 March 2007

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

9. Local Government Reorganisation

The Chairman referred to the proposed Unitary Council for Somerset and reminded the Council of the importance of their vote which should be returned by 15 June 2007.

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10. **South Somerset District Council – Standards Committee Election**

Councillors considered the nomination papers and reached a unanimous decision on 3 candidates. The Ballot paper was completed by the Clerk and forwarded to the County Secretary.

11. **Environmental Warden**

In considering the appointment of an Environmental Warden for the Parish of Pitcombe, the **Chairman** explained the responsibilities involved with enforcement of the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 which includes fly posting, fly tipping, dog fouling, litter, graffiti, abandoned vehicles and domestic waste. **County Councillor Robinson** advised after consideration, Bruton Town Council were happy to appoint a Warden for Bruton. Pitcombe Parish Council agreed to consider and **Cllr Elliott** suggested advertising for a Warden in the Parish Magazine.

12. **Reports**

Cllr Jury reported that he had contacted the District Council on 16 May 2007 regarding the insecure state of the barrier at Sheepwash Gritting Store where there was insufficient rubble to prevent Travellers regaining entry to the store. The District Council subsequently informed **Cllr Jury** that the work had been completed when in fact no action had been taken to remedy the situation. **Cllr Jury** requested the assistance of **County Councillor Robinson** with this matter.

Cllr Jury reported that the broken handrail on Pitcombe Bridge over the River Pitt had been reported to Highways and after inspection had been categorised as a low priority.

Cllr Elliott and **Cllr Jury** reported that a very large lorry had recently been seen in Pitcombe trying to negotiate the very narrow lane outside the cottages. **Cllr Elliott** mentioned a 'Narrow Road' sign previously in place near Shepton Montague and Strutters Hill which needs reinstating. It was suggested that large lorries were turning off into Pitcombe to gain access to the building site in Mill Lane. **Cllr Jury** is monitoring the situation.

Cllr Carter reporting on Public Footpaths stated that she had contacted the Landowner regarding the path on Nettlecombe Hill where maize was growing. **Cllr Carter** had not yet had a response from the Landowner and had written to Paul Attwell, Countryside Officer regarding this. The footpath at Pitcombe Church had been cut and was in very good condition. The path at Priddles Hill Farm was overgrown with nettles and very difficult to negotiate.

Cllr Whittaker reported no response to her telephone calls to the District Council in connection with hedge and verge trimming although she had obtained a reference number for the work. Accessing the Parish Noticeboard had become difficult due to nettle growth and brambles were growing through the drains in the Hadspen area. **Cllr Whittaker** agreed to contact the Landowner regarding hedge trimming.

County Councillor Robinson reported that speed checks had been carried out at Strutters Hill and vehicles *were* travelling at considerable speeds along this road. Colin Fletcher, Highways Department will endeavour to seek agreement from the Police for a 40 mph buffer zone at the bottom of the Hill. In response to **Cllr Whittaker's** comments on

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flashing speed signage **County Councillor Robinson** reported that this initiative was proving to be very effective and it was hoped that Highways Department would have the opportunity to purchase and install this type of device in the future.

The **Chairman** reported that he had been impressed by the Councillor Training session he had recently attended and thoroughly recommended it to Councillors who were attending sessions in the near future.

The **Chairman** further reported that Jean Linden would be resigning as Parish Clerk effective from 31 August 2007 and thanked her for her work on behalf of the Council.

13. Accounts for Payment:

SALC	Councillor Training Fees	£100.00
J Linden	Clerk's salary May 2007	£139.27
J Linden	Admin/Postage	£3.84

14. Correspondence:

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

1.	SSDC	Gambling Act 2005
2.	SCC	Authorisation for Kimber Classic Trial held by MG car club on 21 Apr 2007
3.	SCC	One Somerset – Once Council for Somerset – One Voice
4.	SSDC	Town/Parish Elections – Uncontested Elections
5.	SALC	Items of interest to Clerks and Councillors April 2007
6.	Communities	Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Statutory Instrument No. 1159)
7.	SSDC	District Council Elections – Notice of Poll
8.	SSDC	Changes to the Duty Planner System
9.	SSDC	Parish Environment Warden
10.	Avon & Somerset Police	Policing Plan 2007/08
11.	SLCC	Membership of Society of Local Council Clerks
12.	SSDC	Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Tree Preservation Order 2007 – Pitcombe
13.	SSDC	Post election information
14.	SALC	Proposals for new Unitary Council
15.	SALC	Brief Summary of Model Code of Conduct
16.	Shaping Health	Have your Say on Health
17.	SCC Highways	Speed Limit – A359 Pitcombe
18.	SSVCA	Voluntary & Community Action Ltd. – Newsletter Issue 90
19.	SSDC Area East	Community Plans on SSDC's Website
20.	SSC	South Somerset Area Working Panel – Update from meeting of 24 April 2007
21.	St Margaret's Hospice	Newsletter Spring/Summer 2007
22.	SSDC	SSDC – District Wide Car Parking Strategy
23.	Maurice Madelin	Planning Application - Hadsphen Quarry
24.	SSDC	Local Government Reorganisation – SCC Unitary & Leaflet Have your Say

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25.	CPRE	Fieldwork June 2007
26.	SALC	Confirmation of booking - Councillors Training Events
27.	Dr Pheby	Letter to James Mayer re-creation of ponds by A Hopkins
28.	Dr Pheby	Letter to Andrew Hopkins re-creation of ponds
29.	Dr & Mrs Pheby	Letter to Henry Hobhouse re pesticide spraying 22 May 07
30.	Mrs Pheby	Letter to Regional Group Manager Barry Jones, County Hall, Taunton – Re Planning Application 07/01623/CPO – Hadspen Quarry
31.	Dr & Mrs Pheby	Letter to Ms Joanne Jones, County Hall, Re Planning Application 07/01623/CPO – Hadspen Quarry
32.	CPRE	Somerset Matters – Spring 2007 Newsletter
33.	Ansford School	School & Community Forum
34.	Mendip Housing	How do we solve the housing crisis facing our villages?
35.	Dr & Mrs Pheby	Planning Application 07/01705 Hadspen Quarry, Pitcombe
36.	Mr P Wyatt	Re Planning Application 07/01623/CPO – Hadspen Quarry
37.	Avon & Somerset Police	Local Policing Summary 2006-2007 Plus leaflets
38.	SSDC	Standards Committee Minutes of meeting 28 Feb 2007
39.	SS Community Accessible Transport	Ring & Ride, Balsam Centre, Wincanton – Newsletter May 2007
40.	Clerks & Councils Direct	Newsletter May 2007
41.	SCC	Area Working Team – questions answers/feedback raised at recent meetings
42.	Castle Cary/Ansford	Newsletter - Summer 2007
43.	NHS	NHS Foundation Trust Application – Consultation Document
44.	Victim Support	Update 2006-07, leaflets and recruitment poster

Meetings/Workshops:

SCC	South Somerset Area Working Panel 6.45 pm 24 April 2007 – Crewkerne
SALC	Training Events for New Councillors
SALC	South Area Meeting – 11 June 2007, Queen Camel Village Hall, at 7.30pm
SCC	Area Working Team – Discussion on SCC Unitary Proposals – 7.00 pm 22 May at Bath & West Showground or 7.00 pm 29 May at Marston Magna Village Hall.
SCC	Somerset Community Ventures – Training 26 June 2007 – Bridgewater
SCC	South Somerset Area Working Panel – Meeting at 7.00 pm on 12 September at North Cadbury Village Hall
CPRE	AGM at 3.00 pm on Saturday 7 July at Martock Parish Hall.
SSDC	Standards Committee Notice of Meeting Wednesday 6 June 2007
SSDC	Area East Committee Meeting on 13 June 2007 at Wincanton 0930.

15. Items for the next agenda.

Environmental Warden

Next meeting Tuesday 10 July 2007 - Please forward all items to Clerk by 30 June 2007.

Members of the Council are asked to consider 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