

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 13 March 2007

Present: Councillors: Brook, Elliott, Holt, Taylor, Carter, Jennings
In the Chair: Councillor Brook

1. **Public Participation**

The Chairman welcomed the attendance of Mr John Burrough, Headmaster, Bruton School for Girls. **Mr Burrough** then explained the need for extra street lighting on the A359 and concerns felt by the School and Parents regarding the safety of pupils crossing the road to gain access to the Astroturf sports pitch and Old Vicarage Boarding House. The Highways Authority have advised that the safest point for pupils to cross lies outside the front of Old House, a point which becomes extremely dark once night falls and light fades. There is a telegraph pole situated at the crossing point which could be used to mount an additional street light. Mr Burrough stated that the school were prepared to fund the estimated cost of £500 for the lighting. The Parish Council fully supports this safety measure and the Clerk agreed to write to Mr Philip Bennett, Assistant Highway Lighting Engineer, Somerset County Council to inform him of this decision.

The **Chairman** announced that PCSO Tim Russell had been appointed to replace PCSO Barbara Hooper. His contact details are as follows:

Portishead: 0845 456 7000 (obtain call log number to ensure follow up)
e-mail: timothy.russell@avonandsomerset.police.uk

A question regarding the cost and necessity of replacing a School sign in Sunny Lane was raised. **Mr Burroughs** suggested it had been included as part of Bruton School's request for extra school signage in the area. The council agreed the new style sign was probably a legal requirement.

It was reported that the flood system was not working in the Hadspen area. **Cllr Holt** agreed to hasten progress on this work for which several job numbers had already been allocated.

A request was made for all correspondence items addressed to the Parish Council to be included on the Agenda listing. It was agreed by the Chairman and Clerk that in future official correspondence and parishioner correspondence will be included in the listing.

Concern was raised regarding the white posts which had appeared in the field near Priddles Hill House. Residents were concerned about the possible creation of a pond and the Clerk agreed to write to Mr Hopkins regarding this matter.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

A request to remove Wind Turbine documentation from the parish website was received and this action has been completed.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 13 February 2007

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2007 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 13 February 2007

Storage of Methane Gas Bottom Barn Farm. Cllr Elliott awaits a response from Mr Myer, Planning Officer regarding this matter.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Robinson.

5. Declarations of Interest

None.

6. Annual Parish Meeting

The format for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 10 April 2007 was discussed and, in recognition of the work carried out on Hadspen Estate footpaths, it was agreed that the Chairman would invite Rosie Hobhouse to attend the meeting to thank her for the excellent work.

It was further agreed that a refreshment break would be taken after the Annual Parish Meeting. The Parish Council Meeting would continue after the break.

7. Elections 2007

In preparation for the forthcoming parish elections the Clerk issued nomination packs to all Parish Councillors. Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the Clerk or downloaded from www.southsomerset.gov.uk or by contacting the Elections team on 01935 462462.

8. Planning Consultation

06/04460/FUL (Amendment to approval) – Mr & Mrs D West – Change of window to french doors with low parapet wall and railings to provide balcony

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

No observations.

Planning Determinations Granted

06/03656/FUL – A H Farms – Replace defective building with new purpose built structure.

Location: Priddles Hill Stables, Priddles Hill Farm, Cary Hill, Castle Cary BA7 7LX

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

9. Reports

Cllr Taylor referred to the overhanging trees in Honeywick Lane and a letter received from Somerset Highways dated 8 March 2007. The letter did not address concerns regarding BT cables sustaining damage from overhanging trees and the seriousness of disconnected lines in an emergency situation. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Andrew Hopkins, BT and SSDC Highways Authority.

Cllr Holt reported that she had a job number for the blocked drains at the top of Honeywick Lane. The drains opposite Nettlecombe and Cole Manor House were also reported blocked.

Cllr Jennings reported that dead trees between the cottages and Pitcombe Rock had recently been felled. He also mentioned another tall dead tree standing nearby which represented a hazard if it were to fall. Cllr Holt agreed to contact Highways regarding responsibility for the land area on which it stands.

Cllr Taylor mentioned that a motorcyclist had been caught by PCSO Tim Russell in the Quarry Area last weekend. An accompanying vehicle, a Volvo bus had also been reported.

10. Accounts for Payment:

J Linden	Admin costs – postage	£5.22
J Linden	Clerk's salary for January 2007	£69.63

11. Correspondence:

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

1.	SSDC	Parish Paths Stewardship Scheme Bulletin
2.	NALC	Review of Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme
3.	SSDC	Parish Boundary Review Committee
4.	SSDC	Area East Community Planning Sub Committee 28 February 2007
5.	SSDC	Standards Committee 28 February 2007
6.	SSDC	Standards Committee Minutes of 13 December 2006
7.	SSDC	East Somerset Unitary Submission
8.	Bruton School	Proposed Extra Street Light on A359 at Bruton School
9.	SSDC	South Somerset News – March 2007
10.	Vista	Vista Training Programme 2007
11.	David Heath CBE	Re Post Office Petition and EDM
12.	Somerset Highways	Highway Matters
13.	CPRE	Fieldwork Newsletter March 2007
14.	CPRE	Houses & Gardens 2007

Meetings/Workshops:

SLCC	Somerset Branch 2007 Meeting - 30 March 2007
SSDC	Area East Committee Meeting - Notice of Meeting - 0930 Wednesday 14 March 2007

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

12. Items for the next agenda.

Please forward items to the Clerk by 30 March 2007.

Next meeting Tuesday 10 April 2007 following the Annual Parish Meeting.

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