

**Minutes of the Pitcombe Annual Parish Meeting held on
Tuesday 10 April 2007 in the Village Hall, Hadspen**

Present: Approximately 10 members of the Public
County Councillor Robinson

In the Chair: Councillor Charles Brook, Chairman of the Parish Council

1. **Opening remarks and welcome**

Councillor Charles Brook opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

2. **To receive the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9 May 2006**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes be approved as a true record.

Approved

3. **Matters arising**

Speed Limits – Cllr Holt confirmed that 30 mph speed limit signs had been erected in Pitcombe and Cole. Highways have been contacted regarding the positioning of the 30 mph sign at Hill View, which places the cottages in an unlimited zone and does not address the problems of speeding traffic experienced by the residents.

4. **Report on the work of the Parish Council for the year April 2006 - March 2007**

Councillor Brook (retiring Chairman) gave a brief overview of the Council's work during the past year and commented that the bi-meetings - portfolio and planning, had worked well.

Councillor Brook stated that roads were cleaner and the footpaths now much clearer and extended his thanks to Cllrs Jennings and Carter - also Richard O'Leary (now retired).

Priddles Hill - Councillor Brook acknowledged the considerable efforts involved by Councillors who contributed to the success of the appeal.

Slurry Lagoon – Councillor Brook also acknowledged the successful clearance of the lagoon.

Councillor Brook expressed his gratitude to all involved with Priddles Hill Appeal and the Slurry Lagoon particularly Cllrs Elliott, Holt and Taylor who had been very active and supportive in their role to the Council.

Finance – Councillor Brook stated that a final grant of £3100 would be paid to the Village Hall re-build project for financial year 2007/08. He went on to explain that a contingency reserve had built up in the Council's deposit account, which amounted to £1889, and this would be useful for any legal fees or costs that may arise in the future.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Councillor Brook went on to extend his thanks to past and present Clerk's and acknowledged the considerable support that County Councillor Robinson and District Councillor Winder had given to the Council.

Policing – Councillor Brook recognised that newly appointed PCSO Tim Russell had been very supportive to Hadspen with recent motorbike problems. There were noticeably more police patrol cars in the area even in PCSO Russell's absence.

Councillor Brook expressed his wish for the new council to be more pro-active and commented on the planting of trees along the boundaries. He referred to the excellent work that had taken place on the Hadspen Estate with the creation of new paths, planting of hedges and ongoing footpath linkage. He had hoped that Rosie or Niall Hobhouse would have been available to attend the meeting to acknowledge their work and express thanks in person.

5. **Discuss any motions of which notice has been given to the Clerk**

None received.

6. **Open Discussion**

Mr Elliott thanked all Councillors who have served on the Council. He acknowledged that Iain Bell (who resigned 2006) had given over 20 years of dedicated service to Pitcombe Parish Council.

Mr Elliott stated it was unfortunate that Parish Councils do not attract more candidates to come forward for election, and felt there was probably a public perception that parish councils do not have sufficient power. Mr Elliott hoped the impending Local Government Reorganisation might address this.

County Councillor Robinson extended his thanks to Councillor Brook for his service to the council. He also acknowledged the service and support of District Councillor Winder (in her absence).

Councillor Brook thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at approximately 7.55 pm.