

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in
The Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 9th October 2007 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: Beech, Carter, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, and Whitaker.
In the Chair Councillor Taylor

In attendance: District Councillor Felton, Residents of the Parish.

1. Public Participation

Resident Mr. Martin Jennings discussed Traffic Speed on A359. Councillor **Jury** would report on same under item 6.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 11th September 2007

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2007 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 11th September 2007

None

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from, Councillor **Elliot**

5. Declarations of Interest

Councillor **Taylor** stated that as Vice-Chairman of The Trustees of Hadspen Village Hall he had an interest in part of Item 9 – The Precept and Budget, because The Trustees of Hadspen Village Hall had applied for a grant for Phase 2 of the Hadspen Village Hall Re-Building Project.

6. Traffic Calming.

Councillor **Jury** gave details of his meeting with Mike Allen of South Somerset District Council regarding the proposed traffic calming measures for Bruton Town centre. The proposals included extending the traffic calming measures to include the approaches to and that section of the A359 which falls within the parish boundary outside Bruton School for Girls. After discussion members agreed with the proposals and also agreed to request that the measures were extended to that section of the C351 between the A359 and the turning to Mill lane. The members agreed that automatic speed limit signs would be effective.

As a separate issue it was agreed that councillor Jury would contact the traffic management department of Somerset County Council to request that a 30 mph limit is set in place for the full extent of the C351/C125 within the parish boundaries.

Draft Minutes Subject to Confirmation

7. Parish Notice Boards.

Councillor **Taylor** said that the Parish Notice Boards in Cole & Hadspen were in a bad state of repair and aesthetically were not up to standard. It was agreed that the notice boards needed replacing if economically viable and Councillor **Hartnell** will look into the cost of locking replacements

8. Planning Consultation - Permitted

07/03179/FUL – Extension to yard for stationing of lorries and the reconstruction of landscape bund

Location: Tor View Farm, Galhampton

Application permitted with conditions

9. Precept and Budget 2008/09

Councillor **Taylor** gave the councillors various calculations for discussion of the Precept and Budget 2008/09. He read out a letter received from Peter Wyatt, Chairman of The Trustees of Hadspen Village Hall applying for a new grant of £3100 to help with the costs of Phase 2 of the Hadspen Village Hall Re-Building Project.

The main body of the budget was discussed and provisionally approved. Councillor **Taylor** handed the Chair to Councillor **Hartnell** and the subject of the Village Hall grant application was discussed.

Councillor **Beech** stated that he thought that before a grant was approved and a charge was levied on the parishioners via the precept the council consult with the residents about this matter. He suggested that a tear out form could be printed in the Pitcombe News. Councillor **Jury** felt that it was up to the council to make the decision and that a consultation would be difficult and could lead to a misleading result.

District Councillor **Felton** was asked for her opinion and she asked if the Trustees had explored every avenue of fund raising. Councillor **Taylor** (from the floor) explained that a number of grants had been received from various organisations including PPC, SSDC & Somerset County Council for Phase 1 but as a Lottery bid had faulted the trustees had been advised by Alice Knight of SSDC to apply again to PPC, SSDC & Somerset County Council for Phase 2 – The Car Park.

Councillor **Beech** then proposed a vote in favour of a consultation, Councillor **Carter** seconded and the motion was carried by a majority. It was decided that Councillor **Taylor** should seek advice from Peter Lacey of SALC as to the best way to carry out a consultation and report to the council at the next meeting.

Councillor **Taylor** returned to the Chair.

10. Reports

Resident Mr. Martin Jennings reported that the footpath across The Football Ground had been ploughed, Councillor **Carter** will contact owner.

Councillor **Jury** gave an update on highway issues (listing attached).

Draft Minutes Subject to Confirmation

District Councillor **Felton** reported that the money for the Green Box had been returned to Mrs. Earle but Garden Waste was still a problem as no collection were taking place in the area. There would be a new regime dealing with waste in the near future so things could improve.

Councillor **Taylor** reported that Hadspen Village Hall was in the process of being demolished and expressed on behalf of the council thanks to all concerned in raising the funds for Phase 1 with particular reference to Peter Wyatt (Chairman), Carole Wyatt (Secretary) & Willie Constantine (Treasurer) for their dedication to the task.

No application had been received for the vacant position of Clerk and he would speak to The Town Clerk in Bruton to discuss the post and he would place an advertisement for the position in The Blackmore Vale Magazine.

Councillor **Beech** said that it had been reported to him that Priddles Hill Farm was being used for Retail/Wholesale trading of sand and gravel. Councillor **Taylor** said he would speak to SSDC Planning Enforcement Officer James Meyer.

11. Accounts for Payment:

None.

10. Correspondence:

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

1	SSDC	Tree Talk - Newsletter
2	Somerset Waste Partnership	Introductory Letter from MD
3	SCC	HGV Pinch Point Consultation
4	Somerset Highways	Road Closure – East Pennard
5	Ramblers Association	Rights of Way Issues in Somerset
6	SCC	Foot and Mouth Notice – Using Rights of Way
7	SSDC	South Somerset Local Plan
8	Mendip Housing	Annual Report
9	Community Council	Thatch – Autumn 2007
10	SSDC – Street Services	Withdrawal of Non Strategic Bring Banks
11	Castle Cary & Ansford	Newsletter – Autumn 2007
12	Standards Board for England	Town and Parish Standard –leaflet

Meetings/Workshops:

SSDC Standards Committee – 19 September 2007 - Wincanton
SALC Area General Meeting – 29 September - Barrington
SSDC Area East Planning Sub Committee – 26 September 2007

11. Items for the next agenda

Next meeting Tuesday 13th November 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

Outstanding Items

1. **Mill Lane**

Reported 3rd July

Clothier Builders.

Construction traffic restriction sign.

Current status:

Replacement for stolen sign is still awaited. .

2. **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.

3. **Overhanging trees Lime Kiln Lane**

11th July 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.

Work is still outstanding.

4. **Blocked Drains outside Honeywick Cottage**

Reported 3rd October

See letter to SCC Highways dated 3rd October

Current Status: Previous remedial works to these drains not successful. Work required to lower reinstatements around the drains to prevent puddling.

Items completed during past month

1. **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.

Sign replaced in September

2. **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. **Verges and banks cleared during September**

3. **Missing Road Signs**

Reported 11th July

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

In addition to the HGV restriction sign in 3 above. Two further hazard warning signs were found to be missing.

a. Slow sign approaching bend just prior to Cole. **This has been replaced**

b. Bend and Road narrows sign on the bend at the junction of the Ci25/Lime kiln Lane. **Sign replaced during September.**