

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on 9 January 2007

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

In attendance: PCSO Hooper

1. **Public Participation**

The Chairman assured the public that they would have the opportunity to participate during item 6.

2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 December 2006**

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2006 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of 12 December 2006**

Priddles Hill. The Chairman reported that Mr Myer, Planning Enforcement Officer had not been aware of the Appeal Dismissal and would now investigate the parking of vehicles on site.

Local Government Review. The Chairman briefed the Council on the Annual Parish Meeting for Town and Parish Councils (Area East) held on 4 January 2007 covering the subject of LGR. Since publication of the White Paper, plans for a single unitary Council covering the area served by Somerset County Council are being considered. However, the District Council feel a unitary Council for Somerset is too wide an area and are working on a model that provides for two unitaries namely:

- The eastern side of Somerset covered by the Mendip District Council and South Somerset District Council boundaries and,
- The western side of Somerset covered by the Sedgemoor District Council, West Somerset District Council and Taunton Deane Borough Council boundaries.

There is still much to be considered in determining what is best for towns and Parishes. Area meetings are taking place to provide more information and seek the views of Town and Parish Councils on the proposals. A business case to create a Unitary Council for Somerset is being prepared for submission by 22 January 2007.

4. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Councillor Elliott.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Councillor Resignation

The Chairman announced, with regret, the resignation of Councillor Iain Bell and expressed his gratitude for the many years of service given to the community.

It would not be appropriate to fill the vacancy by co-option at this stage with elections taking place on 3 May 2007. The Chairman urged members of the public to consider standing as candidates for the forthcoming Parish Council election.

5. Declarations of Interest

None.

6. Wind Turbine Proposal – Nettlecombe Hill

Leaflets outlining a proposal by Mr Hobhouse to construct a Community Wind Turbine on Nettlecombe Hill are being distributed to residents of the Parish. A Public Meeting has been arranged for 30 January 2007 at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm where further discussion on the proposal will take place.

Further to the Clerk's request, Mr Benzie, Headteacher, Ansford Community School attended the meeting to give a talk to the Council on the school's proposal to install a wind turbine on the school playing field.

Mr Benzie stated that Ansford School had been identified as being one of 15 sites that would be viable for a wind turbine. With increasing electricity costs the school had identified an opportunity for self-sufficiency and eventual elimination of these costs by the construction of a wind turbine. Mr Benzie went on to discuss the options being considered:

- Option 1 - Three x 15 kW, 22 metre high wind turbines
- Option 2 - One 220 kW, 37 metre high (approx) wind turbine
- Option 3 - One x 330 kW, 44 metre high wind turbine (possibly income generating)

A pre-planning application based on Option 3 has now been submitted to Somerset County Council.

Mr Benzie stated that there had been a very positive response from students and others to the wind turbine proposal.

Mr Benzie then answered questions raised by the public and Parish Council. He gave his assurance that it was not the school's intention to proceed without community agreement or involvement and wished to avoid public antipathy towards the proposal.

The Chairman thanked Mr Benzie for attending the meeting, requesting that he keeps Pitcombe Parish Council informed of progress.

7. Planning Application

06/04657/FUL - Mr C Comer & Mr D York, Renewal of temporary siting of mobile home
Location: Grove Farm Quarry, Lime Kiln Lane, Hadspen, Castle Cary.

The Council had no objections to this application.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

8. Reports

Cllr Taylor reported that overhead telephone cabling in Honeywick Lane continues to be damaged by overhanging trees. BT has been contacted on several occasions regarding this problem but the work remains outstanding. Cllr Taylor stated that residents of Hadspen are regularly inconvenienced by disrupted telephone services and he would be contacting BT with regard to this.

Cllr Carter referring to the ploughing of field edges stated that she had heard from Mr Peter Wyatt who had agreed to roll the edges from next year.

Cllr Jennings reported on a very successful meeting with The Bursar of Sunny Hill School and District Council representatives regarding the removal of trees. As a result only one ash tree will need to be removed due to driveway widening. A planning application will be submitted for the whole project - driveway and landscaping. It is proposed that a number of trees will be planted on the roadside of the school field.

Cllr Holt stated that cleaning of Lancombe Lane had been requested and that she now had a job number for this work. There are a number of potholes in the area requiring attention and Cllr Holt will report these.

9. Accounts for Payment

It was proposed and seconded that the following accounts be approved for payment:

J Linden	Admin costs – postage	£4.80
J Linden	Clerk's salary for December 2006	£69.63

10. Correspondence:

1. SSDC Minutes - Scrutiny Committee Tue 24 October 06
2. David Heath MP Seasons Greetings
3. SCC Somerset Gateway - Information Partnership
4. SSDC Local Council Survey
5. SSDC Meeting Notes - Clean Neighbourhood & Environment Act, 22 Nov 06
6. David Heath MP Petition - Rural Post Offices
7. SS Voluntary Services Winter 2006 Newsletter
8. SSDC Summary of Accounts 2005/06
9. BTCV (Conservation Charity) Management of conservation projects engaging volunteers.

Meetings and Workshops:

- SSDC Area East Committee Notice of Meeting – 10 January 2007 Wincanton, 9.30 am. (Flood Risk Manager addressing concerns re proposed reduction of river maintenance budget and long-term effect on local rivers).

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Wincanton Town Council Area Meeting – Future of County, District and Parish
Councils in East Somerset following issue of the White Paper
on Local Government. 10 January 2007, Wincanton Sports
Ground, Moor Lane 7.00 for 7.30 pm

11. Items for the next agenda

Please forward all items to the Clerk by 2 February 2007

Next meeting Tuesday 13 February 2007.

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

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

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

In attendance: County Councillor Robinson
District Councillor Winder

1. Public Participation

Comments were received on the Wind Turbine and the Chairman stated that this would be dealt with under agenda item 6.

It was reported that motorcyclists had returned to the Quarry area. There had been many bikes and associated motor vehicles during a recent weekend and their activities were creating a nuisance. The police had been contacted at Portishead and as a result PCSO Hooper had patrolled the area the following weekend. It is important to get as much evidence as possible by way of vehicle registration numbers (bikes and cars) involved with this nuisance.

It should be noted that when contacting Portishead 0845 456 7000 a 'Crime Number' be obtained as this ensures that your call receives follow up action.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 9 January 2007

The minutes of the meeting were agreed with the following addition and amendment:

Addition at Item 6 Wind Turbine Proposal – Nettlecombe Hill

“Mr Benzie committed to carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment prior to submitting a planning application for a Wind Turbine at Ansford School.”

Amendment Item 8 Reports (Para 2)

Cllr Carter referring to the ploughing of fields stated that she had heard from Mr Peter Wyatt who had agreed to roll the footpath next year.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 9 January 2007

There were no matters arising.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Holt.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

5. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

6. **Wind Turbine – Nettlecombe Hill**

Referring to the informative meeting held on 30 January 2007 the Chairman asked the Council to consider whether it wished to consult the electorate with regard to a feasibility study of renewable energy sources being carried out. After discussion the Council agreed that further developments on this matter be awaited and consultation with the electorate be postponed for the time being.

7. **Local Government Reorganisation**

County Councillor Robinson confirmed that no agreement had been reached on the unitary structure proposals for Somerset County Council. A business case has been submitted and the Government will announce, by the end of March, areas that will progress to stage 2. Final decisions on areas restructuring will be announced in July 2007.

8. **Elections 2007**

Local elections will take place on 3 May 2007 and the Chairman urged those present to consider standing for election/re-election.

The Council has received a Democracy Pack of information on Town and Parish Elections - details will be posted on the website www.pitcombepc.org.uk and notice boards in March.

9. **Planning Application**

07/00409/CON – J Clothier - Installation of window in gable of dwelling

Location: Hackney Stables, Pitcombe Hill, Pitcombe, BA10 0PF

The Council was informed that planning permission was not required for this application.

9a. **Cllr Elliott** reported the production and storage of methane gas at Bottom Barn Farm. Mr Myer, Enforcement Officer will be consulted regarding this matter.

9b. **Cllr Elliott** also referred to the mobile home at Bottom Barn Farm and will consult with Mr Myer over its continued siting.

9c. **The Chairman** reported that Mr Myer had reached an agreement with Andrew Hopkins that the remaining aggregate will be removed by Easter. Mr Hopkins will also attend to the mess at the back of the site. A retrospective Planning Application will be made in respect of the dugout and contour of valley floor.

10. **Planning Determinations Granted**

06/04494/FUL – Gerald Spratling – Erection of 2 storey extension to front of dwelling

Location: Manor Farm, Cole.

06/04460/FUL - Mr & Mrs West – Erection of first floor extension

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Location: 1 Gristway Cottages, Hadspen, Castle Cary.

06/04657/FUL - Mr C Comer & Mr D York, Renewal of temporary siting of mobile home.

Location: Grove Farm Quarry, Lime Kiln Lane, Hadspen, Castle Cary.

11. Reports

Cllr Holt (not in attendance) provided notes in respect of a traffic accident outside the houses on the A359 at Hill View on 10 February 2007. There were two casualties and the road was closed for several hours. Cllr Holt has written to Mr Colin Fletcher, South Somerset Highways requesting a re-think on speed limits and signage. **County Councillor Robinson** reported that Colin Fletcher will visit and review the situation. He will also investigate cutting back the vegetation to help improve visibility.

Cllr Taylor reported the overhanging trees in Honeywick Lane and will contact Highways regarding this ongoing problem.

Cllr Carter reporting on footpaths stated that she had been in contact with Priddles Hill Farm regarding the fingerpost. A response was still awaited from Mr Hollingbury regarding repairs to the broken stile and missing yellow markers.

County Councillor Robinson spoke about Area Working Panels and a forthcoming meeting on at 6–8.30 pm on 21 February at Long Sutton Golf Club. The Area Panels will be looking at how County Council services can be delivered locally in the future and provide easier access to the residents of each area of Somerset.

The **Chairman** mentioned receipt of Tree Preservation Order (Pitcombe No. 1) that specifies the trees at Priddles Hill Farm, Pitcombe.

12. Accounts for Payment:

J Linden	Admin costs – postage	£3.84
J Linden	Clerk’s salary for January 2007	£69.63

13. Correspondence:

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

1.	SSDC	Countryside Access Team – Contact Details
2.	SCC	SCC Business Case to create Unitary Council for Somerset
3.	SCC	Somerset Access – Newsletter 2006
4.	SST	Local Strategic Partnerships
5.	Chair of Bruton	Booklet – Bruton: The Way forward Action Plan
6.	Yeovil Police	Public Feedback Survey 2006 - Citizen Focused Policing Programme Board
7.	SALC	Democracy Pack – Elections 2007
8.	SCC	Area Working Panels
9.	SSDC	Local Government Reorganisation – Recent Workshops
10.	SSDC	Re Meeting Wincanton 10 January - Apology
11.	Somerset Highways	Temporary Closure B3081 – 11 Feb 07.
12.	SALC	Items of Interest to Clerks and Councillors January 2007

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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| 13. | SSDC | Local Government Reorganisation and South Somerset |
| 14. | SCC | Community Chest re-launch |
| 15. | SSDC | Town and Country Planning - Pitcombe Tree Preservation Order 2006 |
| 16. | SSDC | Elections 2007 – Becoming a District Councillor (Booklet) |
| 17. | SSDC | Elections Bulletin No. 2 |
| 18. | SSDC | Area East Committee |
| 19. | | Leaflet South West Planning Aid |
| 20. | SW Regional Assembly | Regional Space Strategy – Newsletter Nov 2006 |
| 21. | SALC | Parish & Town Elections 3 May 07 |
| 22. | SALC | Minutes of South Area Meeting 11 December 2006 |
| 23. | NALC | Legal Briefing - Consultation on Amendments to Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members. |
| 24. | Communities & Local Government | Consultation Paper Amendments to the Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members. |
| 25. | Audit Commission | Appointment of External Auditor – Moore Stephens 06/07 |

Meetings and Workshops:

- | | |
|------|---|
| SSDC | Parish Plan Workshop 7 pm 15 February 07, Chilthorne Domer |
| SSDC | Area East Committee Notice of Meeting 0930, 14 February 2007, Wincanton |
| SALC | Parish & Town Elections 3 May – Workshops for Prospective Candidates |
| SALC | South Area Meeting 7.30 pm 12 March 07, West Camel |

14. Annual Parish Meeting

The Council agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 10 April 2007 at 7.30 pm followed by the Parish Council Meeting.

Next meeting Tuesday 13 March 2007

Please forward all items to the Clerk by 1 March 2007.

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

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

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

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

In attendance: County Councillor Robinson

1. Public Participation

No comments received.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 13 March 2007

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

Approved

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 13 March 2007

Storage of Methane Gas Bottom Barn Farm – Councillor Elliott stated that this was not yet in production and there had been no planning application submitted for the purpose.

4. Apologies for absence

None received.

5. Declarations of Interest

None.

6. Elections 2007

Councillor Brook stated seven nominations had been received by the Returning Officer and Pitcombe Parish would not be having an election.

7. Accounts

The Clerk presented copies of the accounts for year-end 31 March 2007, which were approved and signed by the Chairman Councillor Brook.

8. Planning Consultation

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

07/01166/FUL – Ms Caroline Donald – Removal of existing timber garage and replacement with single-storey, shingle-roofed timber garden room/garden shed.
Location: Pacets, Hadspen, Castle Cary BA7 7LX.

No observations.

07/01393/FUL – A H Farming – Change of use of barn to light industrial and refurbishment into 3 units.
Location: Priddles Hill Farm, Cary Hill, Castle Cary BA7 7NJ

The Council had no serious objections to this application but in view of the history of this site the Parish Council would like the Planning Officer to enquire as to what sort of activity is proposed in respect of light industrial use and increase in traffic.

9. Reports

Councillor Taylor awaits information regarding the tree clearance work on the overhead BT lines in Honeywick Lane.

Councillor Taylor announced Somerset Waste Partnership's (SWP) home composting scheme is now offering reduced priced composting bins to local residents. Leaflets are available to those who are interested in purchasing this equipment.

Councillor Holt reported that Honeywick drains are now cleared, much discussion had taken place with the authorities and everyone was happy with the outcome. The drain in Cole has also been attended to and is now reported clear.

Councillor Holt stated that she and Councillor Jennings had surveyed a dead and dangerous tree approximately 60 feet high on the road fork with Pitcombe Rock and the A359. The tree has been marked with paint and is considered to be a danger to overhead BT wires and the boarding house on the opposite side of the road.

Councillor Jennings agreed with Councillor Holt's comments regarding the tree and stated he was very concerned. It was agreed that Cllr Holt would contact Scott Davis SSDC to try and establish responsibility for the land on which the tree stands.

Councillor Carter spoke about footpaths and referred to the planting of hedging along the footpath 22/6 to the side of Cole Manor. The Rights of Way Team, SSDC have supplied a spreadsheet for completion regarding clearance and usage of Rights of Way within the Parish of Pitcombe. Discussion followed with Cllr Jennings as to the usage of Lancome Lane as a footpath and bridleway. Opposition had been raised in 2004 to the proposed re-categorisation of this pathway from a Road Used as Public Path (RUPP) to a Byeway Open to all Traffic (BOAT).

County Councillor Robinson commented on the Hill View speed limit signage. He stated that a speed check was scheduled to be carried out in the next week and the results may lead to a 40 mph speed limit being imposed.

Chairman Councillor Brook suggested that we write to District Councillor Winder acknowledging her support to the Parish Council. The Clerk agreed to do this.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

10. **Accounts for Payment:**

SALC	Affiliation Fee 2007-2008	£81.14
J Linden	Admin costs – Printer/Copier consumables and postage	£41.42
J Linden	Clerk’s salary for March 2007	£69.63

11. **Correspondence:**

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

1.	John Burrough Headmaster	Bruton School – Proposed Extra Street Light A359
2.	DCA	Memorial Safety
3.	SSDC	Somerset Local Area Agreement Summary – Sept 2006
4.	SCC	South Somerset Area Working Panel – Minutes
5.	SSDC	Notes of Meeting – South Somerset Village Shops & Post Offices
6.	SCC	Invitation to subscribe to Community Council for Somerset
7.	Highways	Highway Lighting A359 Cole Road, Pitcombe – acknowledgement of Parish support.
8.	Yeovil Police	Chief Superintendent’s update on Community Safety and neighbourhood policing.
9.	SSDC	Street Trading Policy – proposed amendment
10.	Audit Commission	Appointment of Moore Stephens Auditors
11.	SSDC	Refuse & Recycling Collection Bank Holiday 2007
12.		Castle Cary & Ansford Newsletter – February 2007
13.	Land Mgt Info Service	Parish Mapping on CD ROM promotion
14.	SCC	Statement of Community Involvement
15.	SCC	Thatch Magazine – Spring 2007
16.	Moore Stephens	Notice of Annual Audit for year end 31 March 2007
17.	SSDC	Tree Warden Newsletter- Tree Talk
18.	SCC	Parish/Town Council Questionnaire- Highway Related Services
19.	SCC	Home Composting – reduced price bins available to Somerset residents
20.	SCC	Information Sheet – Environmental Maintenance
21.	Clerks & Council Direct	Newsletter – March 2007
22.	SCC	Your Somerset – News from SCC – April 2007
23.	SSDC	Rights of Way Network Management
24.	SCC	Public Rights of Way and Open Access Land – Guide for Dog Owners and Walkers

Meetings/Workshops:

SCC	Somerset Area Working Panel – 6.45 pm at Victoria Hall, Crewkerne - 24 April 2007
SCC	Area Working Team – Invitation to discuss Somerset County Councils Unitary Proposals – 6.00 for 6.30 pm Bath & West Showground on 18 April & 22 May 2007

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

SSDC	Illegal Advertising Protocol – Meeting at 9.30 am Brympton Way Yeovil on 10 April 2007
SSDC	Area East Community Planning Sub Committee – 9.30 am Wincanton – 28 March 2007
SSDC	Area East Committee Meeting – 9.30 am, 11 April 07 - Wincanton
SCC	Invitation to discuss SCC Unitary Proposals - additional meeting – Marston Magna Village Hall at 6.30 pm on 29 May 07

The new council will convene on 15 May 2007.

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

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in
The Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 15 May 2007 at 7.30 pm**

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

1. Acceptance of Office

Cllr Elliott opened the meeting and welcomed the new Councillors who signed their Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk.

2. Election of Chairman for the year 2007-2008

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Mike Taylor be appointed as Chairman. Cllr Taylor signed the form of Acceptance of Office as Chairman witnessed by the Clerk.

3. Election of Vice-Chairman for the year 2007-2008

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Jenny Elliott be appointed as Vice-Chairman. Cllr Elliott signed the form of Acceptance of Office as Vice Chairman witnessed by the Clerk.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 April 2007

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

5. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from District Councillor Felton and PC Sara Stephenson.

6. Registration of Interests

New Councillors were issued with the registration document and asked to complete by the date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

7. Model Code of Conduct

The Clerk issued copies of Statutory Instrument No. 1159 (Model Code of Conduct) to the Council. A resolution adopting the new revised code will take place at a future meeting.

8. Portfolio Holders

Portfolios were agreed as follows:

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Cllr Taylor	Tel: 01963 351863	Chairman, Finance, PR
Cllr Mike Beech	Tel: 01749 812335	*
Cllr Camilla Carter	Tel: 01963 351106	Parish Footpaths
Cllr Jenny Elliott	Tel: 01963 350999	Environmental, Primary Healthcare
Cllr Neville Hartnell	Tel: 01749 812996	*
Cllr David Jury	Tel: 01749 812149	Highways
Cllr Ann Whittaker	Tel: 01963 359222	Parish Tidiness, Litter, grass cutting

* To be allocated

Mr Martin Jennings agreed to continue as Pitcombe Tree Warden.

9. Banking Mandate

It was agreed that Councillors Taylor and Beech be appointed as signatories for the Parish Council current account and a revised mandate form was completed.

10. Training

The Clerk advised on New Councillor Training and issued a programme of events to all Councillors.

11. Accounts for Payment

It was proposed and seconded that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Allianz Cornhill	Insurance 2007-2008	£308.89
Mrs J Linden	Admin costs – postage	£5.52
Mrs J Linden	Clerk's salary for April 2007	£139.27

12. Meeting Dates for 2007-2008

The new council agreed to meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm.

The Clerk advised that Councillors meet before the next Parish Council meeting to consider Planning Proposals. A meeting was arranged for 22 May 2007.

13. Any Other Business

Cllr Elliott reported that she has been in contact with James Myer regarding the mound of soil at Priddles Hill. The clerk informed Cllr Elliott that a Planning Consultation had now been received in respect of this.

Cllr Jury reported that the barrier at Sheepwash Gritting Store looked insecure and was empty of grit. He undertook to contact the Council regarding security of the site.

Cllr Carter gave an update on usage, condition and categorisation of parish footpaths which she had prepared for a council survey.

Cllr Taylor acknowledged the clearance work on BT overhead lines at Honeywick stating that noise problems on telephone lines is still being experienced. He urged residents to continue to report this to BT as a fault.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

14. **Public Participation**

At this point the Chairman invited the public to speak.

Mr Jennings, Tree Warden reported that a hazardous dead tree on the main road opposite the Boarding House at Pitcombe Rock, was due to be felled the next day.

Mr Iain Bell commented on a rotten wooden handrail on Pitcombe Bridge over the River Pitt which required attention. **Cllr Jury** undertook to contact Highways regarding this matter.

15. **Items for the Next Agenda**

All items to the Parish Clerk by 1 June 2007.

Date of next Parish Council Meeting 12 June 2007

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 22 May 2007 at 7.30 pm**

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

In attendance: County Councillor Robinson

1. Public Participation

The Chairman invited the public to comment on applications as the meeting progressed.

2. Planning Applications

a. 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.

- **The Parish Council objected to change of curtilage from agricultural to domestic use and viewed this as setting a precedent.**
- **The Council were not convinced of the need for the Quarry Manager to reside on site.**
- **The Quarry has a 21-year life – the erection of a dwelling house for the Quarry Manager would be a permanent construction.**
- **Visual impact - the felling of trees and change of access will make the Quarry more visible.**
- **Concerns regarding increased vehicular activity if new access were formed.**
- **Noise levels are, at times unacceptable and concern is felt that additional activity on the site will compound the problem.**

SCC Planning Control Team's letter **PC/07/01623/CPO/JJ** dated 13 April – Proposed 0.3HA extension to allow further building stone extraction and new access road at Grove Farm Quarry, Lime Kiln Lane, Castle Cary

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

The Council made the following comments:

- **Since the last extension noise levels during sawing operations, are at times, unacceptable. Concern is felt that a further extension will increase activity and compound the problem.**
- **Visual impact - the felling of trees and formation of a new access will make the Quarry more visible.**
- **With the formation of a new access road at Grove Farm Quarry there is concern regarding increased vehicular activity.**

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

The Council had no objections to this application.

c. **07/01733/LBC** – W Gyoury & S Bejeone – Installation of two replacement windows in the east elevation. Nettlecombe, Hadspen, Castle Cary, BA7 7LW

The Council observed that the hardwood window frame is not in keeping with the rest of the house i.e. stone surrounds and metal window frames.

Next Meeting Tuesday 12 June 2007

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

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.

(Bullet point 3) Page 90

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

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.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in The Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 10 July 2007 at 7.30 pm

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

In attendance: District Councillor Felton, PCSO Tim Russell

1. Public Participation

Comments on the proposed restoration of the monastic fishponds (item 6) were made by the public who were, in general, opposed to the plan. The plans were ill prepared, lacking in detail and unclear as to what is actually being proposed. Concerns regarding any serious alteration to the flood prevention scheme in the Hadspen area posed a renewed threat to residents and this was uppermost in everyone's mind. It was also viewed that the proposal was potentially a commercial enterprise.

It was reported that footpaths in the parish were in a very bad state after the recent spell of heavy rainfall.

The overgrowth of verges and hedgerows on the corner of Lime Kiln Lane was a concern as vision was blocked on the bend when turning right from the C125. **Cllr Jury** confirmed the matter had been reported to Highways.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 12 June 2007

It was agreed that the minutes of meeting held on 12 June 2007 be adopted as a true and accurate record with the following amendment:

Para 12. – **Cllr Carter's** report last sentence:

'The path from Priddles Hill Farm to Ring House was overgrown with nettles and very difficult to negotiate'.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 12 June 2007

There were no matters arising.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Robinson.

5. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hartnell declared an interest in Item 6 - 07/02463/FUL

Councillor Whittaker declared an interest in Item 6 - 07/02247/FUL

6. **Planning Consultation**

07/02247/FUL – Mr A Hopkins – The restoration of monastic fishponds to include importation of puddling clay for dam cores.

Location: Land OS 5031 Lime Kiln Lane, Hadspen, Castle Cary

The Council opposed this application on the following points:

- The plans supplied were ill-prepared and seriously lacking in detail
- Flood risk - no consideration or assessment of the impact of heavy rain storms in the large catchment area of Hadspen Valley
- No archaeological assessment appears to have been carried out in respect of the proposed restoration of the monastic fishponds
- The proposal appears to be a potentially commercial enterprise
- No detail/consideration has been given to septic tanks and their overflows situated close to the development

07/02463/FUL – Construction of tennis hardcourts and 2.65m high perimeter fence

Location: Land adjacent to Sexeys School, Cole Road, Bruton.

Main Parish: **Bruton**

The Council made the following observations:

- The hedgerow would need to be regularly maintained to prevent an obstruction to Footpath 22/4.
- A stream crossing Sunny Lane through a culvert leading into a Network Rail owned ditch regularly floods after the lightest of rainfall. This matter has previously been the subject of correspondence with Network Rail but the problem remains unresolved. The District Council is not permitted on railway land to undertake any work to remedy the situation.

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

Location: Tor View Farm Galhampton Hill, Galhampton, BA22 7AE

Main Parish: **North Cadbury**

No observations.

Planning Determination – Granted

07/01733/LBC – W Gyoury & S Bejeone – Installation of two replacement windows in the east elevation. Nettlecombe, Hadspen, Castle Cary, BA7 7LW

7. **Annual Audit of Accounts – year ended 31 March 2007**

The Council approved the annual return to the Council's external auditor and the Chairman signed the Statement of Assurance.

8. **Model Code of Conduct**

It was proposed and seconded that the Parish Council adopt the revised Code of Conduct with effect from 1 August 2007.

9. **Parish Environmental Warden**

The Chairman explained the role of a Parish Environmental Warden and the clerk agreed to place a notice on boards seeking a volunteer.

At this point Mr Knight requested that the Council introduce themselves, as he had not been present at the previous meetings of the new Council. The Chairman agreed stating that new Councillors had already introduced themselves to those present at their first Council meeting, and would not agree to any similar future requests from members of the public.

10. **Reports**

Cllr Jury reporting on highways, provided a list of outstanding issues (attached). In general the hedges and verges were bad and needed cutting. **Cllr Elliott** reported the area adjacent to Ludwell Elm needed attention. It was further reported by **Cllr Whittaker** that landslips on Lime Kiln Lane and Honeywick Hill also needed attention.

Cllr Whittaker has again spoken to Eve Wynn regarding the cutting of verges and is awaiting a response. The sofa dumped at Wyke Champflower has still not been removed. The drains close to Honeywick Cottage have brambles growing through them and are currently silted up. **Cllr Whittaker** has been informed that the drain is to be replaced with a new type of drain that will prevent brambles growing through, but to date no action has been taken to replace it.

Cllr Carter has been in touch with Mrs Coghill-Smith regarding the nettles on the footpath at Ring House. Mrs Coghill-Smith requested that it be put on the list for Council cutting. It was noted that the Council had not responded to a similar request in respect of a footpath on Mr Hobhouse's land. Mrs Coghill-Smith had suggested an alternative route along the path to avoid the nettles. It was pointed out by a member of the public that the Council will respond to requests for cutting but a charge would be made for the service.

Cllr Carter reported the Fingerpost at Priddles Hill Farm has still not been replaced.

Cllr Elliott spoke briefly about the Stewardship Scheme but was still in the process of finding out more information about the scheme.

District Councillor Felton stated there had been no decision yet on the Unitary Council for Somerset.

PCSO Russell spoke about distraction burglary, which is a problem in areas close to the A303 corridor. He urged the public to be aware of bogus callers trying to gain entry to their property.

The Chairman reported he had attended a meeting at Ansford School on 3 July. This was the first meeting of a newly formed School and Community Forum to which a member of every Parish Council in the School's main catchment area is invited to help with communications between the School and Communities. The School proposes to hold three meetings a year with a student representative alongside each Parish Council representative. The next meeting will be held in September.

The Chairman reported that all Councillors had recently attended Councillor Training sessions run by the Somerset Association of Local Councils.

The Chairman stated that BT phone lines at Honeywick would be repaired in August. The road will be closed with traffic lights in operation whilst the work is undertaken.

Cllr Elliott mentioned the road walk undertaken by school children from Ansford School on Friday 6 July. It was reported by Mr Bunting that his garden at Priddles Hill House had suffered damage during the event. Discarded water bottles littered the route and tree debris had been placed across the road causing a hazard to motorists.

Cllr Beech referred to the timing of Area Planning Meetings which were not convenient to Councillors during the working day. **District Councillor Felton** explained that Planning Consultations were first on the Agenda for this very reason so that Councillors could leave immediately after and continue onto work.

District Councillor Felton announced that District Councillors' have a fund of £2,500 available to spend in the community for a worthwhile cause/project. The Council noted this.

11. **Accounts for Payment:**

The following accounts were approved for payment.

Hadspen Village Hall	Hall Rebuild Grant 2007/08	£3100.00
Hadspen Village Hall	Maintenance Grant 2007/08	£ 460.00
St Leonard's, Pitcombe	Churchyard Maintenance 2007/08	£ 550.00
Pitcombe Parish News	Grant 2007/08	£ 50.00
J Linden	Clerk's salary June 2007	£ 139.27
J Linden	Admin/Postage	£ 4.08

12. **Correspondence:**

1.	SSDC James Myer	Letter to Dr Pheby – Land Os 5031 adjoining Lime Kiln Lane Hadspen
2.	Standards Board	Code of Conduct: Guide for members Code of Conduct: Pocket guide – May 2007
3.	Thatch	Rural Community Magazine – Summer 2007
4.	SSDC	Consultation South Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy
5.	SSDC	Proposed Local Government Reorganisation
6.	SCC	South Somerset Area Working Panel – Deadline for bids
7.	SALC	SSDC Standards Committee – Result of Postal Ballot
8.	SSDC	Revised Code of Conduct for Councillors – Advice on Process for Adoption
9.	Dr & Mrs Pheby	Letter to Planning Dept SSDC – Re: Planning Application

		07/02247/FUL Restoration Monastic Fish ponds at Hadspen
10.	Somerset Chamber Choir	Glorious Baroque Posters – Wells 28 July at 7.00 pm
11.	Mendip Housing	News from Mendip Housing Ltd – April 2007
12.	SCC	Parish Emergency Plan Information – Plan Template Kit 2007
13.	Chief Superintendent Yeovil Police	Crime Update 2006/07
14.	CPRE	Voice Magazine Summer 2007
15.	SSDC	Planning Application Grove Farm Quarry Lime Kiln Lane – Area Committee Meeting 11 July.

Meetings/Workshops:

SLCC	Summer Meeting July 2007 - Holford
SSDC	Area East Community Planning Sub Committee, at Wincanton on 27 June 0930
SSDC	Invitation to Area East Workshop – at Wincanton on 1 August at 7.00 pm
Mr Benzie	Ansford School Community Forum – 3 July at 7.00 pm
SSDC	Area East Committee Meeting Wednesday 11 July 0930 at Wincanton
NALC	Cracking the Code – Training Day – Birmingham Metropole 19 July 07

13. Items for the next agenda.

Next meeting Tuesday 14 August 2007 - Please forward all items to Clerk by 3 August 2007.

**From the Parish Clerk:
Mrs Jean Linden
01749 813145**

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

1. Sheepwash Chipping Dump
Reported: 6th June 2007
SCC Highways Ref No. 145254
Concerns regarding barrier to prevent unlawful access by travellers.
Current status: No action taken as at 10th July

2. **Pitcombe Bridge**
Reported: 6th June 2007
SCC Highways Ref No. 145252
Damaged handrail to protective barrier.
Current status: Spoke with Mr. Tucker SCC bridges section on 7th July. He stated his bridge inspector was going to measure the damaged rail, order the required materials and would then arrange for one of their local “flier” gangs to complete the work.

3. **Mill Lane**
Reported 3rd July
Clothier Builders.
Verge cutting and construction traffic restriction sign.
Current status: Verge now cut. Construction traffic restriction sign was stolen, replacement is being made.

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.

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: No action taken as at 19th July.

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:
Outstanding

7. **Hedges/Verges in Parish**
Awaiting contact from SCC Highways regarding programme for hedge cutting in Parish.

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.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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.

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in
The Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 11 September 2007 at 7.30 pm**

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

In attendance: District Councillor Felton, County Councillor Justin Robinson, Residents of Parish.

1. Public Participation

Resident Mrs. Connie Earl reported problems regarding Green Bin, District Councillor Felton took details and stated she would look into the matter.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 14th August 2007

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th August 2007 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 14th August 2007

The Chairman stated that while there was a vacancy for a Clerk Councillor Hartnell would be helping him with the duties of the Proper Officer.

Councillors **Felton & Robinson** were asked to comment on what planning rules were in place for "Replacement Buildings" particularly with regard to the new building at Hadspen Quarry particularly as its appearance is considered to be larger than the original.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from, PCSO Tim Russell & PCSO Sara

5. Declarations of Interest

None.

6. Planning Consultation - Refused

07/02247/FUL – Mr A Hopkins – Restoration of monastic fishponds to include importation of puddling clay for dam cores

Location: Land OS 5031 Lime Kiln Lane, Hadspen

SCC County Planning Authority – Granted with Conditions

07/01623/CPO - Mr Rob Comer - Proposed 0.3HA Extension to Allow further building stone extraction and new access road at Grove Farm Quarry, Lime Kiln Lane, Castle Cary, Somerset.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

A resident asked what the conditions were and the relevant document was made available.

7. Venue for Council Meetings

The Chairman said he would approach Bruton School for Girls to attempt to organise a suitable venue.

8. Reports

Councillor **Carter** reporting on the condition of the footpath at Ring House stated that Mrs Coghill-Smith had been successful in clearing the nettles.

Councillor **Carter** reported that live electric fences on Mr Hobhouse's land were still a hazard. 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 **Elliott** A traveller is currently in residence in Rudge Lane it was presumed that this was probably connected to the apple harvest.

District Councillor **Felton** asked the councillors to consider affordable housing in the area

Count Councillor **Robinson** stated that he had spent much of the last month re-building bridges regarding the failed unitary authority bid..

9. Accounts for Payment:

J Linden	Clerk's salary July 2007	£139.27
CPRE	CPRE membership renewal	£ 27.00

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

10. Correspondence:

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

1	SCC	Tour of Britain Cycle Race in Somerset – 11 September 07 leaflets/notices
2	Cllr David Jury	Letter to SSDC Highways re clearance of verges Honeywick Lane
3	Home Aid Partnership	Taunton Deane and South Somerset Home Aid – Leaflets/notices
4	SSDC	Notes from Area East Workshop held on 1 Aug 2007
5	David Heath CBE MP	Notification of Annual Village Tours – posters/timetable
6	SCC	Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – re 0.5HA extension to Quarry
7	SALC	Items of Interest to Councillors and Clerks – August 2007
8	SALC	Minutes of Meeting of South Area held 11 June 2007
9	SALC	Annual Report & Accounts
10	SALC	Working Together for a Safer Somerset - Briefing Sheet for Parish Councils - August 2007

Meetings/Workshops:

SALC	Somerset Branch Autumn at Meeting 10.00 am 28 September – Yeovil Town House.
SSDC	First meeting of Area East Forum (Castle Cary Area) – at 6.30 pm on 17 October at Wincanton.
SALC	New councillor Training Events
SALC	Clerk Training events

11. Items for the next agenda

Next meeting Tuesday 09 October 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

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Pitcombe Parish Council

Highways Portfolio

September 2007

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. 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.

4. 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.

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.

I 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.

5. 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.

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.

Items completed during past month

1. Patching/road edge erosion

Reported 11th July

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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: Works completed.

2. Blocked Drains outside Honeywick Cottage

Reported 19th July

SCC Ref No. DEF 24060

Current Status: Works completed.

3. Landslides & Drains in Honeywick Hill

Reported 15th August

See my letter dated 15th August

Current Status: Works completed.

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.

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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 failed 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).

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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 I 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.**

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in
The Village Hall, Hadspen, on Tuesday 11th November 2007 at 7.30 pm**

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

In attendance: Residents of the Parish.

1. Public Participation

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 9th October 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 9th October 2007

Parish Consultation.

Councillor **Taylor** Said he had taken advice from Peter Lacey at SALC re: holding a Parish Consultation re: A new grant for Phase 2 of Hadspen Village Hall. He explained that to hold a consultation a letter would need to be sent to each household with a reply form. This form would be returned to an independent person to audit the return and to record the results. Councillor Jury said he felt the council should make the decision and it was agreed that this would be carried out in item 6.

Sand & Gravel Wholesale/Retail at Priddles Hill Farm.

Councillor **Taylor** reported he had spoken to James Meyer at SSDC who told him that the activities were an overflow from the Tor View operation but would cease in December as notice had been served.

Councillor **Carter** reported that the footpath had across The Football Ground had now been seeded but the ground was flat - she would monitor the situation.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from District Councillor **Felton**

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 6 – The Trustees of Hadspen Village Hall had applied for a grant for Phase 2 of the Hadspen Village Hall Re-Building Project. He stated he would not take part in the vote.

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Councillor **Elliott** stated that as The Pitcombe Parish Council representative on the board of The Trustees of Hadspen Village Hall she too had an interest in part of Item 6 but as it was part of her Portfolio would take part in the debate.

Councillor **Hartnell** declared an interest in item 10 (07/04409/FUL) Planning Application from Sexeys School.

6. Grant Application.

The Chairman of The Trustees of Hadspen Village Hall gave a short presentation explaining the current financial situation of the Hadspen Village Hall Re-building Fund. He explained that after the Big Lottery had turned down a bid for a grant the Trustees appealed to the residents of The Parish and had received generous response in Gift Aid donations. The Trustees had been advised by Alice Knight and Tim Cook (officers of SSDC) to split the rebuilding project into two phases re-apply to SSDC, among others, for funding and that it is a requisite of SSDC before a grant is considered it must be backed by the local Parish Council. Phase 1 on the project had now started.

Councillor **Carter** opened the debate by saying she had been reticent about the grant during earlier discussion but was now convinced that the re-building of the hall must be completed and that a large number of people had worked very hard raising funds for the project and she felt it was right to grant a further sum to the fund.

Councillor **Beech** stated he felt it was a large proportion of the precept and was too much money to impose on the residents of the Parish.

Councillor **Whittaker** said that many people enjoyed the events at the hall and the facility that the hall provided.

Councillor **Jury** said he felt it was a worthwhile cause and the council would be helping to provide something for the community if a grant was given.

Councillor **Beech said** he would be happier about the grant if it was less than £3100.

A vote was taken on if a grant should be given, Councillor Taylor abstained due to his interest, it was carried 5 to 1.

A vote was taken on if the amount of the grant should be £3100, Councillor Taylor abstained due to his interest, it was carried 5 to 1.

7. Budget 2008/2009.

It was agreed that the Precept & Budget should be finalised and discussed in the next meeting.

8. The Hadspen Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Councillor Jury reported that he had been to inspect the scheme, at the request of Derek and Anita Pheby. There was a problem, in that a number of agencies were involved in the scheme, but none was taking responsibility for it, and it was falling into disrepair. The flood retention pond was now very silted. Derek Pheby, from the floor, said that the scheme had

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emerged from the Hadspen Flood Alleviation Working Party, which had been convened by the District Council, and involved also the County Council, the Parish Council, the Environment Agency, MAFF (now DEFRA), and local residents and landowners. The flood retention pond was constructed by the District Council, but the County Council, as Highway Authority, was also involved, as the scheme provided for water to be diverted into Lime Kiln Lane when the pipes downstream from the pond had insufficient capacity to carry storm water. Changes in the statutory responsibilities of the various agencies had made it more difficult to determine where responsibilities lay, and all the agencies involved appeared to lack corporate memory. There were also some immediate hazards, which were the County Council's responsibility. The County Council had dug holes over the culvert in Mr. Dowding's field, and had never filled them in, putting both people and animals at risk. In addition, there was a large hole in the wall of the ice house, which opened directly onto the road, and the floor of the upper chamber (to which the hole gave access) was unsafe, and had a hole in it giving access to the lower chamber, which was eight to ten feet deep in water. A child entering the ice house could therefore risk drowning. It was agreed that approaches would be made to the District and County Councils, with a view to a site meeting being convened, in order to agree who would take responsibility for maintaining which elements of the scheme.

9. Tree Planting in Somerset.

Councillor **Taylor** brought to the attention of the council the offer of help with tree planting schemes by the SSDC Tree Warden

10. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

South Somerset District Council.

07/04409/FUL – Sexeys School. Erection of new Design and Technology block with associated classrooms. (GR367668/134108).

Location: Sexeys School, Cole Road, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0DF.

The members of the council had no comment to make on this application

07/04853/FUL – A.H. Farming. Demolition of front lean-to and erection of new lean-to to rear and conversion of building into 3 light industrial units (GR: 364874/132143).

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

The members of the council had no comment to make on this application

07/04681/FUL – Pitcombe Parish Council. The Repositioning of emergency exit door on west elevation. (GR365722/132577).

Location: Land adjoining Hadspen Village Hall, Hadspen, Castle Cary, BA7 7LX.

The members of the council had no comment to make on this application.

07/04546/FUL – Mr. R. Comer & Mr. D. York. Erection of quarry managers workplace/home and change of use of land from agricultural to domestic curtilage (GR 365458/131407)

Location: Grove Farm Quarry, Lime Kiln Lane, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7NX

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The Parish Council could see no reason that this application should be looked upon more favourably than the previous application **07/01705/FUL** because there was only a slight difference in the layout of the dwelling except for the addition of a few work-place related room descriptions and agreed that a the response should be as follows:

- 1. The Parish Council objected to change of curtilage from agricultural to domestic use and viewed this as setting a precedent.**
- 2 The Council were not convinced of the need for the Quarry Manager to reside on site.**
- 3 The Quarry has a 21 year life or the business could be closed earlier – the erection of a dwelling house for the Quarry Manager would be a permanent construction.**

Advice of Appeal Receipt

Appeal in respect of Application Decision Reference 07/03644/FUL – The erection of a two storey rear extension to dwelling house to provide kitchen/diner with en-suite bedroom over. (GR 367172/133427)

Planning Inspectorate Appeal Reference – APP/R3325/a/07/2057307/WF

Appeal Starting Date – 17th October

Location: 2 Sunnyhill Cottages, Mill Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset.

Appeal by: Ms. M. Atkins

Somerset County Council.

Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Wessex Water - Change of use and installation of below ground submerged aerated filter sewage treatment plant and above ground blower and control kiosks and vent stack, together with extension to roadside lay-by in highway verge opposite Rodge Cottages, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset. (Grid Ref: 365655 – 132838)

It was generally felt the Parish Council should make the following comments on the above proposal.

The council is minded that this is Wessex Water spending a great deal of water ratepayers' money to appear environmentally friendly.

The upkeep and maintenance of this scheme seems unwieldy.

The noise of the motor would be annoying to residents in the valley.

This is a very large system for just two houses and even though the sewage treatment plant may need to be upgraded this solution appears to be involving great expense for what should be a relatively simple task.

No effort appears to have been made to minimise the appearance of the blower and control kiosk.

Visual impact – The scheme needs sympathetic landscaping to reduce the detrimental visual impact it will have. The widened, tarmac lay-by would not suit the rural setting.

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Planning Determinations.

Notice of Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order.

The South Somerset (Pitcombe No. 1) Tree Preservation Order 2007.

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

11. Reports

Councillor Jury

Traffic Calming

Councillor Jury confirmed that he had received a reply from Bev Norman concerning the request for a vehicle activated sign on the A359. In a letter dated 7th November Bev Norman stated that the A359 in Bruton does not meet the requirements for a permanent sign but she would investigate the possibility of a temporary sign.

Speed Limits

Councillor Jury stated that in response to his request for additional 30 mph signs within the existing 30mph section of the C351 and an extension of that limit throughout the length of the C351 to Honeywick Hill hed had received a letter from Clive Sutton of Somerset County Council stating:

1. The signing and lining is correct and no additional repeater signs can be installed.
2. The request for an extension of the speed limit did not meet the Department of Transport criteria for speed limits in settlements.

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

Councillor **Carter** reported that she had been to Rights of Way workshop and had been given a selection of equipment for use by volunteers to clear paths etc. in the parish.

Councillor **Hartnell** had found prices for notice boards which were in excess of several hundred pounds. It was agreed that this matter should be the subject to further investigation as the notice boards were dilapidating quite rapidly.

12. Accounts for Payment:

Moore Stephens	Annual Audit	£170.38
SSDC	Planning Application (on behalf HVH)	£67.50
M.L.J. Taylor	Admin costs – postage	£16.32
M.L.J. Taylor	Admin costs – Domain Name	£17.61

Draft Minutes Subject to Confirmation

Receipts:

Hadspen Village Hall	Payment for Planning Application	£67.50
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13. Correspondence:

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

SSDC	Precept Notice
Somerset Highways	Temporary Road Closure - Church Lane, Pitcombe
Ansford School	Minutes of Meeting of Community Forum
Avon & Somerset Constabulary	Half Year Report
Somerset Art Week	Grant Application
Somerset County Council – Environment Directorate	Consultation on Waste Management
The Playing Field	Newsletter
SSDC	Tree Planting in Somerset
SSDC	Tree Preservation Order -
S.S.V. & C.A. Ltd.	Newsletter
SSDC – Standards Committee	Minutes of Meeting 19 th September 2007
Citizens Advice Bureau	Annual Report
Somerset Highways	Temporary Road Closure – A359 Burts Hill & Station Road, Wanstrow
The Standards Board for England	Code of Conduct
SALC	Items of interest to Councillors & Clerks
Rural Youth	Newsletter

Meetings/Workshops:

SSDC – Standards Committee	Wednesday 7 th November
SSDC	State of the District Meeting – Thurs 22 nd Nov. 2007
SALC	South Area Meeting - Monday 10 th December 2007

14. Items for the next agenda

Next meeting Tuesday 11th December 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. **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.

3. **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. **Mill Lane**

Reported 3rd July

Sunny Hill School.

Pot holes in hard standing outside employees cottages in Mill Lane are expanding into the highway.

Work completed during half term.

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in
The Centenary Room of Bruton School for Girls
On Tuesday 11th December, 2007 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: Beech, Carter, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor and Whittaker
In the Chair: Councillor Taylor

No residents of the Parish were in attendance.

1. Public Participation

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November, 2007

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

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 13th November, 2007

Grant Application – Hadspen Village Hall.

Due to personal interest Councillor **Taylor** left the room and Councillor **Carter** took the Chair.

The majority of the Parish Council remain in favour of the grant being made to the village hall.

4. Apologies for Absence

None had been received

5. Declarations of Interest

None declared

6. Precept and Budget

This was presented and agreed. Councillor Beech abstained.
Councillor Taylor completed & signed Precept Return Form.

7. Portfolio Holders.

Councillor Elliot - reported that she had discussed The Hadspen Flood Alleviation Scheme with Roger Meacham of SSDC who had sent out operative to establish overflow blockage. SSDC & SCC were in discussion as to which authority were responsible for maintenance.

Councillor Carter reported that Charles Brooke had complained that the stiles on some of the footpaths had become very slippery in the recent wet weather. Then there was a discussion as to whether creosoting the steps or covering with chicken wire would be an efficient way to rectifying this problem. The conclusion was that chicken wire would probably be best.

Councillor Jury presented his monthly report showing outstanding highway issues. He also informed the meeting that residents can now view a weekly schedule of current and proposed highway works in South Somerset by visiting the parish council website www.pitcombepc.org.uk and clicking the relevant link on the home page.

Councillor Taylor had discussed waste collections with the newly formed Somerset Waste Partnership regarding timing of waste collections. Collections can be from 7 a.m. – it was hoped that the time would stabilize after a short time. The Christmas Refuse & Recycling Collection Schedule would be placed on the notice boards.

8. Accounts for Payment

Hadspen Village Hall - Rental 1st June 2006-30th September 2007 - £114.00.

Payment agreed

9. Correspondence

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. SSDC | Comprehensive Performance Assessment |
| 2. SSDC | Contact list of Area East Clerks & Councillors |
| 3. Chairman SCC | Grant Application – 500 Club |
| 4. SSDC | Minutes of Standards Committee meeting |
| 5. Somerset highways | Temp. Road Closure Notice – Bruton High St. |
| 6. Somerset Waste Partnership | Promotion of the Refuse & Recycling Collection |
| 7. Environment Directorate | Parish/Town Council Questionnaire Highway Related Services Results – 2007. |
| 8. Democratic Services | Meeting of the SSAWP – 5 th Dec 2007 – Re-issue of Paper C |
| 9. SSDC | Schedule 4 – Gants Mill – Certificate of Lawfulness For Wedding Ceremonies. |

Meetings/Workshops:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Monday 5 th December | South Somerset Area Working Panel. |
| Monday 7 th January | Consultation Event – Shaping the future for Somerset Cheddon Fitzpaine Village Hall |
| Wednesday 9 th January | Consultation Event – Shaping the future for Somerset The Davis Hall, West Camel |
| Monday 14 th January | Briefing – Re-location of Wincanton Police Station to Churchfields, Wincanton. |

10. Planning Applications.

Councillor Taylor – Presented the following application received 11/12/08.

07/05484/COU Mr and Mrs Shingler. Use of land for siting of a marquee from 15th April to 15th October annually. GR (367484/134256)

Location: Gants Mill Gants Mill Lane Bruton Somerset BA10 0DB.

There were no observations on or objections to this application.

11. **Next Meeting** - Tuesday, 12th February, 2007

**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.

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday, 12 February 2008

Present: Councillors: Beech, Carter, Elliot, Jury, Taylor and Whittaker
In the Chair: Councillor Taylor

In attendance:

County Councillor Justin Robinson

District Councillor Miali Felton

Residents of the Parish - Dr. & Mrs. Derek Pheby, Cathy Brook, Sue Chamberlain, Alison Shingler, Greg Beedle,

1. Public Participation

Dr. and Mrs. Pheby informed the meeting that the problem with the storm drain which had become blocked one and again and that nobody appeared to have the authority to make any decision to have the problem rectified.

Cathy Brook informed the meeting that the land containing the slurry pit was going to be auctioned on Friday, 15th February, 2008 at 2 p.m.

2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 11th December, 2007

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

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 11th December, 2007

None

4. Apologies for absence

Councillor Hartnell

5. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Carter from Item 7

6. Grove Cross

Following a number of Road Traffic Accidents in the location of Grove Cross Junction the Council discussed and considered the possibilities of any measures that may be taken in the future to make this particular stretch of road safer.

Councillor Robinson suggested that Councillor Jury should contact Scott Davies for any accident data that is available.

Action:

Councillor Jury to discuss with Scott Davies.

7. Planning Applications – For Consideration

Presented by: Councillor Taylor

No observations

Application for Listed Building Consent/Conservation Area Consent

08/00173/LBC – Mrs. C. Carter. Refurbishment and alterations to cider house to form additional accommodation in connection with the main house and repairs and re-roofing of lean-to-shed GR:365268/132510

8. Planning Applications – Approved

07/0456/FUL – Mr. R. Comer & Mr. D. York. Erection of quarry managers workplace/home and change the use of land from agricultural to domestic curtilage (GR 365458/131407)

Location: Grove Farm Quarry, Lime Kiln Lane, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset BA7 7NX

Approved with conditions

Somerset County Council

Town and County Planning Act 1990

Wessex Water – Change of use and installation of below ground submerged aerated filter sewage treatment plant and above ground blower and control kiosks and vent stack, together with extension to roadside lay-by in highway verge opposite Rodge Cottages, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset (Grid Ref: 365655 – 132838)

Granted with conditions

9. Planning Application – Refused

07/04853/FUL – A.H.Farming. Demolition of front lean-to and erection of new lean-to to rear and conversion of building into 3 light industrial units (**GR:364874/132143**).

Permission refused

10. Portfolio Holders

Councillor Elliot reported that she had contacted Oliver Dowding to discuss danger of holes in his field. Was not aware that any immediate action was going to be taken to repair the holes.

Councillor Carter reported that a new rights of way newsletter would be coming out every two weeks. She also reported that where possible the steps of the stiles that had become slippery would be creosoted.

Councillor Jury reported that the winter weather has caused issues with pot holes on some of the lanes. He will be putting together a list of defects to be given to the local authority.

11. County Councillor

Councillor Robinson reported that the 30 mph speed limit currently in place on the Cole/Castle Cary Road may be extended to the bottom of the hill. There is currently no agreement from the police on this matter but it is under review.

12. District Councillor

Councillor Felton reported that Somerset Waste Partnership is looking to introduce same day collection for all waste. Whether all waste will be collected weekly is still not clear. There are no plans to trial the collection of plastic and card in our area but reported that South Somerset sends less waste to landfill than any area in the county. She also reported that a joint meeting for a flood alleviation scheme has not been possible to arrange. The Environment Agency consider that the problem is not big enough to convene such a meeting.

13. Chairman

Councillor Taylor expressed his frustration with the difficulty of being able to contact any of the officers at District and County level. This frustration highlighted by several recent incidents involving flood prevention, a jetting problem (eventually fixed by a sub-contractor) and planning issues and SCC Your Somerset Magazine regarding a consultation about wind turbines, he had been asked to find out how the conclusions would be made.

Councillor Taylor asked the District and County Councillors if there was any way to improve communications. Advised by Councillors Felton and Robinson to write to the Chief Executive

and to Tim Carroll detailing all the difficulties encountered. Councillor Jury recommended that by putting everything in writing it appeared to produce a more complete and rapid response.

12. Accounts for Payment:

None

13. Correspondence:

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

1.	Somerset Highways	Temporary Road Closure B3081
2.	SALC	Audit and Accounting Update
3.	Somerset Playing Fields Association	The Playing Field - Newsletter
4.	Avon & Somerset Constabulary	Improvements
5.	Communities and Local Government	Consultation on Orders & Reg. Of Local Authority Members
6.	Ansford School	Minutes of Ansford School & Community Forum 23 rd January 2008

Meetings/Workshops:

1.	SSDC	Area East Committee – 9 th January 2008
2.	Ansford School	Ansford School and Community Forum 23 rd January 2008
3.	Somerset Local Authorities' Civil Contingencies Unit	Parish Flood Fair 21 st 22 nd February 2008
4.	SALC	SALC Area Meetings
5.	SSDC	Area East Forum 27 th February 2008
6.	SSDC	Queen Camel Village Hall SSDC Annual Parish Meeting with Area East Town and Parish Councils. 19 th March 2008

14. Any Other Business

Councillor Beech reported that it appeared that contractors were not clearing the roads following hedge cutting.

15. Items for the next agenda

Grove Cross

16. Next Meeting – Tuesday 11th March 2008

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the Centenary Room, Bruton School for Girls
on Tuesday 11th March 2008 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Elliot, Hartnell, Taylor**
In the Chair: Councillor **Taylor**

In attendance:
Residents of the Parish: – Derek & Anita Pheby, Merida Drysdale

1. Public Participation

Merida Drysdale drew the attention of the Council the siting of a large water tank by Wessex Water in Mill Lane. The verges have been left in a very bad state. Past planning applications will be looked at to see if permission has been obtained for the tank. Mrs. Drysdale will ring Wessex Water to make further enquiries as to the nature of the work.

Anita Pheby drew attention to the state of the triangle at the top of Kiln Lane. Councillor **Taylor** will ask Councillor **Jury** to follow this up.

Derek Pheby reported on the flood alleviation scheme. A meeting had been held and the County will now take responsibility when the drain becomes blocked. Awaiting agreement in writing.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th February 2008

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 12th February 2008.

None

4. Apologies for absence

Councillors **Carter, Jury** and **Whittaker**. County Councillor **Robinson**, District Councillor **Felton**.

5. Declarations of Interest

None

6. Grove Cross.

Councillor **Taylor** read a report from Councillor **Jury** giving information about the possibility of changes to the junction at Grove Cross. There is no indication that any further work will be done at the crossroads as the expense could not be justified at present. Details of accident statistics are still being gathered. However, the junction at the Wagon and Horses in Castle Cary appears to be the more dangerous junction and Councillor **Jury** suggests approaching Ansford and Castle Cary TC to jointly press for action. This was agreed as a course of action.

7. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

South Somerset District Council.

08/00173/LBC – Mrs C. Carter. Refurbishment and alterations to cider house to form additional accommodation in connection with the main house and repairs and re-roofing of lean-to-shed (GR: 365268/132510). Amended Plans

Location: Honeywick House Honeywick Road Honeywick Castle Cary Somerset BA7 7LP
No observations

00/00874/FUL – Mr. Andrew Hopkins. Demolition of existing Porch and erection of conservatory (GR 364791/123113).

Location: Priddles Hill Farm, Cary Hill, Castle Cary, Somerset BA7 7NN
No observations

8. Planning Applications – Determined.

07/05484/COU Mr and Mrs Shingler. Use of land for siting of a marquee from 15th April to 15th October annually. GR (367484/134256)

Location: Gants Mill Gants Mill Lane Bruton Somerset BA10 0DB.

Approved with conditions.

Reports.

Councillor Jury:

Councillor Taylor read the report provided by **Councillor Jury**.

A survey of the roads within the Parish has been completed. The defects will be reported in writing to Somerset Highways requesting a joint inspection.

Councillor Taylor:

Reported that he had attended the meeting in regard to the Hadspen Flood Alleviation Scheme. Various works would be carried out by SSDC & SCC details to be provided when report received from Roger Meacham of SSDC. Both officers from SSDC & SCC committed to various regular maintenance tasks to be carried out in the future.

Councillor **Taylor** suggested that there is now a real need to replace the Hadspen Notice Board He asked councillors for agreement in principle to renew the Hadspen Notice Board – this was agreed. Councillors **Taylor & Hartnell** to pursue.

10. Accounts for payment

Bruton School for Girls	Hire of Centenary room. Oct/Nov/Dec/Feb	£24.00
S.A.L.C	Affiliation Fee	£84.03

Approved

11. Correspondence

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. SALC | Items of Interest to Councillors & Clerks
Feb 2008 |
| 2. Somerset CC
Environment Directorate | Authorisation for MG Car Club – Kimber Classic
Trial on 19 th April 2008 |
| 3. SSDC | RE. Validation of Planning Applications |
| 4. Meeting of Area East | Agenda |

12. Meetings Workshops.

13. Annual Parish Meeting.

To be held on Tuesday 8th April 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

14. Items for next Agenda

Grove Cross
Wessex Water Treatment Plant in Mill Lane

Next meeting of the Parish Council to follow the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 8th April 2008.

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the Hobhouse Suite, Bruton School for Girls
on Tuesday 8th April 2008 at 8.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker**
In the Chair: Councillor **Taylor**

In attendance:
Residents of the Parish: – Derek & Anita Pheby
District Councillor: Maili Felton

1. Public Participation

Anita Pheby commented on the failed rubbish collections during the past week . Councillor Beech explained that all collections had been changed to Fridays and that residents should have received notification regarding this. However it seems that the delivery of the date change notifications was haphazard and many residents were not aware of the changes. Councillor Taylor would take up the matter with the appropriate authorities.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th March 2008

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 11th March 2008.

None

4. Apologies for absence

Councillor **Carter**. County Councillor **Robinson**,

5. Declarations of Interest

None

6. Grove Cross and Wagon & Horses Crossroads.

Councillor **Jury** confirmed that he had written to both Ansford PC and Castle Cary TC to jointly press for action and stated that he had received favourable responses from both councils.

Ansford PC within whose parish the crossroads are located would be meeting on Wednesday 9th April and will be discussing the matter.

7. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

South Somerset District Council.

08/01039/FUL – Mr. A Drysdale Conversion of redundant barn into holiday let accommodation (GR: 367204/133096). Amended Plans

Location: Pitcombe Farm, Pitcombe Hill, Pitcombe, Bruton Somerset BA10 0PF

Observations: Concern was expressed regarding additional parking requirements such a development would impose on the local community. The application does not mention a proposed swimming pool shown on the construction plans.

8. Reports.

Councillor Hartnell presented the receipts and payment records for the year April 2007 – March 2008 and commented on the current account balance of £1607.98. The next council meeting will finalise the accounts. Councillor Taylor proposed that £1000 of the balance be transferred to the Scottish Widows contingency fund.

Councillor Jury:

Confirmed his action to date on the Wagon and Horses crossroads in item 6 of these minutes. He also confirmed that he had written to county highways regarding road repairs required in Mill Lane, Sunny Hill Lane and the triangle at the top of Lime Kiln Lane. He was awaiting a reply and would report back at the next meeting.

Councillor Whittaker: Commented on the rubbish and debris which was building up in various roadside locations throughout the parish. A general discussion confirmed that this was a continuing problem. District Councillor commented that the district council operate a service called streetscene. Councillor Taylor will make contact to try and resolve these issues.

Councillor Taylor: Reported he had been invited to and had attended a meeting with SSDC & SCC officers responsible for The Hadspen Flood Alleviation Scheme along with residents and District Councillor Maili Felton. Various matters had been discussed and conclusions reached. He was still waiting for the promised letter from Roger Meacham of SSDC. Councillor Taylor also stated he had asked Mr. Meacham to send a letter of apology to Mrs. Apperly as it became apparent during the meeting that she had not been informed that the meeting would take place on her land.

9. Accounts for payment

There were no accounts for payment

10. Correspondence

CPRE	Fieldwork Magazine
CPRE	Countryside Voice (Spring)
SCC	Focus on.. Transporting Somerset
Audit Commission	Annual Return Forms
Shopmobility	Information Sheet
Somerset Highways	Highways Group Changes
SSDC	Outcome of Area East Forum
The MG Car Club	Kimber Classic Trial
Allianz	Insurance Renewal Forms

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

Meetings.

SSDC

Area East Committee 9th April 2008

Next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 13th May 2008.

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall,
on Tuesday 13th May 2008 at 7.30.p.m.**

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

In attendance:

Residents of the Parish: - **Ian Bell**

County Councillor: - **Justin Robinson**

PCSO: - **Tim Russell**

1. **Election of Chairman for the year 2008 – 2009**

Councillor Taylor was nominated by **Councillor Carter**, seconded by **Councillor Hartnell** and unanimously elected as Chairman for the year 2008-2009.

2. **Election of Vice-Chairman for the year 2008 – 2009**

Councillor Elliott was nominated by **Councillor Carter**, seconded by **Councillor Hartnell** and unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman for the year 2008-2009.

3. **Public Participation**

PCSO Tim Russell gave a report to the meeting.

A quantity of diesel had been stolen from a car in Lancombe Lane. There had also been some rowdy behaviour in Mill Lane but no damage had been reported. He advised that locks and general security should be checked. Also garden machinery, sheds, barns etc. need to have adequate security. He also told the meeting that scrap metal as well as lead and manhole covers over drains were also being targeted as the metal has become very valuable. **Councillor Elliott** asked if the police had been informed of the charity walk by Ansford School that will go through the Parish on July 11th. **Tim Russell** said that as far as he knew no information had been received as yet.

Councillor Elliott also asked about cases of dogs being attacked by another dog in Hadspen, **Councillor Taylor** mentioned that a dog had entered an enclosure at Nettlecombe Cottage and had to be forcibly removed from the leg of a pygmy goat.

Tim Russell advised to report such cases to the police at the time of the incident also advised by **Councillor Robinson** to contact Laura Pearse at District Council as this was her area of responsibility.

4. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th April, 2008**

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Draft Minutes subject to Confirmation

5. **Apologies for Absence**

District Councillor Miali Felton

6. **Declarations of Interest**

None

7. **Planning Applications For Consideration:**

South Somerset District Council.

08/01551/FUL – Mr A. Drysdale - Replacement of existing window with a dormer window
(GR 367216/133059).

Location: Pitcombe Farmhouse, Pitcombe Hill, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0PF.

No observations

08/01628/FUL – Mr. and Mrs. Vernon – The erection of a single storey link extension.
(GR 367070/132354).

Location: Pitcombe Barn, Church Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0PE

No observations

08/01751/FUL – Mr. W. Gyoury – Demolition of existing Garage & Carport and erection of Pergola (for use as carport) (GR 365707/132626)

Location: Nettlecombe, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7LW.

Councillor Elliott reported that the Garage has already been demolished.

Comments were made by Councillors reference the increasing numbers of retrospective planning Applications.

08/01767/FUL – Mr. M. Jennings – The erection of a steel framed barn to house machinery and feed (GR 366809/133136)

Location: Land Os 7818 Lancombe Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset, BA10)PL.

Ian Bell commented that trees be planted as a screening measure.

Comment by Councillors of the need for general screening of the structure.

08/01039/FUL – Mr. A. Drysdale. Conversion of redundant barn into holiday let accommodation (GR367204/133096). Amended Plans.

Location: Pitcombe Farm Pitcombe Hill Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PF

Councillor Taylor told the meeting that he had received correspondence on this application.

Ian Bell felt that this conversion would actually constitute a 'new build' as the present structure would have to be completely demolished before new work could begin.

There was also general concern in regard to access and the proposed parking spaces that appeared to block the access even more.

It was noted that this application was being made in a conservation area and was felt to be out of keeping and an over development within the area.

Draft Minutes subject to Confirmation

8. Planning Applications Approved:

South Somerset District Council.

08/00750/LBC – Mrs C. Carter. Construction of Lean-to Shed (GR: 365268/132510).

Location: Honeywick House Honeywick Road Honeywick Castle Cary Somerset BA7 7LP.

Granted with conditions.

00/00874/FUL – Mr. Andrew Hopkins. Demolition of existing Porch and erection of conservatory (GR 364791/123113).

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

Granted with conditions.

9. Reports

a. Portfolio Holders

Councillor Whittaker: reported that cans and general rubbish are still being discarded through the valley.

Councillor Carter: reported that the field below Old Station Lane had been ploughed without leaving the footpath.

Councillor Jury: reported that he had received Correspondence on the following:
Lime Kiln Lane the Council will arrange for patching works when they have patching in the area.

Mill Lane safety areas have been mended but also need patching.

The repairs that are needed on Sunny Hill Lane will be put forward for surface dressing works.

Wagon and Horses Cross Roads: No correspondence had been received but **Councillor Taylor** suggested that the signs that are still on the pub could be removed now that the pub is no longer functional. This would improve vision.

Councillor Taylor also asked if it was possible for a sign for the Village Hall to be erected by the Highways Department.

Councillor Elliott: reported that stables had being erected without appearing to have planning permission. **Councillor Elliott** asked if there was a planning process to follow for stables/large sheds etc.

Councillor Robinson told the meeting that this sort of planning generally goes straight to District.

Councillor Elliott asked if details of the Ansford Walk been forwarded to the Parish Council?
Councillor Taylor reported that nothing had come through as yet.

Councillor Hartnell: reported that the final details of the accounts just needed to be tied up.
Councillor Taylor reported that there is £1000 still to be paid into the Scottish Widows Contingency Account

b. County Councillor

County Councillor Robinson: reported that he still has £5000 to be given away to community groups. There is also a fund of £15,000 for larger local projects. Any schemes that the Parish Council would like to propose would need to be submitted by August/September.

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c. Chairman

Councillor Taylor: reported on the rubbish collection that had failed last month. When he asked South Somerset Waste Department how people had been informed of the changes they claimed that leaflets were all addressed individually. **Councillor Taylor** asked **Councillor Robinson** to check how the leaflets were actually sent out.

Councillor Taylor had written to John Burrows thanking for the use of the facilities at Sunny Hill. He also expressed great delight in the new hall and a lovely building and thanked all the residents of the Parish for their support with the project.

10. Accounts for Payment

Allianz Community Council) For Somerset)	Local Councils Insurance Subscription	£322.10 £25
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Approved

11. Correspondence

Audit Commission SCC Record RSS Ltd Thatch CPRE SCC Environment Scottish Widows S.C.S.N.	External Auditor Somerset Heritage Roadshow 2008 Outdoor Play Products Rural Community Magazine Somerset Matters Road Closure Notices Notice of Changes to Computer Systems Community Safety Newsletter
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Councillors are welcome to inspect any correspondence or ask for copies

12. Meeting Dates 2008/09

The Parish Council will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of every month.

South Somerset Together	South Somerset Together AGM Wed. 18 th June 2008 – 17.30 – 19.30
Sustainable Somerset Together	Sustainable Community Event Thurs 29 th May 2008 – 10.30-12.00 or 14.30 – 16.00.
SSDC	Area East Committee – 14 th May 2008-05-13
SALC	Notice of South Area Meeting – 9 th June 2008

13. Date, time and place of next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 10th June 2008 at 7.30p.m. in Hadspen Village Hall

14. Items for next agenda

Members of the Council are asked to consider the following 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

Draft Minutes subject to Confirmation

Draft Minutes subject to Confirmation

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the The Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 10th June 2008 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Carter, Elliot, Hartnell, and Taylor**
In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance:
Residents of the Parish: – **John Knight, Celia Wheadon**

Public Participation

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th May 2008

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th May, 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 13th May 2008.

None

4. Apologies for absence.

Councillor **Whittaker**, Councillor **Jury**.

5. Declarations of Interest

6. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

South Somerset District Council.

08/02024/FUL Mr & Mrs C Lowe: The erection of a replacement garage and greenhouse (GR 367458 / 133662).

Location: Red House Sunny Hill Bruton Somerset BA10 0NN

Comment Reserved

7. Reports.

Councillor Elliott:

Reported that Gant's Mill Lane is in a terrible mess. It will be resurfaced, in due course, by the Railway Company.

It was also reported that Lime Kiln Lane appears to be in need of resurfacing. This information to be forwarded to Councillor **Jury**.

Councillor Hartnell:

Last years accounts to the end of the year (April 2007 – March 2008) were given to the Council. Councillor Carter noted the generosity of Bruton School for Girls in their help during the time the Village Hall was unavailable.

Councillor Carter:

A parishioner had reported that fingerposts were not visible at certain **points on the footpaths**. The Highways have indicated that they prefer that fingerposts should be put on tarmac roads. There are also nettles growing over a certain footpath. Biddy Coghill-Smith had done a very good job in weed killing certain paths. Merida Drysdale has asked that the foot-paths by Pitcombe Church be trimmed in time for a wedding in the Church.

Councillor Jury

Pitcombe Parish Highways – June 2008

1. Highways have identified and marked areas requiring patching in Mill Lane and Lime Kiln Lane.
2. Lancombe Lane and Hell Ladder Lane will remain as restricted byways and will not be upgraded Biways open to all traffic (BOATS) as requested by the Trail Riders Fellowship (See letter SCC dated 15th May 2008)
3. Ansford Parish Council have advised that highways have agreed improved speed restrictions on the approach to the crossroads at the Wagon & Horses (See Copy letter from SCC dated 17th April 2008)

Councillor Taylor:

At the last meeting the question of litter was raised. **Councillor Taylor** asked if parishioners would report instances of litter 'hot-spots'. These reports can then be followed up by Street Scene if necessary. This month a number of 'arrows' had been left after a cycle race through the Parish.

Additional Report

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

Councillor Carter reported an incident that had occurred in her garden on June 7th. A group of 5 young people starting throwing sticks, mud etc. at herself and her gardener. They used very bad language and refused to stop their behaviour. A couple of the young people then returned and vandalised parts of her garden. They returned again the next day and carried out further vandalism. The incident has been reported to the police and is currently being investigated.

Councillor Taylor reported that he had recently been to a meeting at Ansford School and was very disappointed to discover that the young people who were causing trouble in and around Castle Cary & Ansford were subject to very little or no discipline from the authorities.

Councillor Taylor will be writing expressing the concern of the Parish Council generally over the Ansford School walk that is due to take place thorough the valley on July 11th. He will also ask for a named person to whom he can refer should there be any trouble.

8. Accounts for Payment

9. Correspondence

The Playing Field	Newsletter
SCC	Public Rights of Way Newsletter
SSDC	Notes of District and Parish/Town Meeting
SSDC	Minutes of Flood Risk meeting at Hadspen.
SCC	Road Closure – B3081 Dropping Lane Bruton – 2 weeks from 30 th June.
SCC	Road Closure – Bratton Seymour Road Bratton Seymour & Shepton Montague – 2 weeks from 30 th June.
SSDC	Removal of Payphone in Pitcombe.
SSDC	The Expression of Interest from the Blackmore Vale – Funding.
CPRE	Recruitment

10. Meeting Dates 2008/09

SSDC	Standards Committee – 4 th June
SSDC	Area East Committee -11 th June

11. Planning Application Results

SSDC

08/01039/FUL – Mr. A. Drysdale. Conversion of redundant barn into holiday let accommodation (GR367204/133096).

Location: Pitcombe Farm Pitcombe Hill Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PF.

Planning refused

SCC

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 section 53 applications to modify the Definitive Map and Statement by upgrading Restricted Byways (RB) to Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs).

Will **not be determined** by Somerset County Council. Application routes will remain as restricted byways.

Councillor Taylor read a letter from the Environment Directorate explaining the determination.

Removal of Payphone in Pitcombe

Unless SSDC hears from the Parish Council with a case to retain it, it will be removed.

- 11. Items for next agenda**
- 12. Date, time and place of next meeting.**

To be held on Tuesday 8th July at 7.30p.m. in Hadspen Village Hall

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the The Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 8th July 2008 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Carter, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker**

In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance: Residents of the Parish: – Martin and Celia Jennings, John Knight, Hamish and Gill Craig. PCSO Tim Lawrence. Visitor: Nigel Begg

1. **Public Participation**
2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th June 2008**

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of 10th June 2008.**

- i. **Ansford School Annual Walk – Friday 11th July 2008**

Councillor Taylor read the meeting a letter that he had received from Mr. Benzie, headmaster of Ansford School. Councillor Taylor had hoped to be given assurances that when the walk takes place that it will be undertaken with proper care and responsibility and that Mr. Benzie would personally take on this responsibility. Since the correspondence white spray paint signs have been posted on the road and footpaths of the route seemingly without permission. **Councillor Taylor** will write to Mr. Benzie to find out if the painting had been done by a representative of Ansford School. The walk is scheduled to take place throughout the whole day; a map of the route to be taken has been posted on notice boards in the valley.

- ii. **BT Phone Box – Pitcombe**

Mr. Craig stated that he supported the letter written to the Parish Council by Andrew Jones. A new date for consultation with the District Council has not been fixed.

Councillor Taylor told the meeting that even though many Hadspen residents had asked for the phone box to be retained two years ago, when the same question had arisen, it was still taken away despite one or two elderly residents having no access to a phone at that time.

Councillor Taylor he would approach Tim Cook of SSDC, who is liaising with BT for a number of parishes regarding this matter, to ascertain new deadline for consultation. He also suggested that the residents of Pitcombe should write to the council so that the council could use this as evidence/support for retaining the telephone box.

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

Councillor Jury undertook to do a survey in Pitcombe to ascertain opinion of the residents about the phone box.

Mr. Jennings told the meeting that there is one resident in Pitcombe who does not currently have a phone in their home.

Mrs. Craig wondered if the fact that the box is in a conservation area would make a difference.

Councillor Taylor told the meeting that this fact had made no difference to the removal of the phone box in Hadspen.

4. Apologies for Absence

None

5. Declarations of Interest

None

6. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

South Somerset District Council.

08/02024/FUL Mr & Mrs C Lowe: The erection of a replacement garage and greenhouse (GR 367458 / 133662).

Location: Red House Sunny Hill Bruton Somerset BA10 0NN

No Observations

08/02140/FUL MR R Scott: The erection of an extension to south elevation of kitchen wing to provide dining area GR 366837/133673

Location: Cole Manor Cole Bruton Somerset.

No observations

08/02424/LBC Mr. Alexander Harley: The installation of replacement garage doors and the creation of a new internal doorway (GR 366817/133717)

Location: The Manor House Cole Bruton Somerset BA10 0PL

No Observations

7. Planning Determination

08/02024/FUL Mr & Mrs C Lowe: The erection of a replacement garage and greenhouse (GR 367458 / 133662).

Location: Red House Sunny Hill Bruton Somerset BA10 0NN

Granted - subject to conditions

08/01628/FUL – Mr. and Mrs. Vernon – The erection of a single storey link extension. (GR 367070/132354).

Location: Pitcombe Barn, Church Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0PE

Granted - subject to conditions

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

08/01551/FUL – Mr A. Drysdale - Replacement of existing window with a dormer window
(GR 367216/133059).

Location: Pitcombe Farmhouse, Pitcombe Hill, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0PF.

Granted – Subject to conditions

08/01751/FUL – Mr. W. Gyoury – Demolition of existing Garage & Carport and erection of Pergola (for use as carport) (GR 365707/132626)

Location: Nettlecombe, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7LW.

Granted – Subject to conditions

8. Reports.

PCSO Tim Lawrence told the meeting that thefts of fuel and scrap metal are things to look out for in our area. Please report any suspicious activity.

There was an incident involving youths from Castle Cary. They had blocked the road with branches at Honeywick and were abusive to several members of the public. They have either been or are in the process of being dealt with.

As there have been incidents of motorbikes and mini motos causing nuisance or distress in the Parish any further such incidents should be reported to the Police on 0845 456 7000. If necessary dial 999.

Two PCSOs will be monitoring the Ansford School walk on 11th July.

Councillor Beech:

Two cases of anti social behaviour has been addressed and successfully resolved in Pitcombe.

Councillor Jury:

Reported that there was still a wait for patching work to be done on various lanes in the Parish.

Councillor Taylor asked for the grass triangle at the top of Lime Kiln Lane be reinstated as grass rather than be patched with tarmac where it had been eroded.

Councillor Carter reported that the drains on Honeywick Hill are all blocked following the very heavy rain. **Councillor Jury** said that there is no programme for the regular clearing of the drains.

Residents of Pitcombe Hamlet who walk from the village to Bruton have requested the existing A359 footpath be extended to the top of Pitcombe Rock. Sunny Hill School are aware of the request and Councillor Jury will contact SCC Highways to discuss the proposal

Councillor Carter:

Strimming is being carried out by the District Council throughout the Parish. Mr. Craig reported that strimming is also being done by Terry Crane. Most of the footpaths in the Parish are walkable with the exception of one field in which a crop of broad beans are currently being grown.

Councillor Whittaker:

Reported that she was still having to clear bags of rubbish left near her house. **Councillor Jury** reported that couple of refrigerators have been dumped on the side of the road leading up to Redlynch.

Councillor Taylor:

A sign reading Nichol's Yard with an address (including a Post Code) and a telephone number had been installed at Knapps Hollow Councillor Taylor has discussed this with James Meyers of Planning at SSDC who will be observing the site.

9. Accounts for payment

Bruton School for Girls	Rent for Meetings	£12.00
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10. Correspondence

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

Somerset County Council	Somerset Local Initiatives Budget for SCC Councillors
Charles A Llewellyn Chairman of Governors Ansford School	Re: Ansford School Annual Walk.
Robert Benzie Headteacher – Ansford School	Re: Ansford School Annual Walk + Map of Route
Richard Crowe 2012 Creative programmer & Team South West SCC	Re: Ringing in the Olympics in the South West
SCC	Somerset Community Safety Newsletter – Summer 2008
CPRE	Somerset Community Safety Newsletter – Special Edition 2008
David Heath CBE MP	Countryside Voice Magazine
Andrew Jones	Re: 2008 Village Tour Re: Pitcombe Telephone Box

11. Meetings/Workshops

SSDC	Area East Committee – 9 th July 2009
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12. Items for next agenda

13. Date, time and place of next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 12th August at 7.30p.m. in Hadspen Village Hall.

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 12th August 2008 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Elliot, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker**
In the Chair: Councillor **Taylor**

In attendance:
County Councillor: **Justin Robinson**
Residents of the Parish: **Hamish and Gill Craig**

1. **Public Participation.**

2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th July 2008**

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of 8th July 2008.**

i). BT Phone Box – Pitcombe

Councillor **Jury** reported that he had carried out a survey of the majority of residents in Pitcombe. All of those were in favour of retaining the box. It is the last remaining phone-box in the parish. The majority view was that the effort should continue to retain the phone box. Not least as Pitcombe Hamlet is set in the river Pitt valley with hills either side so consequently mobile telephone signals are almost non-existent and cannot be relied on in the case of emergencies. Councillor **Taylor** will write to Tim Cook at SSDC with PPC response to consultation pointing out the social reasons for retaining the Telephone Box. Should the request for SSDC to veto removal fail the possibility of taking over the maintenance of the phone box was raised. Resident Mr. Craig said it was probable that The Pitcombe Trust would join with PPC in running the payphone but the costs would need to be taken into account before any decision could be made.

ii). Ansford School Annual Walk

Councillor **Taylor** told the meeting that it appeared to be well policed. There was one incident in Pitcombe reported to a member of the PTA. This incident has been dealt with satisfactorily.

The Arrows:

The painted arrows started to appear in the Parish during the week before the walk the arrows pointing under the viaduct appearing on the morning of the walk. Highways and the District

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

Council knew nothing of the arrows. On the question of how the arrows might be removed they would only rate as low profile by Street Scene for removal as they would be considered as graffiti but at a low level of priority. Correspondence with Mr. Benzie has proved unproductive. Councillor **Jury** detailed the facts of the direction arrows as well as showing photographs of the arrows, of which there are 30, covering the circular route of the walk. Councillor **Jury** is awaiting replies to his latest communication with Mr. Benzie and feels that nothing further can be done until that reply is forthcoming. Mr. **Craig** told the meeting that he would be happy to look into the rules and regulations for such walks, as laid down for the Save the Children Fund Walks, with which he is involved, that take place every year. Mr. **Craig** will liaise with Councillor **Jury** on this issue.

Councillor **Taylor** also told the meeting that Mr. Steve Craggs, Deputy Head of Ansford School, has offered to come and speak to the Parish Council in the Autumn to answer any questions the Council may have in relation to the school.

Mr. Craggs had also asked if a group of pupils could do several hours community work in the Parish. The working-party cleared the area surrounding the bench on Cary Hill which was overgrown with nettles and also painted the bench. Councillor **Taylor** expressed thanks on behalf of the council to Mr. Craggs and the pupil working-party.

4. **Apologies for absence**

Councillors **Carter and Hartnell**
District Councillor **Felton**

5. **Declarations of Interest**

None

6. **Planning Applications – For Consideration.**

Planning Applications – For Consideration.

Highways Act 1980, Section 119
Parish of Pitcombe

Permanent Diversion of Path WN22/13 at Priddles Farm

Councillors were asked to report back.

7. **Planning Determination**

08/01767/FUL – Mr. M. Jennings – The erection of a steel framed barn to house machinery and feed (GR 366809/133136)

Location: Land Os 7818 Lancombe Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset.

Granted with conditions

8. **Reports.** County Councillor, Portfolio Holders, Chairman

Councillor Elliott:

The caravan at top of hill at Stumps Cross has been removed.

Councillor Jury:

Reported on the ongoing and completed work to various roads and lanes in the Parish. Most of this work needed as a result of Network Rail construction traffic. He also reported that he was awaiting a reply to his letter to Bev Norman at SCC Highways enquiring about the provision of a temporary speed sign on the A359 Bruton Road. A meeting had taken place with County Councillor **Robinson** on July 31st to discuss the proposals for the footpath at Pitcombe Rock/A359. See attached report.

Councillor Whittaker:

Reported that a lot of wood is falling into Honeywick Hill. To be reported to Highways. Councillor **Taylor** reported that some asbestos sheeting has been left in a gateway near Stumps Cross. Also to be reported to Highways. Councillor **Taylor** asked County Councillor **Robinson** if there is any coordinated work for litter picking in South Somerset. At the moment there is nothing in place but discussions are ongoing.

Councillor Beech:

Reported that he had the police had been informed of one incident of motorcyclists in Pitcombe. There has not been any trouble recently.

County Councillor Robinson:

In reply to Councillor **Jury's** request as to possible funding from the Somerset Local Initiatives Budget for the funding of the Pitcombe Rock Footpath he told the meeting that he was awaiting pricing for the project and he has many outstanding requests for this fund. He has also recently had a discussion with traffic police who will be coming to monitor traffic speed in the area in the near future

Councillor Taylor:

Has spoken to Village Hall Trustees Chairman Peter Wyatt re. new Notice Board for Hadspen. Most prices seem to be in the range of £600. Peter Wyatt will ask the Village Hall Trustees for their views at their next meeting. If the cost were to be shared then the Parish Council would probably be asked to contribute £300. Estimates for a new board are still being gathered.

9. Accounts for payment

Pitcombe PCC.	Churchyard Grant	£550
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This payment was agreed.

10. Correspondence

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

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

South Somerset Together

South Somerset Together's Draft Sustainable Community
Strategy Consultation

SSDC

Planning Enforcement Policy

The Playing Field

Newsletter

SALC

Newsletter

Ansford School

Emails – re : Arrows

11. Meetings/Workshops

SSDC	Standards Committee	6 th August 2008
SSDC	Area East Committee	13 th August 2008

12. Items for next agenda

The Walk/Arrows

Hadspen Notice Board

13. Date, time and place of next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 9th September at 7.30pm in Hadspen Village Hall

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.

1. **Sunny Hill Lane/Colestyle Farm Lane**

Letter sent to SCC Highways 4th August regarding state of roads after use by Network Rail for construction traffic. Tony Leach of SCC Highways met with Network Rail on 11th August to determine and agree Network Rails repair and cleanup responsibilities.

Current Status: Work outstanding

2. **Mill Lane**

Patching work completed w/e 8th August

3. **Lime Kiln Lane/A359 Junction**

Patching and repair works completed w/e 8th August

4. **Honeywick Hill - Drainage**

See attached letter from SCC Highways 30th July.

Current Status: Work outstanding

5. **Hadspen – Speed Limit Extension**

See attached letter from SCC Highways 6th August

6. **A359 Bruton Road – Vehicle Activated Speed Sign**

Awaiting reply to my letter of the 24th July to Bev Norman, SCC Highways enquiring about the provision of a temporary speed sign

Current Status: Outstanding

7. **Pitcombe Rock/A359 - Proposed Footpath**

Met with Justin Robinson 31st July to discuss proposals for the footpath construction and request consideration for the funding to be provided from the Somerset Local Initiatives Budget.

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 9th September 2008 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Carter, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker**
In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance:

Beat Officer: WPC Sara Stevenson

District Councillor: Miali Felton

Residents of the Parish: Ken Elliot, Willie Constantine, Connie Earle, Martin Atkins, Niki Atkins, Jim Linden

David Nurse

1. Public Participation

Mr. Ken Elliot brought to the attention of the meeting up the subject of litter and waste material, probably builders material, that has been left in the field near his house. Also a trail of litter is left from the Wagon and Horses through to Cole appears every Monday morning.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th August 2008

Councillor Beech: asked that his suggestion at the meeting on 8th July that the Press be notified re the arrows should be minuted.

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 12th August 2008.

i). The Walk/.Arrows

Councillor Jury reported that had had no reply to his email or letter – the latest of which was sent on August 26th. The District Council to be approached as to how much it will cost to remove the arrows.

Councillor Jury to ask the Council for an estimate of costs involved. It was decided that **Councillor Jury** would write again to the School asking for an explanation for the arrows now that term had started again. It was decided that the Parish Council would not take the matter to the press at the present time.

ii). Hadspen Notice Board

Councillor Taylor reported that the Village Hall Committee had proposed the sum of £250 to be given towards the cost of a new Notice Board. That being the case **Councillor Taylor** will now order a new board.

4. Apologies for absence

Councillor Robinson

5. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hartnell – in regard to the Planning Application before the Parish Council but would be able to speak as a resident of the Parish.

6. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

08/03138/FUL – Mr. Martin Atkins – Demolition of bungalow, garage and outbuildings and the erection of a detached dwelling with integral annexe and garage/store (GR 367169/133518)

Location: Derwent, Mill Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0PH

Councillor Taylor had received correspondence on this planning application which was available to the Council.

Mr. Linden reported that he had written three letters expressing concerns about the application. The issues covered in these letters were in relation to the raised risk of flooding to Old Station Lane, apparent discrepancies in the application forms and the appearance of the site. He raised the question as to whether restrictive covenants could be placed on the development in order that it would only be a dwelling rather than a work place.

Councillor Hartnell (from the floor) – felt that there was a need to replace the present structure on the site but was concerned that the current application was out of proportion to what was being replaced.

Mr. Constantine asked whether the workshop would still be used.

Mr. Elliot reminded the meeting of previous planning applications where there had been objections raised in regard to new houses being built in Mill Lane. These objections had been considered untenable under current planning law and had led to large fines being imposed on the District Council.

Mr David Nurse replied to the questions raised in regard to the planning application and said any errors would be amended.

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

Councillor Taylor asked that the errors in the application be amended and the flooding risk assessed by the planners. He would postpone reporting until this had been done and suggested a special meeting to be held on Tuesday 23rd September when the issues raised could be revisited before a final report would be submitted.

7. Planning Applications - Determined

08/02140/FUL MR R Scott: The erection of an extension to south elevation of kitchen wing to provide dining area GR 366837/133673

Location: Cole Manor Cole Bruton Somerset.

Refused Permission by Planning

Mrs. Scott informed the meeting of what had happened with this particular application in regard to the timing of the refusal. **District Councillor Felton** is looking in to the matter. **Councillor Taylor** also expressed the frustration felt in the way many planning matters are dealt with particularly in reference to enforcement.

08/02424/LBC Mr. Alexander Harley: The installation of replacement garage doors and the creation of a new internal doorway (GR 366817/133717)

Location: The Manor House Cole Bruton Somerset BA10 0PL

Consent Granted

8. Reports.

Councillor Elliott:

Reported that two large vehicles are now parked at the bottom of Rodge Lane – presumably for apple pickers. She will be keeping an eye as to the duration of their stay.

Councillor Jury:

Residents in Mill Lane whose fence was knocked down in June have now had their fence replaced by the contractors who were responsible for the damage.

Councillor Taylor:

Reported that the motorbikes that have caused a nuisance in the past in Pitcombe had returned on Sunday.

The phone box.

An email has been sent to Tim Cooke at District and objections to the removal have now been registered.

Councillor Taylor also told the meeting about two schemes run by BT in relation to phone boxes in rural communities.

Firstly it is possible to sponsor a phone box for £500 per annum or alternatively it is possible to Adopt a Kiosk for £1.

Councillor Elliot asked **Councillor Jury** about the drains in Honeywick that are blocked. **Councillor Jury** will contact the Highways.

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

Councillor Taylor asked **District Councillor Felton** re phone box veto. She will be looking in to the matter.

District Councillor Felton asked if there was any progress on the flood alleviation scheme. No flooding has been reported.

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9. Correspondence

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

SSDC	Flood Awareness
Victim Support – Somerset	Funding Request
CPRE	Fieldwork - Magazine
SSDC	Draft Decision Document – BT Phone Boxes
SALC	Special Circ. Re BT Phone Boxes
Mendip Housing	Annual Review
Somerset C.C.	Local Transport Plan 2 - Summary
J. R. Linden	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
J. R. Linden	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
J. R. Linden	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
W.G. & J.V. Constantine	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
SSDC	Re. Adopt/sponsor Kiosk
SSDC	Parish Council Allowances

10. Meetings/Workshops

10/09/2008	SSDC	Area East Committee
20/09/2008	CPRE	AGM
27/09/2008	SALC	AGM

11. Items for next agenda

12. Date, time and place of next meeting

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

To be held on Tuesday 14th October 2008 at 7.30pm in Hadspen Village Hall

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 14th October 2008 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Carter, Elliot, Jury, Taylor,**
In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance:

Residents of the Parish: Ian Bell

1. Public Participation

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th September 2008

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 9th September 2008.

4. Apologies for absence

5. Declarations of Interest

6. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

08/04232/FUL Mr. Paul Jennings - Alterations and conversion of barn to form annexe to 2 Mill Lane Cottage.

**Location: Barn at 2 Mill Lane Cottages, Mill Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton Somerset.
(GR 367324/133100)**

Councillor Elliott expressed interest in the use of the word ‘annexe’ as the barn is not attached to the Cottage. **Councillor Jury** brought up the question of the adequacy of parking and ownership of the land.

Also concern was expressed as to whether or not this is ‘holiday’ let or for family use and that there would be a need for it to be ‘tied’ to Mill Lane Cottage.

Draft Minutes – Subject to Confirmation

The Council were in favour of recommendation once the above concerns have been clarified.

08/03926/FUL Mr. Jeremy Holt -The installation of two velux roof windows on east elevation, one window in north elevation and omission of first floor balcony to west elevation.

Location: Halfways, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7LW (GR 365685/132744)

No objections

**08/040903/LBC – Mr. Alex Harley – The creation of a new internal doorway
Location: The Manor House, Cole, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0PL.
(GR367324/133100)**

No objections

7. Planning Applications – Determined.

**08/03138FUL – Mr. Martin Atkins – Demolition of bungalow, garage and outbuildings and the erection of a detached dwelling with integral annexe and garage/store
(GR367169/133518)**

Location: Derwent, Mill Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0PH

Application Refused

8. The Telephone Box Pitcombe

Councillor Taylor reported to the meeting that the District Council have now objected to the removal of the Pitcombe Phone Box and has been informed that nothing more needs to be done in regards to the issue at the moment.

9. Reports.

Councillor Whittaker:

Told the meeting that the reported fly tipping has been removed but asbestos still there. The Environment Agency has been contacted and advised that it should be removed within the next two weeks by the Agency. **Councillor Whittaker** asked **Councillor Jury** about redoing the road markings on the road at Hadspen.

Councillor Elliot:

Asked **Councillor Jury** about the problem of flooding on the road to Cole during heavy rain.

Councillor Carter

Thanked Councillor Jury for organising the work on the drains at Honeywick.

Councillor Jury:

Reminded residents that it is their responsibility to keep hedges trimmed along the roads.

Councillor Taylor:

He also reported that the travellers in the valley are still apple picking.
Reported on the Ansford School Community Liaison Meeting. Subject of the arrows was brought up. Mr. Benzie proposed that groups of students from the school would come from time to time to remove the arrows.

10. Accounts for Payment

11. Correspondence

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

SSDC	Flood Awareness
Victim Support – Somerset	Funding Request
CPRE	Fieldwork - Magazine
SSDC	Draft Decision Document – BT Phone Boxes
SALC	Special Circ. Re BT Phone Boxes
Mendip Housing	Annual Review
Somerset C.C.	Local Transport Plan 2 - Summary
J. R. Linden	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
J. R. Linden	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
J. R. Linden	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
W.G. & J.V. Constantine	Planning Application 08/03138/FUL
SSDC	Re. Adopt/sponsor Kiosk
SSDC	Parish Council Allowances

12. Meetings/Workshops

10/09/2008	SSDC	Area East Committee
20/09/2008	CPRE	AGM
27/09/2008	SALC	AGM

13. Items for next agenda

14. Date, time and place of next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 11th November 2008 at 7.30pm in Hadspen Village Hall

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 11th November 2008 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Carter, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker.**
In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance: Pitcombe Resident: John Knight

1. **Public Participation**

John Knight asked if he would be allowed to comment during item 8.
Councillor **Taylor** said that he would be allowed to.

2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th October 2008**

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of 14th October 2008.**

It was noted that there had been no movement with regard to "The Arrows" although Ansford School Headmaster Mr. R. Benzie had promised at the School/Councils liaison meeting that teams of pupils would be taken out to remove same. It was decided that the council would keep track of the situation.

Councillor **Elliot** said that the "apple pickers" appeared to be moving on. It was mentioned that caravans were still at Bottom Barn Farm also that there was also a certain amount of industrial items and vehicles in the yard.

4. **Apologies for absence.**

District Councillor **Felton** and County Councillor **Robinson** had sent apologies.

5. **Declarations of Interest.** - None

6. **Planning Applications – For Consideration.** - None

7. **Planning Applications – Determined.**

08/03905/LBC MR R Scott: The erection of an extension to south elevation of kitchen wing to provide dining area (revised application) GR 366837/133673

Location: Cole Manor, Cole, Bruton, Somerset.

Withdrawn

08/03906/LBC MR R Scott: The erection of an extension to south elevation of kitchen wing to provide dining area (revised application) GR 366837/133673

Location: Cole Manor, Cole, Bruton, Somerset.

Withdrawn.

8. **The Telephone Box – Pitcombe**

Councillor **Taylor** read the attached letter (APPENDIX 1) to the Parish Council.

John Knight said he was at the meeting to ensure that Mr Andrew Jones offer to pay towards the sponsor fee was discussed. Councillor **Taylor** said he had received an email from Mr. Jones regarding the offer and questioning the fact that his offer had not been mention in the previous minutes. Councillor **Jury**, who had received the original offer, said that he had received it after the last meeting. Councillor **Carter** asked Councillor **Taylor** to write to thank Mr. Jones for the offer.

Councillor **Taylor** stated that Mr Jones had also questioned the decisions made by the council regarding the Telephone Box. Councillor **Taylor** explained that he had been in constant contact with The Area Development Team at SSDC regarding this matter throughout the process and had been advised that the removal of the Telephone Box would be objected to by SSDC and this objection would be tantamount to a Veto, he had been advised that there was no need to apply to adopt or sponsor the Telephone Box at this juncture.

The outcome of the discussion was that no further action was necessary unless BT appealed to OFCOM against the SSDC objection to removal & won that appeal.

It was suggested that to safeguard future attempts to remove the Telephone Box that The Pitcombe Trust be asked to apply for “Listing” this was agreed by the Council and Councillor **Jury** would contact The Pitcombe Trust Chairman with regard to the matter.

9. **Reports. Portfolio Holders**

Councillor Elliot – said that she had contacted the owner of the property where brambles were overhanging Mill Lane – this would be dealt with A.S.A.P.

Councillor Whittaker – was not certain if the asbestos had been removed. Councillor **Jury** reported that a tyre had been dumped at the end of Sunnyhill. Councillor **Whittaker** said she would report the matter.

Councillor Jury – reported that Flood Warning Signs had been stolen from Pitcombe. He would contact SCC to obtain replacements.

Complaints had been received about wide lorries using Lime Kiln Lane, Honeywick Hill & Cole Road (probably due to the ubiquitous Satellite Navigation) – Councillor **Jury** to investigate signage to attempt to prevent this.

He reported that Pitcombe Bridge requires pointing and there was a build up of silt in the river, the probable cause of local flooding in Pitcombe.

Councillor **Elliot** stated that the flooding on the Cole Road in Hadspen had worsened. Councillor **Taylor** asked if a channel could be cut through verge to drain water in to field adjacent. He asked who owned field – John Knight said it was owned by Richard O’Leary and he would speak to Mr O’Leary to obtain permission.

Councillor **Whittaker** stated that work had not been carried out on road surface surrounding the drains by Honeywick Cottage - It was reported that the drain adjacent to Honeywick Barn was not functioning correctly. Councillor **Jury** said he would follow up these problems.

Councillor **Taylor** – said he was worried regarding dogs not under control on roads in the Parish. He had experienced a situation which almost caused an accident on the Cole Road – A horse rider was accompanied by 2 loose dogs.

A situation had occurred where one dog ran in to and then out of a garden near to Old Station Lane on to the road and into the path of an on coming car causing the car driver to brake

sharply. During this incident the other loose dog was crouched in the middle of the road some distance behind the horse causing a dangerous situation for drivers approaching from around the bend.

The rider was calling to the dogs but did not appear to be in control of them.

He hoped that councillors would speak to anyone seen in similar situations.

It was mentioned that not all horse riders were wearing visibility jackets in spite of the dark winter conditions.

Councillor **Taylor** distributed the draft budget to the councillors for discussion at the next meeting.

10. Accounts for payment

CPRE	Annual Subscription	30.00
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1. Correspondence

**CPRE
Communities & Local
Government
SSDC
SSDC
SSDC
SSDC
Somerset County Council
Somerset County Council
SSDC – Mentoring Service**

**Membership Renewal
Communities in Control

Annual Playground Inspection
Annual Precepts
Fuel Poverty
BT Payphone Removal Program
Temporary Road Closure – A359
Temporary Road Closure – Wyke Lane
Service Description**

12. Meetings/Workshops

05/11/08	SSDC	Standards Committee
12/11/08	SSDC	Area East Committee
08/12/08	SALC	South Area

13. Items for next Agenda

**Grant applications
Budget & Precept 2009/2010**

14. Next meeting.

Tuesday 9th December 7.30. p.m.

The meeting was closed.

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

APPENDIX 1.



South Somerset District Council

Area North

Old Kelways, Somerton Road, LANGPORT TA10 9YE

☎ 01458 257405 Fax: 01458 257474 www.southsomerset.gov.uk

Charlotte Jones
Head of Area Development - North



The Clerk to
Pitcombe CP

Date: 24 October 2008

Our ref:

Your ref:

☎ 01458 257401

✉ Charlotte.jones@southsomerset.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

BT Payphone Removal Programme - Adoption of Red Kiosks.

You will be aware that your parish includes a red box, **1pco, Centre Of Village, Pitcombe, Bruton, ☎ 01749813376**, which was recently included within the BT removal programme. The final decision by SSSDC on your parish kiosk was to **object** to the removal.

I am writing to inform you that SSSDC has raised objections with BT regarding the process to secure the 'adopt a kiosk scheme', which a number of parishes expressed an interest in.

As you are probably aware the deadline for applications to adopt must be submitted by 1st November, regardless of the final decision (we assume). The position of SSSDC is that this provided insufficient time for parishes to properly consider the financial and legal implications of signing the model agreement. In addition for those parishes that were objecting to the removal, signing a legal agreement to confirm the telephone equipment could be removed seemed unreasonable.

We have raised this objection on behalf of all affected parishes, following concerns raised by a number with us directly. If you have already submitted an application to adopt, or intend to submit one by 1st November, then we have not sought to affect this at all.

Next steps

If your parish has already submitted an application to adopt a box, then we assume you need do nothing other than respond to BT in due course when they process your application.

If SSSDC objected to the removal, then unless BT appeal, and win, your box will not be affected and you do not need to adopt. However, BT have not made this clear in their guidance, and this is the basis of our objection.



If you need this information in large print, Braille, audio or another language, please contact me at the above address



WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

If SSDC agreed to the removal of the kiosk, and you notified us of your interest in adoption, then we have passed this information to BT as requested. If you have not submitted your application, then we will of course advise you of any further news from BT. Our view is that although this is a risk, it seems not unreasonable to assume BT will adopt a more 'common sense' approach in the light of numerous objections.

I must stress that the adopt a kiosk scheme is entirely voluntary on the part of parish councils, and whilst we will endeavour to gain support from BT to remove the pressure on parishes to sign a legal agreement, we cannot guarantee this will be successful. We will continue to lobby on your behalf, and trust that no red kiosks will be removed, in advance of a parish council having taken a considered decision to adopt, and taken advice on the legal agreement.

It would be helpful to know your current position on adoption, to ensure our records are as accurate as possible and I would be very grateful for any information you could provide. Please note that if you have since obtained listed building status for your red kiosk, a planned removal will not happen in any event.

For information, I enclose a list of all red kiosks in South Somerset (as supplied by BT) together with the final decision of SSDC as to their removal (agree) or retention (object).

Please contact Catherine Hodsman 01458 257414 or email catherine.hodsman@southsomerset.gov.uk to supply any information or to request further details.

If you wish to receive a copy of our letter to BT, please get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Charlotte Jones
Head of Area Development – North

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 9th December 2008 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker**
In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance: Nigel Begg & Residents of the Parish: John Knight

1. Public Participation

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th November 2008

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

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 11th November 2008.

The Telephone Box – Pitcombe.

- i. Councillor **Taylor** told the meeting that the Parish Council had taken all possible action to Box at Pitcombe. He had spoken to Tim Cook of SSDC who had stated that unless BT appealed to OFCOM (and won the appeal) against the council veto of removal of the telephone box, the box would not be removed. Mr Cook had heard nothing from BT or had any news of an appeal. Councillor Taylor anticipates that the objection to removal will stand.
- ii. Councillor **Jury** reported that there had been no change on the white arrows.
- iii. Councillor **Taylor** will write to Mr. Benzie to ask if any progress has been made.

4. Apologies for absence

PCSO Tim Russell

5. Declarations of Interest

None

6. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

**08/04922/FUL – Chas. Clothier and Son Ltd. –Amendment to windows of dwelling on Plot 3
(Revised Application)(GR 367209/133472)**

Location: Land East of Mill Lane Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0NX

No objections or comments

7. Planning Applications – Determined.

08/04093/LBC - Mr. Alex Harley – The creation of a new internal doorway

Location: The Manor House, Cole, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0PL.

(GR 367324/133100)

Application Approved

8/04232/FUL Mr. Paul Jennings - Alterations and conversion of barn to form annexe to 2 Mill Lane Cottage.

Location: Barn at 2 Mill Lane Cottages, Mill Lane, Pitcombe, Bruton Somerset.

(GR 367324/133100)

Application Refused

8. Grant applications

St. Leonard's Church – Churchyard Maintenance Grant 2009/2010

Sum of £600 agreed

Hadspen Village Hall Maintenance Grant 2009/2010

The Council decided that no grant this year on the precept but money could be available if necessary. Councillor **Hartnell** suggested paying rent for meetings at the beginning of the year. This was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Taylor suggested a grant should be given to support the Pitcombe News magazine.

It was suggested that a grant of £150 should be given this was unanimously approved.

Councillor Taylor proposed a grant of £250 for "Joybells" the charity supported by Diana Scott as a show of gratitude for her unofficial minute taking throughout the year. Councillor Taylor was asked to ascertain if the council were lawful in awarding a grant outside of the community.

It was decided that Councillor Jury would insert an advertisement, in January, in 'The Blackmore Vale' Magazine for the vacancy of an employed Parish Clerk.

9. Budget & Precept 2009/2010

Councillor **Taylor** produced a printed budget for the proposed precept this was discussed by the councillors present.

The final calculation for the precept was £3,560.

10. Publication of Minutes

Councillor **Taylor** has established that there is no requirement to publish the Minutes until they are ratified and confirmed at the following meeting. Councillor **Jury** proposed that the Minutes would not be made public until they were ratified. Members of the Council agreed to put the Minutes on the notice boards after the meeting once they have been confirmed.

11. Reports.

Portfolio Holders

Councillor **Whittaker**:

Reported that as far as she was aware no progress had been made on the removal of the asbestos.

Councillor **Elliot**

Whilst making enquiries as to the responsibility of removing silt from the River Pitt had discovered from SSDC that the removal of silt under the bridge is responsibility of the Highways.

Councillor **Elliot** also read an email from Carol Wyatt. See appendix for details.

Councillor **Elliot** reported that the travellers have now gone from Henry Hobhouse field but there are still travellers at Sheepwash.

Councillor **Jury**

Also reported on the travellers at Sheepwash.

He also told the meeting that arrangements had been made to clear the gullies on the Cole to Hadspen road.

Highways had taken the temporary flood signs away due to Health and Safety. Highways suggested the possibility of permanent signs but this was not popular with Parishoners.

The patching in Honeywick Lane is still to be done.

Councillor **Taylor**

Councillor **Taylor** read an email from PCSO Tim Russell which asked about the policy of keeping the arches open under the viaduct at Pitcombe.

Councillor **Jury** explained to the Meeting that it was the policy to keep only one of the arches open. Councillor **Jury** would email Tim Russell with the information.

Councillor **Hartnell**

Reported that Sexey's School students have been are breaking the law by parking on the pavement by Elm Field. He has discussed the problem with the Headmaster who has taken action. They are also parking too close to the junction as well as on the pavement. Councillor **Hartnell** will email Tim Russell with the information

12. Accounts for Payment

13. Correspondence

South West Employers	News
SSDC	Pioneer 'Devolution of Services'
InterRoute	Re: A303 Willoughby Hedge to Mere Public Information Events.
Somerset Highways	Winter Service 2008/2009
CPRE	Fieldwork Magazine
SSDC	Register of Electors

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

14. Meetings/Workshops

10th December	SSDC - Area East Committee
20th December	David Heath – Advice Centre –Dovecot BLDG - Bruton

15. Items for next agenda

Recruitment of Parish Clerk

16. Date, time and place of next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 10th February 2009 at 7.30pm in Hadspen Village Hall

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

**Minutes of the Pitcombe Annual Parish Meeting held on
Tuesday 8 April 2008 in the Hobhouse Suite, Bruton School for Girls**

Present:

In the Chair: Councillor Mike Taylor, Chairman of the Parish Council

Councillors: Beech, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Whittaker.

District Councillor Felton

Residents of the parish: Mr. Elliott, Mr. Whittaker, Dr. and Mrs. Pheby

1. **Opening remarks and welcome**

Councillor Mike Taylor opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

2. **To receive the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th April 2007**

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

Approved

3. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

4. **Report on the work of the Parish Council for the year April 2007 - March 2008**

Councillor Taylor gave a brief overview of the Council's work during the past year and commented that the council had been without a clerk for most of the year which had created difficulty with the prompt presentation of minutes and other council records.

Planning: Councillor Taylor stated that there had been a number of contentious planning issues throughout the year and the only one to go against the council's advice was the Quarry Manager's House.

Finance – Councillor Taylor stated that a grant of £3100 would be paid to the Village Hall Car Park Fund for financial year 2008/09. Although it had been stated by the previous Chairman, Councillor Brook, that the grant given for the year 2007/08 was the final grant for the Hadspen Village Hall Re-building Fund, Councillor Taylor explained that the grant given this year was for an additional project which was the construction of the village hall car park, this had been applied for by The Chairman of The Hadspen Village Hall Trustees.

He went on to explain that due to reduced administration payments for a parish clerk there was a current balance in the current account of £1607.98 and proposed that £1000 of this is transferred to the Scottish Widows contingency account.

Councillor Taylor thanked members of the public for their contributions to council meetings and acknowledged the considerable support that County Councillor Robinson and District Councillor Felton had given to the Council. He also extended thanks to Peter Wyatt, Carole Wyatt and Willie Constantine for all of their efforts surrounding the fund raising and building of the new village hall. He also extended thanks from the council to all those parishioners involved in the process for the construction of the new village hall.

DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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

None received.

6. **Open Discussion**

Dr. Pheby thanked all Councillors who have served on the Council and commented on a number of planning issues including the fish ponds application and wind turbine proposals which were not currently proceeding.

Mr Elliott expressed concern at the current state of the slurry lagoon which was falling into a dangerous state of disrepair. The covering and membrane were shattered and in pieces, the lagoon is unfenced and a real hazard particularly to children who play close by. He enquired as to the current situation regarding ownership responsibility. Councillor Taylor stated that he would take up the matter with the Environment Agency. District Councillor Felton stated that she would also take up the matter with the district council.

Dr Pheby thanked the council for their help concerning the Hadspen flood alleviation scheme and stated that county council and district council responsibilities were now defined and recent work to clear blocked areas had been completed by the county council.

Mr Elliott and Mr Whittaker both mentioned their concerns regarding traffic speeds on the road through the Hadspen community and through to Cole. They both considered that a 30 mph speed limit throughout the length of the road was required. Councillor Jury explained that county highways had been approached in October 2008 regarding such speed limits. He read out to the meeting the letter received from county highways stating that any request for a speed limit along this road would have to meet the Department for Transport criteria for speed limits in settlements, which this does not. It was agreed that councillor Jury would make further approaches to county highways for a 30 mph limit through the more densely populated section of the road.

Councillor Taylor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at approximately 8.25 pm..

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 13th January 2009 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Carter, Elliot, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker**
In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance: Nigel Begg, Neil Ollis, Simon Osborne

District Councillor: Maili Felton

Residents of the Parish: Richard Scott, Tina Harley, Alex Harley, Maurice Madelin, Fran Madelin, John Knight, Hamish Craig, Gill Craig, Alan Whittaker, Ian Bell, James Clark, Ken Elliot, Ken Clothier, Marylin Goverd, Sue Chamberlain, Guy Mayers, Josie Mayers, Ian Bell, Annie Fry

1. Public Participation

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th December 2008

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 9th December 2008.

None

4. Apologies for absence

Councillor Hartnell

5. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jury: SSDC - Planning Application 08/05174/FUL

Councillors Elliot and Whittaker: Somerset County Council Proposal for Construction of Sewage Treatment Facility.

6. Flooding – Cole and Pitcombe

Councillor Jury told the meeting that he wished to establish the support of the Parish Council for future work that may need to be done to minimise the risk of such flooding occurring again. The objective will be to arrange a public meeting to be held under the auspices of the Parish Council. **Councillor Jury** hoped that the meeting of all the various agencies involved could be held either at the end of this month or the beginning February. If possible the cause of the flooding needs to be established. **Councillor Jury** would be grateful for any photographic evidence of what occurred in different parts of the Parish on the day of the flood to be sent to him.

Councillor Taylor told the meetings in the past with the District Council after flooding had occurred have proved helpful.

Alex Harley told the meeting that the bridges at both Cole and Pitcombe formed dams. The Council has been asked by **Councillor Jury** to undertake an hydraulic study of both bridges. Ian Bell asked if the collateral damage could be submitted to the Council as evidence of the widespread damage caused by the flood.

The environment agency will also be encouraged to attend the public meeting.

Possible dates for the meeting are yet to be agreed.

Councillor Taylor expressed sympathy on behalf of the Parish Council to all those in the Parish who had been affected by the flood.

7. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

South Somerset District Council

08/05174/FUL – Mr. G. Mayers – Alteration and the erection of a first floor extension and alterations to form a room in the roof space to include the installation of dormer windows. (GR 36726/133140)

Location: 1 Pitcombe Hill, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0PH.

Nigel Begg reported to the meeting that the problem remained as to the position of the dormer windows due to objections from the Conservation Officer.

Councillor Taylor read letters of objection to the meeting from David Issit and Ian Mathieson

Nigel Begg also told the meeting that the ground floor bathroom had been damaged in the recent flood.

A discussion followed with a general consensus being that the dormer windows should not be situated on the rear of the property and that the extension may also be intrusive and overbearing to the neighbouring property.

The consultation return would be submitted to SSDC in accordance with these concerns.

Somerset County Council.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
CONSTRUCTION OF A SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY (REVISED SCHEME
(PREVIOUS APP. 07/04740/CPO) AT LAND WEST OF HALFWAYS HOUSE, LIME
KILN LANE, HADSPEN, CASTLE CARY, SOMERSET, BA7 7LW
(GRID REF: 365658 – 132747**

Simon Osborne - Project Leader, Wessex Water, addressed the meeting on behalf of Wessex Water.

He stated that this application had been raised to supersede a previous application (PC/07/04740/CPO/BM - Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Wessex Water - Change of use and installation of below ground submerged aerated filter sewage treatment plant and above ground blower and control kiosks and vent stack, together with extension to roadside lay-by in highway verge opposite Rodge Cottages, Hadspen, Castle Cary, Somerset. (Grid Ref: 365655 – 132838) which had been approved by Somerset County Council in 2007. This was later referred to as ‘Plan A’

According to the Executive Summary of the application, the revised Sewage Treatment Facility is made necessary because of ‘Technical Constraints’ of the previously granted scheme - ‘Plan A’.

The Council was informed by Simon Osborne - Project Leader, Wessex Water that the term ‘Technical Constraints’ referred to the fact that the previously granted scheme – ‘Plan A’ had not allowed for the effluent output of Halfways (which is downhill from the scheme), even though the existing septic tank for the three properties resides in Halfways garden. He also informed the Council that the effluent output from Halfways could be pumped to the previously granted scheme - ‘Plan A’.

Mr. Osborne told the meeting that Wessex Water had obligations to install a level of treatment that was deemed appropriate, in this case there would be secondary treatment using reed beds.

Mr. Osborne, in answer to a question about the quality of the discharge from the treatment, said that there are set standards which would be closely monitored and assessed.

It was ascertained that the cost of the scheme will be in the region of £150,000 – to be paid for by Wessex Water. **Councillor Taylor** asked how many residents would actually benefit from the scheme. Mr. Osborne answered that the scheme involves 3 properties in Lower Hadspen with 9 residents using the facility. The most that this scheme would support would be 12 people. The current plans, upon which the application is based, also include a large concrete lay-by and a chain link fence.

Mr. Osborne, whilst agreeing that the cost of the scheme is high told the meeting that there is currently no alternative to the high cost of the project due to legislation covering such installations.

A long discussion followed with many objections being voiced from the floor. The objections covered the large cost involved, visual and environmental impact on the locality – particularly for residents in Hadspen, as well as the apparent inefficiency of the proposed scheme.

The question was also raised as to why if 'Plan A' had already been approved that now a second far more expensive and intrusive scheme should go ahead.

It was suggested that every house in Lower Hadspen would have to bear the environmental and visual costs now proposed. Mr. Osborne also agreed that the proposed scheme is a more industrial option.

Ken Elliott also raised the subject of the archaeological interest of the area of the proposed site and the affect this installation would have.

Councillor Taylor produced an example of a scheme where for a fraction of the cost it would be possible to install a single, replacement, domestic scheme for the 3 properties (complying with European & British Standards). This type of scheme would cause very little disruption to Residents of Hadspen during both installation and operation. These systems also appear to require less maintenance (some schemes only need de-sludging every 3 to 5 years).

Alan Whittaker cited the installation installed at his property which cost approximately £2500 and would service 6 people.

Mr. Osborne said that he would take the objections to the current proposed landscaping back to the planners.

The members of the Council then discussed the proposed scheme.

It was established that the proposal seemed out of proportion in terms of scale and cost for three properties. The efficacy of the scheme was also called into question considering the frequency of the de-sludging required necessitating a tanker visit every 90 to 120 days. The scheme also requires a routine inspection every 1 to 4 weeks.

Councillor Carter was in favour of the reed bed solution other than size of fence and general landscaping.

Councillor Jury and **Councillor Beech** both asked that the whole scheme should be reviewed as it appeared to be excessive to the actual need.

Councillor Taylor mentioned errors in the proposal such as gateway locations & location of proposal.

The councillors voted that the scheme should be rejected with the objections of Pitcombe Parish Council submitted to Somerset County Council, with reference to the above issues, on a similar basis to the objections to Scheme.

8. The Hamlet of Pitcombe – Issues.

Councillor Beech told the meeting that certain land has been cleared in Pitcombe but the question needs to be asked if permission should have been granted before the work was undertaken. Ian Bell asked that the use of the land in question to be made clear.

Councillor Beech will form a question to put to Mr. Mayer at District Council which will then be forwarded by **Councillor Taylor**

9. Reports.

10. Items for next Agenda

The Hamlet of Pitcombe – Issues.

11. Date, time and place of next meeting

To be held on Tuesday 10th February 2009 at 7.30pm in Hadspen Village Hall

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.

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
Hadspen on Tuesday 10th February 2009 at 7.30 pm**

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

In attendance: County Councillor Justin Robinson. Mr. George Bunting, Mr. John Knight.

1. Public Participation

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th January 2009

It was pointed out that the surname was missing from the list of residents, Cllr **Taylor** would correct this. It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December be adopted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 13th January 2009.

4. Apologies for absence. - Councillor Elliott, District Councillor Felton

5. The Hamlet of Pitcombe - Issues.

Councillor Beech reported that the Planning Enforcement Officer had been informed of actions on land in Pitcombe he would require evidence to pursue action.

6. Flooding – Cole and Pitcombe

Councillor Jury reported that he had met with Steve Marsh an hydraulist from the Environment Agency on the 29th January on site at Cole to discuss the hydraulics of the Pitt/Brue join. On the 3rd February I met on site with Peter Radford, the County Bridge Engineer and two of his colleagues Paul Tucker and Paul Nation. We discussed and visited both the Pitcombe and Cole bridges. Both the Environment Agency and the County Council bridges department are now aware of the flooding issues at Pitcombe and Cole and will investigate to establish what action they can take to help to mitigate the problems associated with the River Pitt when in spate.

7. Declarations of Interest. None

8. Planning Applications – For Consideration. None

9. Planning Applications – Determined.

08/04922/FUL – Chas. Clothier and Son Ltd. –Amendment to windows of dwelling on Plot 3 (Revised Application)(GR 367209/133472)

Location: Land East of Mill Lane Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0NX

Permission Granted

10. Reports.

Councillor Jury - Subsidence in Mill Lane has been reported to the county highways department and will be included on their next round of patching. We have been advised by the County Traffic Management section that temporary Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) will be present on Pitcombe Parish section of the A359 near to Sunny Hill for six periods of 2 weeks during 2009.

Mr. Knight reported subsidence on Wyke Road

Councillor Jury asked to correct an error in a statement he had made in item 8 (**The Telephone Box – Pitcombe**) at the Meeting of 11th November 2008. He stated he had received an offer from Mr. Andrew Jones to pay towards the sponsor fee “after the last meeting” – Councillor Jury had received the offer “on the day of the last meeting”.

11. Accounts for Payment:

Grant- Pitcombe News £150

Agreed

12. Correspondence:

S.S.D.C.	Temp.Closure of Bridleway WN22/2 at Pitcombe Order 2009
SCC Communications & Marketing	Safe in Your Community Information
S.C.C.	Explore Somerset
Somerset NHS	Re. Somerset Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
Avon & Somerset Constabulary	Re: Proposed Community Justice Panel – Wincanton, Castle Cary & Bruton.

13. Meetings/Workshops:

4 th February 2009	S.S.D.C.	Standards Committee
10 th February	S.S.D.C.	Area East Community Forum
11 th February 2009	S.S.D.C.	Joint Area Committee - East
24 th March 2009	S.S.D.C.	SSDC Annual Parish Meeting – Area East Town & Parish Councils

14. Items for the next agenda.

Hadspen Lagoon
Flooding

15. Next meeting.

Tuesday 10th March 2009, 7.30 p.m.

The Meeting was closed.

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

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 10th March 2009 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Beech, Carter, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker**
In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance: PCSO Tim Russell, District Councillor: Maili Felton
Residents of the Parish: Alan Whittaker, James Clark, John Knight

1. Public Participation

Resident John Knight asked who would be responsible for removing dead badgers from the roads in the Parish. The general consensus was that it would probably be the County Council but Councillor Taylor would make enquiries to Street Scene.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th February 2009

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

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 10th February 2009.

None

4. Apologies for absence:

None

5. Declarations of Interest:

None

6. Planning Applications – For Consideration.

South Somerset District Council.

Application No. 09/00260/FUL

Applicant: A.H. Farming.

Proposal: Change of use of part of building from equestrian use to light industrial and carrying out of internal and external alterations to convert from 5 units to 3 and the formation of a parking area (Retrospective Application)

Location: Priddles Hill Farm, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7NJ (GR: 367193/132735)

The members of the council were somewhat disturbed that this was a retrospective application. Councillor Taylor would speak to the planning officer Simon Fox regarding this matter – if possible the council would oppose this application.

Application No. 09/00753/TPO

Applicant: Mr. Philo

Proposal: Application to carry out tree surgery to 2 Lime trees known as T1 & T2 of the South Somerset District Council (Pitcombe No. 1) Tree Preservation Order 1985, and to carry out tree surgery works to various trees and fell a Poplar all within a conservation area.

Location: The Old School Church Lane Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PE (GR: 367193/132735)

Councillor Jury to speak to Martin Jennings as tree warden in Pitcombe otherwise no observations.

Application No. 09/00772/COU

Applicant: Mr. Richard Hollingbery

Proposal: Change of use of room in former dairy building to use as a research and development facility.

Location: Godminster Farm, Godminster Lane Bruton Somerset BA10 0NE (GR368403/132979)

No observations

7. Planning Information Only:

Application No. 08/05174/FUL

Applicant: Mr. G. Mayers

Proposal: The erection of a first floor extension and and two dormer windows to rear of building

Location: 1 Pitcombe Hill, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0PH. (GR 36726/133140)

8. SSDC -Planning Applications – Determined.

None

9. Somerset District Council – Regulation Committee Meeting 3rd March 2009

Residents James Clark and Alan Whittaker reported that they had attended this meeting and had been very disappointed at both the conduct of the meeting as well as the outcome. The planning issue pertaining to Wessex water was the last item on the agenda at the end of a long meeting. Councillors showed no interest in the matter and voted unanimously to approve the scheme despite vehement opposition from the residents of Hadspen and the overlooking of comments made in writing by the Parish Council.

Councillor Taylor reminded the meeting of the history of the application. He also had a copy of the report from the Regulation Committee of the County Council. He proposed to the Parish Council that he would write a letter to the County Council as the report had expurgated and

misreported the response and letters of opposition from both residents of Hadspen and the Parish Council. He would also be writing to **County Councillor Justin Robinson**.

10. Pitcombe Flooding

Councillor Jury reported that there had been a successful meeting held on Feb. 21st for all those in the Parish who had been directly affected by the flooding. He also reported that residents have now formed their own flood action group and have been told that they will receive the support of the Parish Council. **Councillor Taylor** asked that the group be reminded that if they are to hold a 'Parish' meeting then correct procedures will have to be followed. **Councillor Jury** told the meeting that the group are aware of necessary procedures.

11. Hamlet of Pitcombe Issues - No report

12. Hadspen Lagoon

Councillor Taylor showed the meeting recent photo's that he had taken of the lagoon. These showed the state of the now redundant liner. Asbestos sheeting has been dumped adjacent to the perimeter of the lagoon on the highway. In trying to determine who was responsible for control of the lagoon, now it is closed, **Councillor Taylor** had been in touch with the Environment Agency. He had received a reply to his email from Mr. Dave Sharpe, the environment officer. It appears that the Environment Agency is no longer responsible for the ongoing care or supervision of the area involved now that the lagoon is closed.

13. Reports

Portfolio Holders:

Councillor Jury told the meeting that County Highways will provide a sign for the Village Hall. A charge will be made which The Council agreed to pay.

The patching has been completed in Mill Lane. Details of flooding from blocked drains in Mill Lane have been forwarded to County Council.

The overhanging hedge in Mill Lane still needs to be cut back. **Councillor Jury** will write on behalf of the Parish Council to the owners asking them to cut back the hedge.

Councillor Jury was asked about the large amount of standing water leading onto the road at the end of Mr. John Griffin's field in Cole.

Community Support Police Officer Tim Russell raised the following points:

To be on the lookout for suspicious vehicles and take the registration numbers if possible.

There have been recent thefts of livestock – both lambs and cattle – in the Wincanton area.

Trailers and 4x4's have also been stolen recently in the Wincanton area.

There are cold callers in the area. Please be wary of anyone who calls without an invite, offering to carry out work on roofs and/or gardens. Do not allow them to start any work and please call the Police on 0845 456 7000.

Review your shed security – crime prevention advice available from your local PCSO.

Councillor Taylor reported that he had seen scrambling bikes up by the quarry.

PCSO Russell replied that the field will soon be planted with maize by Mr. Garrett which will prevent bikes using the field in the future.

Chairman:

Councillor Taylor told the meeting that there have been three applications for the post of Parish Clerk. Because the Parish Council Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings two of the applicants are unable to do the job. The third applicant lives too far away. **Councillor Jury** will re-advertise.

14. Accounts for Payment

SALC – Membership	£87.18
Blackmore Vale	£32.55
Advertisement	

Approved

15. Correspondence

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

Somerset CC Environment Directorate	Authorisation for MG Car Club – Kimber Classic Trial on 18 th April 2009
SCC Communications & Marketing	Investing In Somerset
C.P.R.E	Somerset Matters - Newsletter
SSDC	Dispensations Guidance.
SCC	Focus on Somerset Transport

16. Meetings Workshops

March 2009	Somerset County Council	Regulation Committee (Planning)
11 th March 2009	S.S.D.C.	Joint Area Committee - East

17. Items for Next Agenda

Parish Clerk.
SCC – Regulation Committee.

18. Date, time and place of next meeting:

To be held on Tuesday April 14th 2009 at 7.30 in Hadspen Village Hall.

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.

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 14th April 2009 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Councillors: **Elliot, Taylor.**

In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor.**

In attendance: Mrs R.J. Morgan, John Knight.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Beech, Councillor Hartnell, Councillor Jury,
Councillor Whittaker.

As there were insufficient councillors present to achieve a quorum Councillor Taylor apologised to the Attendees on behalf of the Parish Council and brought the meeting to a close.

Date, time and place of next meeting:

To be held on Tuesday 12th May 2009 at 7.30 in Hadspen Village Hall.

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.

Pitcombe Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 12th May 2009 following the Annual Parish Meeting.**

Present:

Councillors: **Beech, Carter, Elliot, Hartnell, Jury, Taylor, Whittaker and the Clerk,
Mrs. R. Morgan**

In the Chair: **Councillor Taylor**

In attendance: County Councillor Justin Robinson, District Councillor Maili Felton
PCSO Tim Russell
Residents of the Parish: Mr. K. Elliot, Mr. I. Bell, Mr. & Mrs H. Craig.

1. Election of Chairman for the year 2009 – 2010

Councillor Taylor stated that it was with regret that due to business pressures he felt unable to continue further as either Chairman or as a member of the Parish Council. His resignation was submitted and accepted by the Parish Council.

Nominations for the role of Chairman were requested. Mike Beech was proposed by Councillor Jury, seconded by Councillor Hartnell and voted in unanimously by the remaining Councillors as new Chairman.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman for the year 2009 – 2010

Councillor Elliot stated that she was happy to remain as Vice-Chairman. All Councillors voted unanimously for her to remain in post.

3. Public Participation

No issues were raised.

4. Minutes of the Meetings held on 10th March 2009 and 14th April 2009

It was agreed that the minutes of the meetings held on 10th March and 14th April be adopted as a true and accurate record.

5. Matters Arising

Wessex Water project

Councillor Jury reported that the project had been sanctioned. Confirmation of project timescales was now awaited.

Attendance of Parish Council Meetings.

After some discussion it was agreed that there was no fail safe method of ensuring sufficient members would be in attendance to ensure a quorum was in place.

- 6. Apologies for absence:**
None
- 7. Declarations of Interest:**
None
- 8. Planning Applications – For Consideration.**

South Somerset District Council.

Application No. 08/01062/LBC
Applicant: Mrs. C. Carter
Proposal: The rebuilding of a collapsed retaining wall to support a lean-to garage as permitted by 08/00750/ FUL.
Location: Honeywick House, Honeywick Road, Honeywick, Castle Cary, Somerset BA7 7LP.
(GR 365268/132510)

The members of the Parish Council were advised that this application had since been approved by the District Council

Application No. 08/03014/FUL
Applicant:
Proposal: The erection of a replacement dwelling and re-alignment of existing on site access drive
Location: The Aviaries Redlynch Road Bruton Somerset BA9 8JD
(GR 368796/132014)

The Parish Council agreed it had no comments to make regarding this application.

Application No. 09/01226/FUL
Applicant: Mr. Andrew Drysdale
Proposal: Re-build workshop and re-roof lean-to shed with double roman clay tiles
Location: Pitcombe Farmhouse Pitcombe Hill Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PF
(GR 367216/133059)

A letter had been sent by Mr. Clothier to the Planning Officer raising the issue of the proposed rebuild being rather elaborate for its purported function and that there was concern that at a later stage it may be converted into a dwelling.

No comments had been made by Parish Councillors and it was agreed that no objections would be raised.

Application No. 09/01227/CON
Applicant: Mr. Andrew Drysdale
Proposal: The demolition and re-building of an outbuilding within a conservation area
Location: Pitcombe Farmhouse Pitcombe Hill Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PF
(GR 367216/133059)

The Parish Council had no observations to make.

9. Planning Applications Granted.

South Somerset District Council.

Application No. 08/05174/FUL
Applicant: Mr. G. Mayers
Proposal: The erection of a first floor extension and two dormer windows to rear of building
Location: 1 Pitcombe Hill, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0PH. (GR 36726/133140)

Granted with Conditions. The Parish Council had had some objections to this application. District Councillor Felton reported that as a result one change had been made to the application. There had been no further planning issues reported to her.

Application No. 09/00260/FUL
Applicant: A.H. Farming.
Proposal: Change of use of part of building from equestrian use to light industrial and carrying out of internal and external alterations to convert from 5 units to 3 and the formation of a parking area (Retrospective Application)
Location: Priddles Hill Farm, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7NJ (GR: 367193/132735)

Granted with Conditions.

Application No. 09/00772/COU
Applicant: Mr. Richard Hollingbery
Proposal: Change of use of room in former dairy building to use as a research and development facility.
Location: Godminster Farm, Godminster Lane Bruton Somerset BA10 0NE
(GR368403/132979)

Granted with Conditions.

Application No. 09/00753/TPO
Applicant: Mr. Philo
Proposal: Application to carry out tree surgery to 2 Lime trees known as T1 & T2 of the South Somerset District Council (Pitcombe No. 1) Tree Preservation Order 1985, and to carry out tree surgery works to various trees and fell a Poplar all within a conservation area.
Location: The Old School Church Lane Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PE
(GR: 367193/132735)

Granted with conditions.

10. Pitcombe Flooding

Councillor Jury reported that he acted as the liaison between the Community Flood Action Group and the Parish Council.

The following update was presented:-

- a. A DEFRA grant was being sought to fund property level flood protection. The Parish Council would be kept informed of progress.
- b. He was still awaiting a response from SCC bridges department on all issues surrounding Cole and Pitcombe bridges.
- c. Roger Meecham of the District Council was of the opinion that an upstream protection scheme would not be feasible. However he considered it possible that a community wall protection scheme around the flooded properties would afford protection and he will be looking at this on his return from leave at the end of May. The DEFRA grant would also allow for further investigation of this option.

d. He advised County Councillor Justin Robinson, and District Councillor Maili Felton that the flood action group will be seeking the support of both in the groups aims.

11. Hamlet of Pitcombe Issues

The Chairman reported that the whole issue of this item revolved around the rules appertaining to its being a conservation area.

A watching brief was being kept on the land adjacent to the phone box close to the railway embankment where once again works were in progress. The Clerk was asked to contact James Mayer to ask him to look at this when he was next in the area.

12. Hadspen Lagoon

Councillor Taylor stated further to his update at the previous Annual Parish Meeting that this was a problem that no agency wished to own.

13. Equality & Human Rights Commission.

It was agreed that the Chairman would circulate the document received for all Councillors to read .

14. Reports

Community Support Police Officer Tim Russell raised the following points:

- a. The motorbike incident in the quarry had been investigated. Access on to the land had now been further barred with the entrance being blocked and the field in question having been ploughed and crops sown. Any further occurrence should be reported immediately to the police on 0845 456 7000.
- b. Priorities revolved around household burglaries.
- c. The Parish Council were reminded that Thursday this week was 'Environmental Day'

County Councillors

County Councillor Robinson felt that as elections were imminent he should make no official statement on this occasion. He did however wish to thank Pitcombe Parish Council, and Councillor Taylor in particular, for their welcome and support.

District Councillors

District Councillor Felton had nothing further to report.

Portfolio Holders:

Councillor Jury reported:-

- a. Sunny Hill Lane had been surface dressed.
- b. Meredith Drysdale had reported that the finial on the direction sign at Pitcombe Rock was missing. This was being pursued.
- c. The trench dug to resolve the electricity failure several months ago at Old Pitcombe Hill had still not been properly reinstated. This was also being pursued.

d. A question had been raised responsibility for the young beech trees between Grove Cross and Castle Cary. These were covered in ivy which needed to be removed. Councillor Elliott agreed to investigate.

e. Councillor Taylor reported that he had been contacted regarding payment for the Speed Indicators and had advised Highways that this was nothing to do with the Parish Council .

f. Once again it was agreed that it should be minuted that there had been problems with road markings (arrows etc) for the school walk. Promises had been made that these would be cleared away after the event but again this had not happened.

15. Accounts for Payment

Subscription to the Community Council for Somerset	£30.00
Allianz Insurance – Policy renewal	£338.07

These were approved.

16. Correspondence

SALC	Clerk's Salaries & Mileage Allowances 2008-9
SSDC	South Somerset News – Spring 09
SSDC	Tourism News Bulletin
SSDC	Joint Area East – Planning Sub Committee - 29 th April 2009
Wiltshire County Council	Various Traffic Regulation Orders – South West of Wiltshire
MG Car Club	Notification of Classic Trial - Sat 18 th April
The Ramblers' Association	Legs Explore – Countryside Adventures for Children & Parents
SCC - Community Governance	Promoting 2009 Elections
Somerset Highways	Surface dressing programme 2009 – South Somerset Area.
SSDC	Youth Workers
Equality & Human Rights Commission	Public Sector Duties

17. Meetings Workshops

March 2009	Somerset County Council	Regulation Committee (Planning)
11 th March 2009	S.S.D.C.	Joint Area Committee - East

18. Meeting dates 2009/10

It was agreed that these would remain as the second Tuesday in every month.

19. Items for Next Agenda

Accident Hotspot
Pitcombe flooding

20. Date, time and place of next meeting:

To be held on Tuesday June 9th 2009 at 7.30 in Hadspen Village Hall.

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.

Pitcombe Parish

Minutes of the Pitcombe Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2009 in Hadspen Village Hall

Present:

In the Chair: Councillor Michael L.J. Taylor, Chairman of the Parish Council

Councillors: M. Beech, J. Elliot, N. Hartnell, D. Jury, A. Whittaker and C. Carter.
County Councillor J. Robinson, District Councillor M. Felton and PCSO
Tim Russell

Parish Clerk: Mrs. R. Morgan

Residents of the parish: Mr. K. Elliott, Mr. I. Bell, Mr. & Mrs. Craig

1. Opening remarks and welcome

Councillor Mike Taylor opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.
Rosie Morgan was welcomed as the new Parish Clerk.

2. To receive the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8th April 2008.

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

3. Matters arising

Councillor Taylor reported on the following:-

Hadspen Lagoon

Despite having contacted the various agencies, none were interested in pursuing the deterioration of the fencing further. The lining of the lagoon had however now been weighted down with stones and earth which was all that could be hoped for in the short term.

Speed Limits

There had been no support from Highways in making any changes to the speed limits currently in place.

4. Report on the work of the Parish Council for the year April 2008 - March 2009

Councillor Taylor gave a brief overview of the Council's work during the past year which had been relatively quiet.

Planning: There had been a number of planning applications during the year which had given rise to strong comments from the Parish Council. These comments had been noted

by District Planning but no further action had been taken. District Councillor Felton explained the scheme of delegation in place however Councillor Taylor felt that the opinion of the Parish Council did not seem to count. It was suggested that the Parish Council consider inviting the Planning Officer to attend a future Parish Council meeting for discussion on planning issues.

Finance : Councillor Taylor presented the year end account which is attached to these minutes . This shows a healthy year end balance.

Councillor Taylor thanked members of the public for their contribution to council meetings and acknowledged the considerable support that County Councillor Robinson and District Councillor Felton had given to the Council.

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

None received.

6. **Open Discussion**

It was generally noted that the Parish Council had managed to keep the precept element of the Community Charge low this year.

Mr. Elliot asked why the Pitcombe flooding article in the April edition of the Pitcombe News was under the Parish Council section. Councillor Jury explained that he was acting as the liaison between the Parish Council and the flood group . He stated that the magazine was not an official document of the Parish Council and that all matters regarding the Parish Council's involvement with the flood group were correctly recorded in the minutes of the council.

Councillor Taylor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at approximately 8.15 pm.

Mrs. R.J. Morgan
Clerk to Pitcombe Parish Council
May 15th 2009

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 9th June 2009 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Carter, Hartnell, and the Clerk, Mrs. R. Morgan
In the Chair: Councillor Beech

In attendance: District Councillor Maili Felton

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Elliott, Whittaker and Jury.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2009 and the Annual Parish Council Meeting of 12th May 2009

The Clerk reported that a suitable change had been made at the request of Mr. Taylor to say that his resignation was due to business pressures.

This amendment was agreed and both sets of minutes accepted as a correct record of the meetings.

Note: The Clerk reported that the financial report presented at the May Annual Parish meeting needed to be verified before it could be accepted and published. See item 6 below.

4. Matters Arising

a. Parish Council Vacancy

Councillor Beech reported that the statutory notice had been posted on Parish Notice Boards and in the Pitcombe News regarding the vacancy. If an election was not requested by 12th June 2009 then the Parish Council could proceed with co-option.

Some interest had been expressed.

It was agreed that those interested should email the Parish Clerk to formally declare their interest.

b. Parish Clerk

Councillor Beech advised those present that Mrs Morgan in her role of Parish Clerk was the Responsible Financial Officer and Proper Officer of the Parish Council undertaking 16 hours per month. A formal contract was in place.

5. Standing Orders

A copy of the standard document had been circulated to everybody for consideration.

It was agreed that as a formally agreed and signed copy of this statutory document could not be located, it was timely to review its status and make any necessary amendments.

As only three Councillors were present, it was agreed that discussion and acceptance of the document be deferred until the August meeting. It was imperative that all had a chance to fully consider the terms. The Clerk agreed to circulate to all a brief covering those clauses in need of insertions and amendments in line with legislation.

Action: Clerk.

Registration of Interest Forms were also needed as the District Council had reported to the Clerk that several were missing. It was agreed that as these forms needed to be regularly reviewed to note any changes it was also an opportune time to circulate a copy to all for completion. Action: Clerk.

The Clerk reported that Financial Regulations needed to be reviewed and formally adopted by the Parish Council. The Clerk agreed to circulate the standard template to all. This would be tackled once the Standing Orders had been completed.

Action: Clerk.

6. Parish Portfolios for 2009/10

a. Councillor Carter reported that thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Drysdale, the public footpath from Pitcombe Farm House to the Church was being cut regularly through the season.

The Clerk agreed to contact the Countryside Ranger to confirm the status regarding maintenance.

Some discussion followed and it was agreed that it would be within the remit of the Parish Council to offer a small consideration by means of a thank you gift to the gentleman responsible.

Action: Councillor Carter agreed to investigate what might be a suitable offering.

b. Councillor Beech apologised for the notice in the Pitcombe News stating there was money available for funding of suitable Parish projects. This had been incorrectly reported.

Discussion followed regarding an informal approach made by the Pitcombe Flood Action group. It was agreed that it was far too early in the project for there to be any consideration of donations. The Clerk pointed out that any such requests must be formally submitted to the Parish Council for consideration in line with Standing Orders, the allotted time for this being November when the next year's budget was to be discussed.

Councillors Hartnell and Carter suggested that the Group should also approach County and District Councillors and any other appropriate funding bodies for financial support. Councillor Beech agreed to relay this back to the Group.

c. Councillor Beech raised the subject of the numerous notices and fly posters appearing on the Parish Council Notice Boards. The Councillors present agreed that notices should be community based and relate to local events. It was agreed that padlocks be installed on all Notice Boards with a suitable notice giving details of who to contact for the insertion of such notices.

d. Re Pitcombe Flooding. Councillor Jury had reported to the Clerk that there had been no major developments since the last meeting of the Flood Action group. A progress meeting was planned for July 4th.

e. Re Highways. Councillor Jury had also advised the Clerk that since the May meeting he had requested the clearance of drains and gullies in Lime Kiln Lane and a patching repair in Honeywick Hill. The work requested had been acknowledged and put in hand.

7. Report from the Parish Clerk

a. The Clerk reported that there was a lot of work that needed to be addressed to bring the Parish Council up to date. This had been borne out by the Internal Audit recently completed for the period 2007/8. The lack of a Parish Clerk for such a long period had not helped the situation.

b. The most pressing area was that of Parish Council Finances. The Clerk was currently in correspondence with both Barclays Bank and Scottish Widows with regard to operation of the accounts and mandates in place. Progress was finally being made with the former and a Bank Mandate for the latter was presented to the Parish Council for agreement and authorisation. This would allow the Clerk to operate the account, to be a signatory on the account and receive statements. Councillors Beech and Elliott were already signatories on the account. This was agreed and signed by Councillor Beech. Councillor Elliot was to be contacted by the Clerk for completion of the documentation.

c. The Clerk reported that the most serious omission was that of Internal and External Audits reports. An annual internal audit is a statutory requirement. This had not taken place for two years. As a result, with Councillor Beech's agreement, this had been put in train for the financial year 2007/8 as a matter of urgency. The completed report was provided to all present and would be sent to those unable to attend as there were some serious procedural inadequacies of which the Parish Council should be aware .

d. Similarly the external Audits for 2007/8 and 2008/9, required by law, had not been completed. The Clerk had presented copies of the report for 2007/8 in advance of the meeting to all Councillors. The status of the report was discussed and the document authorised. The Clerk stated that there were likely to be financial repercussions for the delay in submission.

e. The Clerk would now commence work on the External and Internal Audit reports for 2008/9. This was unfortunately dependent on the availability of the appropriate bank statements.

f. The Clerk asked if anyone had a copy of the budget prepared for 2009/10 with the associated precept bid. Nobody present had a copy so it was thought best to start from scratch and prepare a new budget for the remainder of the financial year to include a number of additional items e.g. internal and external audits fees.

Action: The Clerk to prepare a draft for discussion at the next meeting.

g. The Clerk had prepared a draft asset register. This was reviewed as assets needed to be confirmed and the appropriate insurance cover provided. See the attached which details all current assets, their insurance status and action required. Action: the Clerk.

8. Report from the District Councillor.

Mrs. Felton reported that there was a new County Councillor, Mrs. Anna Groskop, following the elections of the previous week.

The Clerk would advise both Mrs. Groskop and Mrs. Felton of the meeting dates of Pitcombe Parish Council for the remainder of the financial year. Action: Clerk.

Mrs Felton reminded everyone of the Planning Workshop with Simon Fox arranged for 6.00pm on June 11th in Churchfields, Wincanton. Mr. Beech confirmed he would be representing Pitcombe Parish Council.

9. Review of Planning Applications

For consideration :

09/01792/FUL (Mayers)

The erection of a first floor extension to rear of dwelling (revised application – amended roof lights/windows).

1 Pitcombe Hill, Pitcombe

There were no objections to this application.

09/01795/FUL (Mr. J. De Bosdri)

The installation of a water storage tank.

Grove Cross Barn, Cary Hill, Castle Cary

The Parish Council agreed that the water storage tank as currently proposed would be visibly obtrusive from the road and would impact on Grove cottages. It was suggested that it be sunk in to the ground to minimise its impact and that screening be used to reduce its visible impact.

The Clerk to advise Planning accordingly.

Pending consideration by SSDC.

Applications:

08/03014/FUL (The Aviaries)

09/01226/FUL (Drysdale)

09/01227/CON (Drysdale)

were all pending consideration by SSDC.

Planning granted.

08/01062/LBC (Mrs. Carter).

10. Accounts for payment

The following accounts were presented for payment and authorised: -

Remuneration for Clerk for May 2009 £221.98 (Cheque No 245)

Two non controversial late bills for payment: -

Internal Audit fee for 2007/8 £80.00 (Cheque No 244)

Village Hall Booking Fee for the period May 2008- May 2009 £130.00 (Cheque No 243).

11. Pitcombe Flooding

Mr. Jury had asked the Clerk to report that there had been no major developments. The next Flood Action Group meeting was 4th July 2009.

12. Pitcombe issues.

Following last month's Parish Council meeting the Clerk had advised James Mayer, the Enforcement Officer of the activity on the embankment on Paul Jennings's land. James Mayer had visited the site and had discussed both the work around the barn and the embankment. The former would be subject to a planning application, the latter would be the subject of a meeting between Mr. Mayer, Mr. Jennings's Agent and Mr. Jennings himself the following week.

The Parish Council had been asked their view of the latter, whether this had always been a footpath as was being claimed and whether there was any photographic evidence of its status.

The Parish Council's view was that the embankment had been used for the grazing of horses, the only 'path' there being a track used by the horses. Photographic evidence would be sent to Mr. Mayer.

Action: The Clerk to advise Mr. Mayer.

13. Accident Hotspot

It was agreed that this item be deferred.

14. Correspondence

SSDC	Area east Bulletin for May 2009
SSDC	Speed Indicator Device results for Feb/march 2009
SSDC	Village of the Year 2009 Competition
SSDC	Open Air Theatre Event

The Clerk asked if she could email appropriate email correspondence to all Councillors and circulate at each meeting any appropriate hard copy correspondence received. This was agreed.

15. Meetings /Workshops

SSDC Planning	11 th June 2009	Planning Workshop with Simon Gale.
South Somerset Together	14 th June 2009	AGM
Grant funding workshop	22 nd June 2009	Grant Applications made easy
Rural services network	26 th June 2009	
SSDC	30 th June 2009	Area East Community Forum

16. Any other Business

None.

17. Dates of next meetings:

It was agreed that these would remain as the second Tuesday in every month.

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday July 14th at 7.30pm in Hadspen Village Hall and will cover Planning only, in the absence of the Clerk who will be on holiday.

The meeting was closed at 20.45.

Mrs. R. J. Morgan
Clerk to the Parish Council
17th June 2009

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 11th August 2009 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Carter, Hartnell, Jury, Elliott, Whittaker and the Clerk, Mrs. R. Morgan

In the Chair: Councillor Beech

In attendance: County and District Councillor Anna Groskop and one member of the Public.

Note: There were no questions from the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from PCSO Dan Arthur.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th June 2009

These were accepted by those present as a correct record.

4. Report from County and District Councillor Mrs. Anna Groskop

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Groskop to the meeting.

She advised those present that she had taken on the role of shadowing the County Finance Secretary and was looking at saving money wherever possible.

Recruitment was one area to be curtailed. The District Council would also be following suit.

5. Matters Arising

a. Parish Council Vacancy

Mr. John Knight had formally expressed a willingness to join the Parish Council. His co-option was discussed and agreement reached that he should be asked to come along to the next meeting so this could be officially carried out.

b. Registration of Interest Forms.

All councillors present had reviewed their forms and had updated them.

Action: the Clerk to submit to South Somerset District Council.

c. Parish Council Liaison with Pitcombe News

Councillor Jury kindly agreed to take this on.

6. Parish Councillor Portfolios for 2009/10.

Following discussion changes were agreed as indicated in the attached chart. Updates were reported as follows:-

Councillor Carter agreed to action the 'thank you' to Terry Crane for his continued work in keeping the public footpath clear from Pitcombe Farm House to the Church.

Once again with the apple season ahead, Councillor Elliott reported the usual influx of gypsy caravans in to the area. It had been noted that ownership of the Apple Orchard had changed.

Councillor Jury had reported several potholes to Highways for action.

Several incidents of Footpath blockages (Ridge Lane and Lancombe Lane) had been noted. Councillor Carter agreed to provide the Clerk with the Footpath references. Action: The Clerk to report these to the District Council.

The Chairman stated that the appearance of a Static caravan on Mr. Hobhouse's land had been reported to him. Action: The Clerk to report this to James Meyer of SSDC.

The Chairman also reported that the problem discussed previously regarding Mr. Jennings' embankment path had been taken up on behalf of the Parish Council by Planning Enforcement. Reinstatement of the land had been agreed by the owner. The Parish Council awaited developments.

7. Standing Orders

It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Standing Orders as presented. These were signed on behalf of the Parish Council.

8. Report from the Parish Clerk

a. Banking Arrangements.

The Parish Council now had access to the monies in its Barclays current account and its savings account with Scottish Widows. This meant that statements would now be regularly submitted to the Clerk and spend more closely monitored. The Clerk was signatory to the Scottish Widows account allowing transfer between it and the Barclays Account. No action had taken place on this account for some 4 years so little interest had been earned. Councillors Beech and Elliott were signatories to the Barclays Account along with the Clerk who would only sign cheques when there was a clash of Interest (e.g. Councillor Elliott sits on the Village Hall Committee therefore cannot sign cheques to them).

b. Internal and External Audits

i) Copies of reports as a result of submissions for 2007/8 had been provided to each Councillor. There had been some serious breaches of protocol which were now being rectified as a matter of urgency. The delay (over one year) in submission of these papers had brought about a higher charge from the Auditors.

ii) The external Audit papers for 2008/9 were presented to the Parish Council for their agreement. This was given and the papers signed. The Clerk reported that an internal audit of this year's account was booked for later the same week.

c. Asset Register

Following the previous review of the Asset register, the Clerk had contacted the Parish Council Insurance Company who required a further £29.04 to cover the increase in value of the Notice Boards. See payments.

d. Budget for 2009/10

The Clerk had prepared a budget for 2009/10 and had been circulated to all for comment. Each item was examined and discussed. There had been a number of key items of spend missing e.g. the new Notice Board to be situated outside the Village Hall (approx £1200.00), secondary internal and external audit fees (approx £280.00), a 'Village Hall' sign (£100.00). The budget for 2009/10 therefore now stood at £7988.07. This was agreed.

The Clerk therefore recommended that no further outlay be discussed for this financial year as it was still uncertain what financial commitments may appear and there was only £1300 of unallocated funds.

Copy of revised budget attached.

It was also unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would not claim Parish Council allowances for this year.

Councillor Hartnell agreed to provide a quote for the installation of the new Notice Board.

9. Review of Planning Applications

For consideration in August :

None.

Pending consideration:-

08/03014/FUL – (The Aviaries) Out of parish.

Planning granted.

09/01795/FUL (Mr. J. De Bosdri) with conditions

09/01226/FUL (Drysdale)

09/01227/CON (Drysdale)

09/02282/FUL (Redfern)

The Chairman reported that the planning seminar set up by Mrs. Felton had been very interesting and helpful. It had put another perspective on planning applications. In future where a Parish Council had made observations /were unsupportive of an application, consultation would take place with both the County and District Councillors and the Parish Council advised of the decision taken and the reasons for that decision. Past history was not to be taken in to account so each application was to be viewed as a fresh application, the same applied for retrospective applications.

10. Accounts for payment

The following accounts were presented for payment and authorised: -

Remuneration for Clerk for June and July 2009 £394.09 (Cheque No 248)

Insurance Premium Increase £29.04 (Cheque No 247)

External Audit fee for 2007/8 £207.00 (Cheque No 246)

Village Hall Booking Fee for the period June 2009- March 2010 £100.00 (Cheque No 249).

11. Pitcombe Flooding

Councillor Jury reported that the Flood Action Group had been unsuccessful in their first bid for grant aid. Their second round bid was currently being considered.

Support was being given by David Heath MP as well as by Mrs Groskop. SSDC funding had been granted for river clearance of 'weed trees' . This was taking place 22nd/23rd August by Martin Jennings, the Tree Warden, and local residents.

Should a DEFRA grant be forthcoming, DEFRA would support and underwrite an approved scheme.

The Flood action group would be looking for financial support from the Parish Council. A business case would be drawn up and put before the Parish Council in November when next year's budget was to be discussed.

12. Correspondence

SSDC	Doing it Right – Guide for Councillors
SSDC	South Somerset News
SSDC	South Somerset Local Development Framework
SSDC	Spring Bulb Planting Initiative – the Village Hall Committee had expressed an Interest. The Clerk to pursue.
Highways Agency	An interesting maintenance Schedule

The Clerk circulated a hard copy to all.

13. Meetings /Workshops

June 23 rd 2009	Special Meeting JAC
July 8 th 2009	JAC East meeting
July 29 th 2009	Community Planning Sub- Committee

14. Any other Business

- i) It was requested that the pond at Hadspen Farm be included as an agenda item for the next meeting.
- ii) Following a reported complaint by a member of the public, three clear days notice was confirmed for the convening of a parish council meeting. The Clerk to email the agenda to both the Chairman and Councillor Jury to ensure that agenda's went up on all notice boards on time.

15. Dates of next meetings:

It was agreed that these would remain as the second Tuesday in every month. The meeting was closed at 20.50.

Mrs. R. J. Morgan
Clerk to the Parish Council
28th August 2009

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 8th September 2009 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Carter, Hartnell, Whittaker and the Clerk, Mrs. R. Morgan. Mr. John Knight joined the Parish Council after item 4.
In the Chair: Councillor Beech

In attendance: County and District Councillor Anna Groskop and one member of the Public.

Note: There were no questions from the public but see item regarding Flood Action Group .

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Jury and Elliott and District Councillor Maili Felton.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Carter declared an interest in item 10 i) Planning Application 09/03191/FUL.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11th August 2009

These were accepted by those present as a correct record and authorised.

4. The co-option of Mr. John Knight on to Pitcombe Parish Council

Discussion regarding the interest shown by Mr. Knight in being co-opted on to the Parish Council had been discussed at the previous meeting.

Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Hartnell, proposed that Mr. Knight be co-opted on to the Parish Council. This was given unanimous approval. Mr. Knight was then invited to join the Council.

Acceptance of Office papers were signed and completed Declaration of Interest forms accepted. **Action:** Clerk to forward the latter to SSDC Democratic Services .

5. Reports

From County and District Councillor Mrs. Anna Groskop

The police were seeking to achieve safer, stronger neighbourhoods. Rural areas had been hit hard by crime and people were being encouraged to keep their doors locked and to use chains when opening the door. She encouraged the over 60s in particular to attend the free 'shows' being put on on October 8th 10.00am and 14.30pm at the Constitutional Club in Castle Cary. A poster was handed to the Parish Council for display.

Mrs. Groskop also advised the Parish Council of a new scheme whereby the perpetrator of a crime faced his victim to apologise and to recompense the person for their crime.

Mrs. Groskop then excused herself from the meeting.

From PCSO Tim Russell arrived at 7.50pm. His report has been inserted at the appropriate point of the agenda.

Youths were thought to have been behind an incident of criminal damage at Bottom Barn Farm. He urged all parishioners to advise the police of any suspicious activities/ people touring the area. He once again advised people to keep their sheds and doors locked.

In respect of the Ansford School Walk, this would take place on 23rd September between 9.30 and 15.30. Two PCSO's would be once again cycling the route with the party to keep an eye on behaviour. The deputy head of the school had made a courtesy call to the Chairman and had been advised of the concern expressed about road markings that had appeared the previous year. PCSO Tim Russell would enquire if his beat manager, Sara Stephenson, had managed to speak to the Head Master following her discussion with the Chairman.
The PCSO then excused himself from the meeting.

6. Matters Arising

a. See report above regarding the Ansford School Walk.

b. Hadspen Farm Pond.

Councillor Whittaker expressed the view that although Hadspen Pond at the moment was clear of debris, its ongoing condition needed to be monitored as if allowed to become overgrown it became a source of local flooding.

Action: The Clerk to ascertain how this problem could be contained and via what agency. Councillor Whittaker to brief the clerk.

7. Parish Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

a. The addendum to the Standing Orders drafted by the Clerk to cover urgent Planning applications was approved and signed.

Action: Parish Councillors to advise the Clerk if they were to be away for longer than a week so that any Planning Circular could be noted accordingly to avoid any undue delays.

b. Draft Financial Regulations had been passed to all Councillors prior to the meeting. These had been taken from the standard (NALC) set and amended where necessary to take account of local procedures. All Councillors were happy with the draft.

Action: Clerk to present formally at the next meeting for their adoption.

8. Clerk's report

a. Vat of £37.84 had been reclaimed up to 31.03.09. The refund was expected shortly.

b. The Internal Audit report for 08/09 had been copied to all prior to the meeting. The Clerk urged everyone to read it if they had not yet had the time to do so as there were some serious breaches of protocol. Steps had already been taken to rectify some of these e.g. outstanding audits had now been completed, a cash book system, a budget for 2009/10 and the close monitoring of payments were now all in place and Standing Orders and Financial Regulations had been or were in the process of being adopted.

The Clerk advised that payments were being monitored against budget and an up to date statement would be prepared and prepared for the next meeting. A payment

schedule for Parish Council donations would also be prepared for approval at the next meeting . **Action: Clerk.**

c. November's meeting would be looking at the budget for 2010/11 and the precept bid required. The Clerk asked everyone to consider this. All village bodies would be contacted asking them to put forward their business cases for financial support.

9. Parish Councillor Portfolios

Updates were reported as follows:-

Footpaths : Councillor Carter reported that she had passed across her portfolio to Councillor Whittaker who advised the Parish Council that she would be sharing Footpaths with Councillor Knight, splitting the area between them. Councillor Carter kindly presented copies of the Footpath map for the Parish to them and the Clerk. The Clerk had actioned the footpath problems from the last meeting (blockages on Ridge Lane and Lancombe Lane)but had not had any feedback. Mr. Jennings who was in attendance stated the fallen tree was on his land and he would remove it as soon as possible.

A new style had been installed on Footpath 22/12 but no-one knew anything about it. Councillor Whittaker asked the Clerk to ascertain who the ranger was who dealt with this area so that they could be put in contact. **Action: Clerk.**

Environment:

Councillor Whittaker reported that someone had been seen throwing Cat Litter in to the River. It was noted this needed to be reported formally to Councillor Elliott to report to Street scene .

Roads

Councillor Jury had asked the Parish Council to note the following:

- a. the potholes on the Hadspen to Cole road had been marked by Highways and were awaiting repair.
- b. Gullies in Hadspen had been cleared.

Planning

a. The appearance of the static caravan on Mr. Hobhouse's land had been reported to James Meyer, SSDC to investigate. **Action: The Clerk to follow up.**

It's presence may have curtailed motorbike activity but this was not the point as the motorbike nuisance should be dealt with in a different way.

b. Reports had been received from a parishioner regarding possible future building activity on Mill Lane field. The field had been surveyed but the reasons for it were not known.

10. Review of Planning Applications

For consideration in September :

09/03191/FUL

Councillor Carter left the room so that her planning application could be discussed. Those that had seen the application had no objections. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council could support the application.

Action: Clerk to advise SSDC Planning of their decision.

Pending consideration:-

08/03014/FUL – (The Aviaries) Out of parish.

Planning granted.

Nothing to report for September.

11. Accounts for payment

The following accounts were presented for payment and authorised:-

Internal Audit fee for 2008/9 £80.00 (Cheque No 250)

Arien Signs for Village Hall Notice Board £959.10 inc VAT(Cheque No 251)

Remuneration for Clerk for August including extra hours claimed £296.84 (Cheque No 252).

In acknowledgement of the work undertaken by Terry Crane (Grass cutting) Councillor Carter was authorised to spend to the value of £30.00.on wine.

Councillor Knight was also asked to speak to Diana Scott who it was thought would like a shrub/tree for her garden for the work she had undertaken as secretary to Pitcombe Parish Council in the absence of a Clerk. The Parish Council was unable to make a donation to a charity of her choice where the benefit was outside the UK. Spend to the value of £50.00/£60.00 was authorised.

Note 2: The Clerk received a cheque for £250.00 as a contribution from the Village Hall Committee towards the new Notice Board installation. **Action: Clerk to bank.**

Note 1: A quote had been provided by F & B Construction Ltd for the installation of the new Notice Board at Hadspen Village Hall. Councillor Hartnell declared an interest but was asked to stay to answer questions about the breakdown of costs.

The remaining Councillors agreed that the work was long overdue and needed completing as soon as possible. The Clerk was therefore asked to formally put the work in hand. **Action: The Clerk.**

12. Pitcombe Flooding

A report had been received from Councillor Jury. This was confirmed as follows by Mr. Jennings who advised the following:-

a. at the end of August an enthusiastic team of local residents had worked hard to clear the silt from the river bed and brush wood from the river banks with the assistance of equipment provided by Martin Jennings and Ian Adlam. The Parish Council commended them for this work which was entirely voluntary.

b. Contractors employed and funded by South Somerset District Council had spent three days clearing weed trees and had made further inroads with diggers and chainsaws freeing up the river flow below the bridge. The river was now running more freely. It remained to be seen what the overall impact would be until there were high waters again.

c. The River Pitt is not considered to be a main river and consequently is not subject to flood warnings from the Environment Agency however it has been agreed that they will provide flood warnings to Martin Jennings who has kindly agreed to represent the community on this matter. The flood warnings will be in respect of the section of the River Brue between Bruton and Lovington.

d. Councillor Knight agreed to speak to the owners of the Mill Pond regarding control of the water flow. Action: Councillor Knight.

13. Correspondence

SSDC	A request for School Governors for Somerset.
SSDC	Spring Bulb Planting Initiative – the Village Hall Committee had been accepted for this project and would be looking for help with the planting. Delivery schedule awaited.

14. Meetings /Workshops

Nov 4 th 2009	Councillor Whittaker expressed an interest in attending.
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15. Any other Business

None declared.

16. Date of next meeting:

October 13th. (Councillor Knight apologised for his absence at this coming meeting.)

The meeting was closed at 20.50.

Mrs. R. J. Morgan
Clerk to the Parish Council
9th September 2009