

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

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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

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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

6th August 2008

SSDC Area East Committee

13th 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.