

**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 10<sup>th</sup> 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..