

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 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.