

# *Pitcombe Parish Council*

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## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 13th April 2010 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors Knight, Jury, Whittaker, and the Clerk, Mrs. R. Morgan.  
**In the Chair:** Councillor Elliott  
**In attendance:** County and District Councillor Mrs Anna Groskop and 5 members of the Parish.

**Public Question Time :** Following a question from the public regarding Planning Application 09/04954/FUL the Chairman stated that the Parish Council had made its decision on this application at the last meeting and would not be discussing the matter further. The Clerk had been advised by Planning that it was hoped this application would be discussed at the May meeting (May 12th) of the Area East Committee when a decision might be made.

The general public were advised that they would be able to speak on the application at this meeting if they so wished. Also if there were any complaints as to how the applicant had handled the application then a letter should be sent to Ian Clarke of the Standards Committee.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Beech , who was on holiday and Councillor Carter.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

### **3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 9th March 2010**

These were accepted by those present as a true record and authorised.

### **4. Reports**

Mrs. Groskop encouraged the Parish Council to pursue local pothole problems. Councillor Jury stated that a comprehensive list had been pulled together which would shortly be forwarded to Highways.

### **5. Matters Arising**

5i) James Clark was welcomed to the meeting and it was agreed that he should be co-opted on to the Parish Council at the next meeting. The Clerk passed across to him the forms that needed signing and associated information (e.g. re the Code of Conduct and general information regarding the role of the Parish Councillor).

5ii) Councillor Jury proposed that a reasonably priced lockable Parish Council Notice Board be purchased for Pitcombe Viaduct. It had not been budgeted for however the Clerk advised that the VAT claim recently submitted would more than cover the estimated cost of £250.00 including installation.

It was agreed that he purchase a new board as outlined in his email. He had written seeking permission to install the board at the site. No problems were anticipated.

**Action:** Councillor Jury.

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## 6. Reports on Parish Councillor Portfolios

Councillor Knight reported that there had been a temporary repair to the stile on WN22/6 in Mill Lane. A permanent repair was awaited from the countryside rangers. He also stated that a tree root was pushing up the road surface. This would be inspected by the Parish Council to see what action could be taken.

Councillor Elliott stated she had been pressing Street Scene for action regarding various piles of rubbish (flytipping). This was now in hand and collection of the rubbish was expected shortly.

Councillor Jury stated that he had pulled together a list of potholes to forward on to Highways.

There was nothing to report regarding Pitcombe Flood Action Group. However notification had been received that Somerset would not be receiving any monies from the latest round of funding from DEFRA.

## 7. Review of Planning Applications

I) For consideration in March :

**09/04482/FUL Bottom Barn Farm**

The Parish Council had responded in support of this application as it was generally felt that the proposed development would be of benefit to the area and would significantly improve the site.

**09/04305/FUL Priddles Hill Farm**

Following discussion, the amendment covering the landscaping of the proposed silage clamp was deemed generally acceptable, however the Clerk was asked to make the following comments in the Parish Council's reply to planning:-

- the Parish Council were not happy with the continuing and increasing number of retrospective applications
- this particular site continued to grow in size which was of some concern
- the height of the clamp was a worry particularly its visibility from neighbouring properties.

**10/00528/FUL The Aviaries (out of Parish)**

No observations to be made.

ii) Pending consideration by SSDC:-

**Planning Application 09/04954/FUL Hobhouse: Land OS 5955 Green Lane Pitcombe**

iii) Planning Applications granted by SSDC:

09/04915/LBC and 09/04912/FUL Gardeners Cottage Hadspen Consent given 11/03/10

iv) Temporary Road closure: A371 Cary Hill and Cumnock Road. The date of this closure had changed to April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>.

v) Path Diversion WN22/13

Final decision awaited.

## 8. Finance

a. It was agreed that Mrs. Vallance be appointed as internal Auditor for this financial year in line with the budget.

b. The Clerk advised that the precept of £5000.00 had been received. The Clerk also reported that the VAT return had been completed for 2009/10 and £326.29 claimed.

c. The following accounts were presented for authorisation:-

Clerk's Expenses for March 2010 £60.88 (Cheque No: 267).

2010/11 contribution to Community Council for Somerset £30.00 (Cheque No: 268)

Cheque 269 for £500.00 made out to Parish Council's deposit account at Scottish Widows for transfer from Parish Council Barclays Bank current account to increase Parish Council contingency fund.

d. The Clerk also advised that postage charges had gone up from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2010, 1<sup>st</sup> class post was now 31p, 2<sup>nd</sup> class post 32p. Telephone calls had also gone up from 5p to 6p. This was noted by the Parish Council.

e. The Clerk was investigating the report that an annual registration fee was required by the Information Commissioner's Office. To report at a later meeting.

9. **Correspondence received .**

Bruton School for Girls	Re Application 09/04954/FUL Hobhouse. Information only.
Peter Swann & Associates	Email regarding Application 09/04954/FUL circulated to all Parish Councillors.
Moore Stephens	Copy of draft External Audit report copied to all. For discussion at May meeting.
Somerset Local authorities Civil Contingencies Unit	DEFRA Grant Scheme. Somerset unsuccessful for latest phase
Notice of Election in Tower Ward	Notice put on Parish Council Notice Board.
SCC Rights of Way	Changes to the responsibility for the maintenance of public rights of way in Somerset. Letter circulated in April pack.
SSDC Area east Annual Meeting notes	Circulated to all by email. Recommended all to read.
SCC Housing Policy	Circulated to all by email.

10. **Meetings /Workshops/Training**

Stakeholder Workshops- evening sessions	Information by email circulated to all. Location considered too far to travel.
East Community Forum	February 23 <sup>rd</sup> Session postponed. New date awaited.
Chairmanship Training	Councillor Beech advised of dates

11. **Any other Business**

None

12. **Date of next meetings:**

May 11th. It was confirmed that the Annual Parish Meeting be held on the same evening as the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. The Clerk to submit a small notice for Pitcombe news.

The meeting was closed at 20.30.

Mrs. R. J. Morgan  
Clerk to the Parish Council  
16th April 2010