

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held in Hadspen Village Hall
on Tuesday 26th January 2010 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Jury, Whittaker, Carter and the Clerk, Mrs.
R. Morgan.

In the Chair: Councillor Knight

In attendance: PC Sara Stephenson.

Note: 1. There were no members of the public in attendance.

2. It was agreed that in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Councillor Knight chair the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from County and District Councillor Anna Groskop and Councillor Beech.

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Reports

PC Sara Stephenson stated that she had no information of note on this occasion. The Parish Council advised her that there had not been any recent problems regarding trial/quad bikes being a nuisance in the Old Quarry.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8th December 2009

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

5. Matters Arising

- i) Councillor Jury had submitted a short note to the Pitcombe News regarding the Parish Council vacancy. Some interest had been expressed by a couple of parishioners. However the Parish Council agreed to await the outcome of the Pitcombe news notice.
- ii) Both Councillors Carter and Knight had inspected the wrought iron benches at Priddles Hill and Ludwell Elms respectively. The benches were deemed to be in good condition although their surroundings were in need of a tidy/weed.
Action: Councillors Carter and Knight were happy to undertake this.
Action: The Clerk to provide Councillor Carter with the phone number of Streetscene so that the all fly tipping could be removed.
Note: The benches were covered by the Parish Council's public liability insurance. No further insurance cover was deemed necessary.
Action: Clerk to contact Jim Linden regarding old records that he was holding.

iii) Some discussion followed regarding the provision of Salt/Grit bins for Pitcombe Parish. It was then agreed that the Clerk should order three green large bins (370 litre capacity) at £167.20 each ex VAT for delivery to the Village Hall. Although these items had not been budgeted for it was felt necessary to go ahead as there were sufficient funds available.

iv) Councillor Jury and Knight had inserted contact details in their noticeboards for the insertion of local information. A note to this effect was also being inserted in the next edition of Pitcombe News.

6. Clerk's report on Finance Issues

- i) The Clerk confirmed that she had submitted the Parish Council's precept bid of £5000 to SSDC.
- ii) The Clerk had had some correspondence with Barclays Bank about the number of signatories to the Parish Council Current Account. This had hopefully been resolved (now agreed as four) but she was awaiting confirmation in writing that all was well.
- iii) The Clerk had submitted a draft Parish Council Risk Assessment paper for everyone to consider. It was proposed that this would be discussed and agreed at the February meeting.
- iv) The Clerk advised that she had attempted to transfer money from the current account in to the savings account. This had proved difficult but was now in train.
- v) The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation statement as at 31.12.2010.

7. Parish Councillor Portfolios

Councillors Carter and Whittaker had nothing to report.

Councillors Jury and Knight provided updates as follows: -

Highways

Councillor Jury stated that potholes were becoming evident but were unlikely to be tackled before the next financial year as Highways had run out of funds.

Footpaths

Councillor Knight reported that he had finally received a reply from Eve Wynn who would be undertaking the reported stile repair.

8. Review of Planning Applications

For consideration in December :

Note: The following two applications were received late in the month with short response dates made more difficult because of the snowfall. The two applications had been circulated to Parish Councillors in line with agreed Standing Orders and responses of 'no comments' returned to SSDC Planning.

09/04305/FUL Priddles Hill Farm

09/04915/LBC and 09/04912/FUL Gardeners Cottage Hadspen.

Pending consideration:-

09/03397/FUL – Ashridge trees (Two Polytunnels)

08/03014/FUL – (The Aviaries) Out of parish.

Planning Applications granted :

09/04063/FUL - Sexeys School – Granted 5/01/2010

Temporary Road closure: The Clerk reported that a recent communique regarding the closure of the A303 at Willoughby Hedge had been relayed to Councillor Jury for onward transmission within the Parish.

Path Diversion

The Parish Council approved the proposed diversion on path WN22/13 with the proviso that as the path was going uphill at this point it remained wide enough and that the proposed hedge be kept properly trimmed so it did not impinge on to the path thus making it narrower and difficult for people to pass.

9. Accounts for payment

The following accounts were presented for payment and authorised: -

Village Hall Road Sign £92.68 (Cheque No 261).

Clerk's Expenses for November and December £ 66.15 (Cheque No:262).

10. Correspondence received

SSDC Community Development parish Correspondence from Emma Craigie and Hamish and Gillian Craig.	BT's Public Telephone Kiosk Development – The Parish Council agreed that it maintained its position regarding keeping a public telephone box in Pitcombe.
Somerset Waste Partnerships	Public Holiday Collections (copies in all Notice boards).The notice had been emailed to all.
SSDC Electoral Role	The Clerk confirmed that she held the latest edition.
SSDC Working Arrangements being discussed with E. Devon	The Clerk agreed to recirculate letter received.

11. Meetings /Workshops

Somerset Waste Management Workshops SSDC Environmental Workshops	Awaiting proposal for evening workshop. Presentation content being circulated regarding flyposting, flytipping, dog nuisance etc.
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12. Any other Business

It was agreed that preliminary discussions be held regarding the Queen's Jubilee and that an item should appear to this effect on the agenda for February.

13. Date of next meeting:

February 9th 2010

The meeting was closed at 20.20.

Mrs. R. J. Morgan

Clerk to the Parish Council

27th January 2010