

# *Pitcombe Parish Council*

---

## **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 11th May 2010 following the Annual Parish meeting at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors Knight, Elliott, Whittaker, Clark and the Clerk, Mrs.  
R. Morgan.

In the Chair: Councillor Beech

In attendance: County and District Councillor Mrs Anna Groskop and 4 members of the Parish.

### **1. Election of Chairman for the year 2010/11**

Councillor Beech was proposed by Councillor Whittaker, seconded by Councillor Knight and voted unanimously in as Chair. Note: Acceptance papers signed post meeting.

### **2. Election of Vice Chairman for the year 2010/11**

Councillor Elliott was proposed by Councillor Knight, seconded by Councillor Whittaker and voted unanimously in as Vice Chair.

### **3. Public Question Time**

A member of the public raised concern about going forward with item 8iii. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council would need to address this issue with neither fear nor favour.

### **4. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Carter who was on holiday and David Jury who had resigned from the Parish Council. Mr. Jury was thanked for the huge contribution he had made and the Clerk was asked to write to him to say that everyone was saddened at his decision.  
Action: the Clerk to advertise the vacancy on the Parish Council and advise SSDC accordingly.

### **5. Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

### **6. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 13th April 2010**

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

### **7. Reports**

Mrs. Groskop advised the Parish Council that this year an emergency one year budget was in place, involving the streamlining of all activities.  
Potholes would be a major project .

She thanked all the Parish Councillors and the Clerk for all they had achieved in the previous year.

### **8. Matters Arising**

8i) James Clark was welcomed to the meeting. Councillor Knight proposed he be co-opted on to the Parish Council . This was seconded by Councillor Whittaker at the next meeting. After a unanimous vote he was invited to join the Parish Council and the relevant acceptance form was signed

8ii) After some discussion following correspondence and comments received from the village it was agreed that the purchase of a new board would be put on hold. Ms J. Jeffrey (Combe Cottage, Pitcombe, Bruton BA10 0PQ) offered to be responsible for putting up Parish Council notices on the board. Her kind offer was accepted.

8iii) Re the motion proposed by Councillor Beech:

'This council deplors the actions of Cllr Henry Hobhouse in siting two caravans at the Old Quarry, Hadspen, in contravention of planning law and that this council requests the standards committee of South Somerset District Council investigate the matter'.

Planning application: 09/04954/FUL Land OS 5955 Green Lane Pitcombe

Discussion followed with all agreeing that that there had been such strength of feeling from the parish and so many complaints about the issue and how it had been handled by the applicant that it would be doing parishioners a disservice if the Parish Council did not support this motion. All Parish Councillors present, except for Councillor Clark who abstained) agreed that a letter outlining their concerns should be sent to SSDC Standards Board. Action: the Clerk to draft an appropriate letter.

#### 9. Responsibilities for Parish Councillor Portfolios 2010/11

These remained as 2009/10 with Councillor Knight taking on Highways. He would discuss with Mr. Jury when it was mutually convenient.

Councillor Whittaker would take on sole responsibility for Footpaths.

Councillor Clark would for the time being be without portfolio.

**Reports:- Footpaths** :Councillor Knight reported that the permanent repair to the stile on WN22/6 in Mill Lane was still awaited by the countryside rangers.

Councillor Whittaker reported that there had been a rearrangement regarding rangers, Eve Wynn however remained responsible for Pitcombe. See item

**Roads:** Repairs were still awaited at Pitcombe Hill, Hell Leather Lane had been dealt with.

#### 10. Review of Planning Applications

i) For consideration in May :

See item 14 (i).

ii) Pending consideration by SSDC:-

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

09/04482/FUL Bottom Barn Farm

09/04305/FUL Priddles Hill Farm

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

iii) Planning Applications granted by SSDC:

None.

iv) Temporary Road closure: See item 12.

v) Path Diversion

None.

#### 11. Finance

a. The internal audit for this financial year had been carried out. Copies of the report was provided to all. The outcome was much healthier than last year. Payment of £50.00 was agreed. (Cheque no: 270). This was £30 under the budget.

Copies of the proposed external audit report had also been provided to all prior to the meeting. This was approved and signed off by the Chairman. Action: Clerk to send to External Auditor.

b. The following accounts were presented for authorisation:-

Clerk's holiday pay for 2009/10 / and Expenses for May 2010 £187.25 ( Cheque No: 271).

Insurance Premium for June 2010 to June 2011 £405.29 (Cheque No: 272)

The following donations from the Parish Council for 2010/11 to local bodies were agreed:-

Village Hall Rental charges	£150.00	Cheque 275
Pitcombe News	£ 50.00	Cheque 276
Parochial Church Council	£600.00	Cheque 274
Pitcombe Flood Action Group	£500.00	Cheque 273

## 12. Correspondence received .

Moore Stephens	Copy of draft External Audit report copied to all. Approved.
SSC Highways	Temporary Road closure A37 Fosse W and Wraxall Hill. Noted. Out of Parish.
SCC Rights of Way	Changes to the responsibility for the maintenance of public rights of way in Somerset. Warden for Pitcombe Eve Wynn 0845 345 9155. Noted.
SCSN Somerset's Community Safety Newsletter.	Noted.

## 13. Meetings /Workshops/Training

Stakeholder Workshops- evening sessions	Information by email circulated to all. Location considered too far to travel. Dates : 14 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> May in Bridgewater.
Area East Community Forum	New date 25 <sup>th</sup> May, 6.15pm Caryford Hall.

## 14. Any other Business

i)The Clerk advised that Planning Application 10/01317/COU had just been received and was being circulated after the meeting. Responses to Councillor Beech by 20/1/2010 please.

ii)Councillor Whittaker asked if a problem in respect of the 'Ponds' be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

## 15. Date of next meeting:

June 8th.

The meeting was closed at 8.35.

Mrs. R. J. Morgan  
Clerk to the Parish Council  
31st May 2010