

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 6 September 2011 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors J.Knight, (Chairman), J. Clark, L. Comer, T. Crane, C.Donald and N.Hartnell. .

In attendance: Councillors A Groskop and M.Beech
Mr Hickley (for item 5 ii).

Public Question Time:

No questions were raised.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor C Brook.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th June 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The minutes of the Site Planning meeting held on 7th July 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Reports

i) Councillor Groskop reported on proposed boundary changes which would affect the County Council constituency that the Parish would fall within. The Electoral Commission had also now written to direct to the Parish Council and it was agreed that this matter be brought forward for consideration at the next meeting. The Clerk undertook to circulate the correspondence received from the Electoral Commission and the County Council. **(Action: Clerk)**.

It was also reported that Judicial Review outcome on Bruton Library should be known by the end of September but that it would now remain open.

ii) Councillor Beech reported that he was continuing to pursue the question of when the planning application 11/01533/COU: Land at OS 5955 Green Lane Pitcombe (Use of land for 2 long term gypsy/traveller pitches) would be determined.

iii) The PCSO was not present but had advised by email that he had nothing specific to report.

5. Matters Arising

i) Speed Monitoring in Cole and Hadspen

It was agreed that no further action be taken unless the matter is raised by any members of the Parish.

ii) Bruton 100 Stone

The sponsor, Mr Hickley, confirmed that he did not wish for any further ceremony to mark the installation of the stone. He paid tribute to the assistance of Councillor Groskop, officers of the County Council, the previous Parish Clerk, Mrs Rosie Morgan and to Mr Comer of Hadspen Quarry and wished his comments to be formally recorded by the Parish Council.

It was agreed that a press release be prepared to mark the installation and that it include the history of the previous stone and its replacement as outlined by Mr Hickley at the meeting. Councillor Donald would agree the content with Mr Hickley. **(Action: Councillor Donald)**.

iii) Pitcombe News

The financial position of the publication and the need to establish a sounder basis was noted. The Council budget had provided for a grant of £100. The estimated cost for a year's publication was approximately £450. The Council agreed that the news represented a valuable and benefit to the Parish and should be supported. In respect of the £100 grant provided for in the current year's budget it was proposed by Councillor Hartnell, seconded by Councillor Donald and agreed that this now be paid. In addition, it was agreed that the level of support be reviewed as part of the consideration of the 2012/13 Council budget in order to provide a sounder basis for the publication. **(Action: Clerk)**.

The need for support from the Parish was agreed and Councillors Clark and Crane undertook to pursue funding from other Parish bodies. **(Action: Councillors Clark and Crane)**.

iv) Cheque signatories

Confirmed as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk.

6. Update on Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

The update was noted. Councillor Comer agreed to undertake a leaflet drop for the 50/50 Auction taking place on 4 October. **(Action: Councillor Comer)**.

7 Review of Planning Applications

i) Outcomes of applications considered at previous meetings.

11/01819/FUL. Erection of agricultural building – Cole. **Withdrawn**

11/02045/FUL and 11/02046/FUL -10 Mill Lane, Pitcombe – Demolition of existing garage, two-storey barn, outside WC & store and erection of two-storey extension.
Approved with conditions

11/01994/FUL – The Wildings, Hadspen – Erection of 3 bay tractor shed/workshop.
Approved with conditions

ii) New Planning Applications.

11/02973/FUL – Buildings at Manor Farm, Castle Cary - Extension to existing parlour building (Adjoining parish).

The Council raised no objections but observed that a footpath did cross the site and that it should be protected in any development. SSDC to be informed of these comments. **(Action: Clerk)**.

iv) Temporary Road Closures.

v) Path Diversions.

Nothing to report.

8. Future Planning Applications – Site Meetings

It was agreed that in addition to the usual circulation of applications to all Councillors, the Clerk would canvass members for a date for a site meeting. The applicant would be advised of this and as many Councillors as possible would attend. **(Action: Clerk)**.

9. Finance

i) The following payments were agreed:-

- a) Acting Clerk's expenses - £97.38
- b) External Audit fee (Moore Stephens) - £144
- c) HM Revenue and Customs (April to June) - £89
- d) Clerk's payment (1 June to 14 July) - £195.71

ii) Grant to St Leonard's Parochial Church Council (PCC) for graveyard maintenance

The Council noted that the budget contained provision for a grant of £600 which had not yet been paid. It was agreed to make a donation of £600 for the year 2011/12.

In making this award the Council asked that the PCC be requested to provide further detail of how the grant would be spent and for example, the arrangements for how work from contractors would be procured and any consumables obtained. This to be reported back to a future meeting. **(Action: Clerk)**.

Similarly, the Council agreed that in future when considering such applications it would wish to see more detail of the total costs to be incurred and how such a grant would be spent and contribute to those total costs. Such detail to be available if possible

when the Council determines its 2012/13 precept over the next two meetings in October and November. **(Action: Clerk)**.

10. Portfolio Holders – exercise of role

It was agreed that the Clerk be copied in to any emails sent and that periodically portfolio holders inform him of telephone contacts undertaken.

11. Correspondence received

SSDC Annual Meeting with East Town & Parish Councils - 1st November 2011.

Chairman to attend. **(Action: Clerk)**.

South Somerset Together Renewable Energy Conference -17 October 2011.

Details to Councillor Donald **(Action: Clerk)**.

SALC – Annual General and Area General Meeting – 24 September 2011.

Details to Chairman **(Action: Clerk)**.

12. Other Matters

i) Polytunnells – Clerk to check on any change regarding need for planning consent.

ii) Parish Logo – Clerk to clarify the suggestion being made by the local bowls club.

iii) Pitcombe village streetlight remaining lit throughout the day. because the light sensor controlling its operation is blocked from the daylight by overhanging trees.

Clerk to write to Sunny Hill School as owners of the trees and seek its assistance in cutting back of the trees in question.

13. Dates of next meeting – 11 October 2011

The meeting was closed at 20.40.

Signed

Date
