

Pitcombe Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 13th December 2016

Present: Councillors J. Knight (Chairman), C. Brook, R. Currie, R. Waller and A. Wells.

In attendance: District Councillor Beech

Clerk: Zöe Godden

There was one member of the public present at the start of the meeting.

The meeting started at 19:30.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Donald and County Councillor Groskop
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th November 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **To receive reports from**
 - i County Councillor.
County Councillor Groskop was not present.

ii District Councillor.

District Councillor Beech informed the Council of the following:

- It was likely that a retrospective planning application would be received soon for a field shelter to be added to a barn in a nearby field. This shelter was urgently needed as the current accommodation for the farmer's cattle was not secure.
- Although SSDC was not involved in the Connecting Devon and Somerset scheme, a company called Wessex Internet was providing fast broadband to local areas. Pitcombe was not yet covered but if enough residents showed an interest, the service should be made available. Councillor Beech agreed to ask a representative of Wessex Internet to attend the February Parish Council meeting and Councillor Knight agreed to advertise this in the February edition of Pitcombe News.

(Action District Cllr Beech & Cllr Knight)

iii PCSO.

Councillor Knight noted that he had spoken to PCSO Russell and asked him to attend Parish Council meeting more frequently. The Clerk had received a report from PCSO Russell, stating that there had been two non-domestic burglaries in the past month. No other crimes had been reported.

5. Matter Arising for report:

i Highways and Drains – Update.

It was noted that the rainwater run-Off from the A359 at the top of Pitcombe Rock misses the gully. This is a long standing problem and County Highways are aware. However, it was suggested that this might be better dealt with by local effort to be arranged.

(Action Chairman)

ii To hear an update on the defibrillator project. (RC)

Councillor Currie reported that the Village Hall Trustees would begin fundraising for the defibrillator in the New Year and that an article explaining the project would be placed in the February edition of Pitcombe News.

iii To hear an update on Wessex Internet provision in the area. (JK/MB)

This matter was discussed during District Councillor Mike Beech's report above.

iv To hear an update on acquisition of the red phone box in Pitcombe. (CD)

Councillor Donald was not present but the Clerk said that the matter of acquiring the phone box was in hand.

6. To review Planning Applications, Road Closures, Foot Path Diversions.

i Outcomes of applications considered at previous meetings:

- a) **16/03866/FUL** – Erection of a two storey extension at rear of property, Laurel Cottage, Mill Lane, Pitcombe. BA10 0PQ – **Granted with conditions.**
- b) **16/04044/FUL** – Change of use of agricultural buildings to a single dwellinghouse, office and storage unit, and associated building operations, Shatwell Farm, Shatwell, Yarlington. BA9 8DL – **Granted with conditions.**
- c) **16/03509/S19** – Section 19 application to vary condition 2 of planning approval 15/01538/LBC to facilitate design amendments, Hadspen House, Hadspen, Castle Cary. BA7 7NG – **Granted with conditions.**
- d) **16/03189/S73** – Section 73 application to vary condition 2 of planning approval 15/01537/FUL to amend building footprints, floor layouts and elevation design – **Granted with conditions.**

Noted.

- ii New Planning Applications:
 - a) **16/04836/FUL & 16/04837/LBC** - Refurbishment and minor alterations to the main house, including partially re-building and extension of the kitchen in the north side of the house; creating two dormers on the first floor on the rear façade (replacing an existing dormer in the bathroom and forming a new bedroom); extension of the rear part of the roof forming a canopy; and a utility outbuilding in the rear garden of the house, Cole Farm, Cole. BA10 0PL.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to this application.
(Action Parish Clerk)

- b) **16/02676/FUL & 16/02677/LBC (AMENDED PLANS)** - Change of use of Hadspen House, Laundry Room, Clock House and Barton buildings to hotel with restaurant and spa facilities; associated extensions and alterations, Hadspen House, Hadspen, Castle Cary. BA7 7NG

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to this application.
(Action Parish Clerk)

- iii Temporary Road Closures – Mill Lane from 20 meters from railway bridge for a distance of 50 meters on 19 January 2017 for one day.

Noted.

The Clerk reported that she had received an additional road closure notice since publication of the agenda, as follows: Bratton Seymour Road from the junction with Church Walk, northwards for a distance of 430 metres from 24th January 2017 for four days.

- iv Path Diversions - None.

7. Reports from Portfolio holders not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

Footpaths – Councillor Brook reported that the replacement stile at Hells Ladder Lane had yet to be installed but that it should be done before the end of the financial year.

8. Council Matters – Meeting dates for 2017: **It was proposed and agreed to approve the meeting dates as presented.** Councillor Knight gave advanced notice that he would not be available for the meeting scheduled for 14th March 2017.

9. Finance.

- i To approve payments of: Clerk's remuneration and expenses for November 2016 - £252.30.
Martin Jennings verge trimming invoice dated 17/11/16 – £165.00.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the payment as presented and that Councillors Knight and Brook would sign the cheques.

- ii To agree that another set of bank mandate forms can be signed by Councillors Knight, Brook and Comer. It was **agreed** that Councillors Knight and Brook should sign the mandate forms as presented and that Councillor Knight would take to forms and ask Councillor Comer to sign then as requested. Councillor Knight would return the forms to the Clerk to be forwarded to Barclays Bank.

- iii To consider giving a grant to Pitcombe PCC towards maintenance of the graveyard at St Leonard's Church from the 2016/17 budget and agree an amount to give.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to offer a grant of £700 and that Councillors Knight and Brook would sign a cheque accordingly.

- iv To review the Budget vs Spend sheet to date. The sheet was reviewed and no issues raised.

- v To agree the draft budget and precept request for 2017/18 financial year as presented.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the 2017/18 budget as per the sheet attached to these minutes. It was further unanimously agreed to approve the precept request of £6959.

The Clerk was instructed to write an article for the February edition of Pitcombe News to explain the 2017/18 budget and precept request.
(Action Parish Clerk)

- vi To approve the Transparency Code grant application for IT equipment.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the grant request as presented.
(Action Parish Clerk)

vii To consider three prices for construction of a Parish Council website and to decide which to choose.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the quote from Milborne Port Computers.
(Action Parish Clerk)**

10. Correspondence/Publications received for report.

i SSDC – Invitation to comment on a draft Street Trading Policy and to agree a member(s) to respond.
Members **agreed** that they did not wish to make a response.

ii SSDC – Invitation to participate in the Great British Spring Clean between 3rd and 5th March 2017 and to agree any further action to be taken.
It was felt that current activity in the Parish was adequate and that this scheme was not suitable for Pitcombe due to the layout of the Parish.

iii SSDC – Offer of a free Christmas tree shredding service – to agree a location(s) and decide any further action to be taken.
Members felt that it would not be possible to organise a location this year.

iv SALC - Request to complete a survey on the idea of extending the Dependents' Carers allowance to Parish Councillors; to agree a member to complete the survey.
The Clerk was instructed to complete the survey with the Council's view that the Dependent Carers' Allowance should be extended to Parish Councillors.
(Action Parish Clerk)

11. Any Other Business:

Please note this item can only be used for statements of information and requests for items to be included on the agenda at the next meeting.

The Clerk was instructed to book a place for Robin Currie at the SSDC Annual Town and Parish Council meeting to be held on 23rd January 2017.
(Action Parish Clerk)

12. Date of the next Parish Council meeting: 10th January 2017 at 7.30pm

The meeting ended at 20:30.

Signed

Date