

# Pitcombe Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held in Hadspen Village Hall on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**Present:** Councillors J. Knight (Chair), C. Brook, C. Donald and R. Waller

**In attendance:** PCSO Tim Russell, County Councillor Anna Groskop, District Councillor Mike Beech and Mr Paul Rawson

**Clerk:** Zöe Godden

The meeting started at 19:30

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Comer and Currie

2. **Declarations of Interests:** None

3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. **To receive reports from**

i County Councillor.

County Councillor Groskop had nothing to report.

ii District Councillor.

District Councillor Mike Beech had nothing to report.

iii PCSO.

PCSO Tim Russell submitted a crime statistics report, which is attached to these minutes. In addition, it was reported that two caravans had been stolen from Lattiford the previous night and PCSO Russell asked for any suspicious vehicles to be reported.

It was **agreed** to bring item 6 ii a) to this point in the meeting.

6. **ii New Planning Applications:**

- a) **17/01275/FUL & 17/01276/LBC** - The carrying out of various alterations, extensions to outbuildings and change of use of Shatwell House into a hotel to provide 17 No. units of accommodation (Use Class C1) and change of use of associated adjacent buildings into visitor accommodation to include new 'pool barn' to provide ancillary leisure facilities for guests, new 'Granary' building and associated landscape works including new landscaped car park and new private access track linking to Hadspen House. Shatwell House, Shatwell Lane, Yarlinton, Wincanton. BA9 8DL

The meeting was adjourned to allow comments from Mr Paul Rawson.

Mr Rawson summarised the detail of the planning application. The development was intended to compliment the facilities under construction at Hadspen House and would include an underpass under the A371, which had been approved under a separate planning application. The complex would be more family oriented than the Hadspen House site and would include a pool, 17 rooms, breakfast room and car parking for guests. Accommodation would be serviced rather than self-catering. There would be some screen planting to ensure visual amenity was maintained.

Members expressed concern about egress from the Shatwell site onto the A371 as visibility at this junction was poor. The need for improvements to the highway at Grove Cross near the Hadspen House site were also discussed. Mr Rawson said he would support any such improvements.

Mr Rawson went on to update members on matters pertaining to the Hadspen House development. It had been intended that visitors to the garden, hotel guests and staff and deliveries would each use a different entrance to the site. This idea had been modified and now, all visitors to both the garden and hotel would use the entrance from the A359 near Hadspen Quarry, with visitors exiting via the other two routes. Visitor traffic entering the site would be managed with a ghost island on the entrance road itself to avoid traffic queuing on the A357. This change was in response to concerns from local parish councils.

The meeting was reconvened.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to recommend approval of this application. The Parish Council asked for it to be noted that there is difficulty of egress from Shatwell Lane onto A371 due to poor visibility and the Parish Council would like to bring this to the attention of County Highways for further investigation.  
(Action Parish Clerk)

20:02 – Mr Rawson left the meeting.

5. **Matter Arising for report:**

i Highways and Drains – Update.

Councillor Knight reported that he and Councillor Currie had attended a site meeting at Pitcombe Hill, with John Nicholson of County Highways and residents, regarding the problems of mud on the road and overhanging trees. The matter had been referred

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to the local farming association.

Councillor Knight also reported that drains had been cleared at Sunnyhill, but that the drains further down the hill at Cole Manor were still blocked, so surface water was accumulating at this area instead. The matter had been reported to County Highways for further action.

Councillor Waller reiterated concerns about the number of traffic incidents at Grove Cross (the junction between the A359 and A371) and the forthcoming increase of visitors to Hadspen House, thought to be in the region of 100,000 per year once the house and gardens were open to the public. It was noted that the A359 was a main route to Haynes Motor Museum and that 1000 new dwellings were due to be built in Castle Cary, both of which would add to traffic passing Grove Cross.

The Clerk was instructed to draft a letter to County Highways to raise concerns about the increase in traffic at Grove Cross and to ask that previously discussed improvements to the highway in this area are implemented.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

ii To consider and agree dates for Councillors Currie and Wells to attend SALC Good Councillor training.  
It was **agreed** to defer this matter as Councillors Currie and Wells were not present.

iii To agree arrangements to review the Parish Plan. (LC)  
It was **agreed** to defer this matter as Councillor Comer was not present. The Clerk was instructed to ask Councillor Waller for a specific proposal in relation to this matter to be included on the next agenda.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

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

i Outcomes of applications: No planning outcomes had been received.

ii New Planning Applications:

b) **17/01275/FUL & 17/01276/LBC** - The carrying out of various alterations, extensions to outbuildings and change of use of Shatwell House into a hotel to provide 17 No. units of accommodation (Use Class C1) and change of use of associated adjacent buildings into visitor accommodation to include new 'pool barn' to provide ancillary leisure facilities for guests, new 'Granary' building and associated landscape works including new landscaped car park and new private access track linking to Hadspen House. Shatwell House, Shatwell Lane, Yarlinton, Wincanton. BA9 8DL

**This matter was dealt with after item 4 above.**

iii Temporary Road Closures – None

iv Path Diversions - None.

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

**Footpaths** – Councillor Brook reported that the long-awaited kissing gate at Hells Ladder Lane had been installed. Councillor Donald reported that Church Path had been covered in hedge cuttings the last time she had been there. Councillor Knight agreed to check the situation.

## 8. Finance.

i To approve payments of:

Zoe Godden	Salary and expenses March 2017	£280.46
HMRC	Income tax January to March 2017	£18.60

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to approve the payments as presented and Councillors Knight and Brook agreed to sign the cheques accordingly.

ii To review the Budget vs Spend sheet to date.

**Noted.**

iii To approve the cash book and bank reconciliation for March 2017.  
The cash book and bank reconciliation were checked by Councillor Waller.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to approve the cash book and bank reconciliation as presented.

iv To consider a grant request from St Margaret's Hospice.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to give a grant of £100.

v To note that the Clerk has received Annual Return papers for 2016/17 and has arranged to meet the Internal Auditor on 10th May at the Village Hall.

**Noted.**

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vi To consider quotes for a replacement notice board at Cole.  
The Council considered prices from three suppliers.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the quote of £400 from Mike Donovan of Shepton Mallet.**

**9. Transparency Code** – To review the draft website received from Milborne Port Computers and agree any amendments required.

Members had already submitted some amendments to the Clerk as follows:

- That contact details for District and County Councillors should be separated from those for Parish Councillors
- That agendas and minutes should be accommodated
- That the “Home” page said links were to the left, when in fact there were to the right

Councillor Donald asked if the website could be shared with her in a format allowing on-screen editorial marks to be entered.

The Clerk was instructed to submit the amendments to Milborne Port Computers and to ask if an editable format could be shared with Councillor Donald.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

**10. Annual Parish Meeting** – To agree arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting, taking place at 7pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May. It was **agreed** to use the Annual Parish Meeting to launch the Parish Council’s new website. The Clerk was instructed to find out if an offline version could be produced as no internet connection was available at the Village Hall.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

**11. Correspondence/Publications received for report.**

- i The MG Car Club – Information on the Kimber Classic Trial taking place on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

**Noted.**

- ii Citizens Advice South Somerset – Thank you letter for the recent grant.

**Noted.**

- iii Somerset Community Justice Partnership – Thank you letter for recent grant.

**Noted.**

- iv Somerset County Council – Questionnaire on recent speed reduction measures and pedestrian crossings installed at Cole Road, Bruton (T1004110); to agree a member(s) to complete the questionnaire.

It was **agreed** that Councillor Knight would complete the questionnaire on behalf of the Parish Council.

**(Action Cllr Knight)**

- v Bruton Town Council - Request for a contribution towards the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device to be used at various locations, including Cole Road in Pitcombe; to agree how to proceed.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to contribute £100 towards the purchase of a SID by Bruton Town Council to be located regularly at Cole Road.**

The Clerk was instructed to contact Bruton Town Council to ask if SID results from Cole Road could be shared with the Parish Council and if it would be possible to use the SID at other locations in Pitcombe Parish in the future.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

**12. 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.*

**13. Date of the next Parish Council meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.00pm (Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting)**

The meeting ended 20:42.

Signed

Date