

# Pitcombe Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

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

**Also present:** County Councillor Anna Groskop

**Clerk:** Zöe Godden

There were 24 members of the public present at the start of the meeting.

**The meeting started at 19:31.**

1. **Apologies:** Councillors Comer and Currie and PCSO Tim Russell.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **To receive reports from**
  - i **County Councillor Anna Groskop** informed members that SCC had been working to balance its budget and was expecting this to be achieved. Councillor Groskop said that she had received objections to planning application 18/03731/FUL from members of the public and noted that the Planning Officer would be making a site visit this week.
  - ii **District Councillor Mike Beech** was not present.
  - iii **PCSO Tim Russell** had sent his apologies.

It was **agreed** to take item 6 at this point in the meeting.

6. **To review Planning Applications, Road Closures, Foot Path Diversions.**
  - i Outcomes of applications considered at previous meetings: **None**
  - ii New Planning Applications: **18/03731/FUL** – Use of land for the stationing of 2 mobile homes for occupation by agricultural workers – Land East of Ridge Lane, Hadspen, Castle Cary.

The Chairman noted that nine objections and one statement of support had been received from members of the public.

**19:34** - The Chairman allowed a public open session and asked that members of the public did not repeat points already made by others.

Members heard comments from the public and the applicant. The applicant responded to questions from the public and members.

**19:54** – The Chairman brought the public open session to a close.

The Chairman reminded members of the list of material and non-material planning criteria that could be considered by SSDC.

Members noted the comments from the applicant and the public and discussed the issues that pertained to this specific planning application.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council recommends refusal of this application on the grounds that it would cause additional vehicle movements that would overload existing infrastructure, namely surrounding lanes and roads. The Parish Council further agreed that it would consider supporting temporary accommodation located closer to the A359 with the proviso that the additional infrastructure required to access this part of the site was installed by the applicant at his expense.  
Three votes in favour; No votes against; Cllr Brook abstained from voting and asked for this to be recorded in the minutes.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

The Chairman thanked the members of the public for attending and said that they were welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting.

- iii Other planning matters – To note a response from SSDC regarding works at The Railway Embankment (planning application 18/01820/OUT) and agree any action to be taken.

The Chairman read an email from SSDC, informing members that planning application 18/01820/OUT had been refused before the stop notice had been served. The applicant had the right to appeal against the refusal and the stop notice but was allowed to enter the site to remove items. Members did not wish to take any further action.

- iv Temporary Road Closures – **None.**
- v Path Diversions - **None.**

**20:16** – 15 members of the public left the meeting.

**5. Matter Arising for report:**

- i Highways and Drains
  - a. Update – There were no matters to report.
  - b. To note that road widening works between the Hadspen House exit and the Cary Edge Lane entrance on the A359 commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> December and will continue until March 2019.

**Noted.**

- ii To note problems at Lancombe Lane with rainwater run-off and to consider any action to be taken.

**20:18** – The Chairman allowed a public open session

Members heard comments about the work that had taken place on Ridge Lane which had altered rainwater runoff down Lancombe Lane.

**20:23** – The Chairman brought the public open session to a close.

Members did not wish to take any action.

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

Councillor Brook reported that the passing places on Lime Kiln Lane were very muddy and full of leaves. The Clerk was instructed to contact County Highways to ask for the road to be cleaned.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

**8. Finance.**

- i To review the Budget vs Spend sheet.

**Noted.**

- ii To approve the cash book and bank reconciliation for November 2018.

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.**

- iii To approve payments of:

Zöe Godden	Salary and expenses December 2018	£216.85
HMRC	Income Tax November 2018	£47.60
Henstridge Parish Council	15% Clerk's SLCC membership & 1/3 of cost of SLCC regional training seminar	£57.92
Viking	Black printer ink	£47.49

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

- iv To consider and agree the budget and precept request for 2019-20.

**RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to approve the budget as presented and to request a precept of £7192 for the 2019-20 financial year.**

**9. Council Matters:**

- i To hear information on broadband options for Hadspen.

The Clerk reported that Wessex Internet did not cover the Pitcombe area and members said that this was because the geography of the parish prevented access to the required antennae. Another company claimed to be able to provide speeds of between 17 and 29 Mb/s. Councillor Knight agreed to summarise this information for publication in Pitcombe News.

**(Action Cllr Knight)**

ii To hear information from a drop-in session held by the Friends of Castle Cary Community Library. The Clerk reported that the purpose of the drop-in session had been to encourage people to sign up as “friends” of Castle Cary Library and to advertise vacant roles that needed to be filled to organise and run the new Community Library. The Clerk had signed up as a “friend” and had offered to advertise the vacant roles on the Parish Council website.

iii To consider how to encourage parishioners to put themselves forward for election in May 2019 and agree any action to be taken.

Councillor Knight agreed to advertise the elections in Pitcombe News.

**(Action Cllr Knight)**

#### **10. Correspondence/Publications received for report.**

i SSDC – To note receipt of an invitation to comment on Castle Cary & Ansford’s Neighbourhood Plan and to consider nominating a member(s) to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

Members discussed the document and the Clerk was instructed to request that consideration was given to the management of the increased traffic on the Hadspen to Cole road that would be caused by further developments in Castle Cary and Ansford.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

ii Bruton School for Girls – To note receipt of a reply to the Clerk’s letter regarding a hedge encroaching on the pavement and to agree any action to be taken.

Members noted receipt of the letter and it was **agreed** that Councillor Wells would arrange to meet with the Bursar to review the situation.

**(Action Cllr Wells)**

iii SSDC – To note receipt of a draft updated Rural Housing Action Plan 2019-21 and to consider any comments to make.

Members discussed the document and felt that an important issue was the lack of dwellings for agricultural workers. The Clerk was instructed to respond with this comment.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

iv SSDC - To consider allowing the Clerk to attend a free Election Information Session and to pay £8.55 as a third of the mileage costs.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk should attend this event and that the Parish Council would pay for 1/3 of the mileage costs.

**(Action Parish Clerk)**

v Pitcombe Parochial Church Council – To note receipt of a thank you letter for the recently awarded grant.

**Noted.**

#### **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.*

Councillor Waller noted that comments relating to planning application 18/03731/FUL from two absent Parish Councillors had not been read out and the Chairman explained that it would have taken up too much time to read out all of the written comments received from Parish Councillors and members of the public. All of the points raised in the written statements had been raised by Parish Councillors and members of the public who were present at the meeting.

#### **12. Date of the next Parish Council meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm**

**The meeting ended at 20:45.**

Signed

Date