

Pitcombe Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of a meeting of Pitcombe Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th June 2021

Present: Councillors R.Currie, C.Donald, M.Fysh, M.Groom and A.Wells

In attendance: P.Pender-Cudlip – Clerk
Sonia Kundu – Director, Somerset Rail to Trail
12 members of the public

1. To elect a Councillor to chair the meeting.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that Councillor Currie chair the meeting in the absence of Councillor Waller.

2. Apologies were received from:
Councillor Waller
District Councillor Robin Bastable
County Councillor Anne Groskop

3. Declarations of Interest - There were no declarations of interest.

4. Somerset Rail to Trail Project

A Director of Somerset Rail to Trail, Sonia Kundu, reported on progress and answered questions from Councillors and members of the public. Among the points she made were the following:

- Virtually all landowners on the route between Henstridge and Bridgwater have been contacted and the great majority have been sympathetic and co-operative, despite the difficulties caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The Project is committed to liaising closely with local communities and interest groups so as to ensure local support, meet local needs and make the most of local knowledge and expertise,.
- Where necessary, as in Pitcombe, the trail will deviate from the original railway track in response to local needs and wishes and so as to minimise possible nuisance, environmental disturbance and flooding risk.
- Survey responses show very strong support for the project both locally, in the Bruton-Wincanton area, and across Somerset.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 11th May 2021 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6. To receive reports.

The Clerk had received a written report from County Councillor Anna Groskop but it was encrypted and he had not been able to open it. No Police report had been received.

7. Planning applications, foot paths and road closures.

i. To consider new planning applications

	Application number	Proposal	Location
a)	21/01113/HOU	Replacement window in altered opening to match others on principal facade, plus one replacement window in existing opening. Poor quality brickwork replaced to match that on original house. https://publicaccess.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QQVMC8OWG6D00	Station House Sunny Hill Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PJ
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to support this application			
b)	21/01229/FUL	Alterations and extension to visitor parking provision within existing visitor car park area. https://publicaccess.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QRB1ZDOWGC400	The Newt In Somerset Hadspen Castle Cary Somerset BA7 7NG
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to support this application			

c)	21/01343/FUL	Temporary 3-year use of the Pavilion Building for Office Use (Class E, g[!]) https://publicaccess.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QRV6WZOWGIC00	Pavilion Bldg Shatwell Farm Shatwell Lane Yarlington Wincanton BA9 8DL
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Council had no objection to this application			
d)	21/01344/FUL	Change of use of agricultural barn to offices (Class E, g[i]) and workshop g[iii] (part retrospective) https://publicaccess.southsomerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QRV6X7OWGID00	Haybarn Shatwell Farm Shatwell Lane Yarlington Wincanton Somerset BA9 8DL
RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Council had no objection to this application			

ii. Update on Planning applications currently under consideration by Local Planning Authority

- a) Pitcombe Farm site (21/00238/OUT)
- b) Old railway embankment site (20/02858/FUL)

In response to enquiries by the Clerk it was confirmed that both of these applications were still under consideration by the Local Planning Authority.

iii. Outcome of Planning applications considered at previous meetings:

- a) **20/03015/HOU The Hackney Stable Pitcombe Hill Pitcombe Bruton BA10 0PF** Construction of detached single storey garage/workshop/greenhouse to front of property - **Approved**

iv. Footpaths - Dog waste bins

In response to a query by the Clerk the District Council reported that because of an unprecedented demand for additional bins from right across the district it was conducting a review of waste and dog bin rounds and would not be installing new bins until this process is complete. It acknowledged that Pitcombe currently had no dog waste bins and implied that a request for one would be sympathetically considered.

v. Pitcombe Bridge – County Highways have confirmed that they will be repairing and maintaining the bridge.

vi. Temporary Road Closures - None at time of publishing agenda

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

9. Finance.

- i Review of the budget-vs-spend, the cash book and bank reconciliation and approval of payments were deferred until the July meeting.
- ii **To approve payments.**

P.Pender-Cudlip	Salary and expenses May 2021	£199.86
HMRC	Income Tax May 2021	£49.96

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that these payments be approved on production of the appropriate documentation.

- iii The Clerk reported that the Council's insurers, Came and Co, had quoted a premium increase from £218 to £332.84. When questioned they explained that their panel of insurers no longer offered a "Micro Policy" for small parish councils like Pitcombe with limited risks. However the premium quoted by the BHIB, the other main broker specialising in local council insurance, was the substantially higher figure of £562.77.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that a premium payment of £332.84 in favour of Came and Co be approved.

10. Council Matters:

- i To consider filling a casual vacancy on the Council
Following the resignation of Councillor Donahue the vacancy would be advertised.
- ii To consider the process for recruiting a new Parish Clerk
Following the resignation of the Clerk the Council would seek to employ a locum Clerk in the short term while looking for a new Clerk to start later in the year.
- iii Councillor Donald would respond to the Government consultation on Local Authority remote meetings on behalf of the Council. The Council took the view that while remote meetings might be useful on occasion the interests of parishioners were generally better served by meeting in person.

11. Items for report and for the next agenda

Councillors discussed the nuisance and dangers to pedestrians and horse-riders caused by the reckless riding of motorcycles on Ridge Lane and Green Lane. Councillor Wells agreed to have a private word with residents who might be able to influence and improve the behaviour of those responsible.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Council would also ask PCSO Tim Russell to try to resolve the nuisance.

12. Date of the next Parish Council meeting: 13th July 2021 at 7.30pm

Patrick Pender-Cudlip
Clerk & RFO - Pitcombe Parish Council

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