

## **Minutes of the Pitcombe Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**

**Present:** Councillors R. Waller, N Hartnell, C White, M Fysh, M Hutton

**In attendance:** County Councillor, Mrs Lucy Trimnell, District Councillor R Bastable,  
Bruton Town Cllr E Jones, Mrs Fone PPLO, 2 members of the public. Mrs A Tuck, clerk.

Cllr Waller opened the meeting at 7.30pm and held one minutes silence in memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11

Mr Martin Jennings took the floor as a member of the public wishing to speak who is upset that dogs were using his sheep as playthings. 3 times in August dogs had chased his sheep, one dog making a flesh wound in a sheep which he had treated and it has recovered but Mr Jennings has spoken to the police and will be renewing his shotgun license. Whilst he hopes he won't have to use it if dogs are off the lead and worrying his sheep he will. Please keep your dogs on the lead when walking in the field.

The other member of the public wanted an update on the bridge at Pitcombe. Update on proposed, adjustments on Pitcombe Rock: there has been no work done and gully cleaning is required – drains block quickly on Pitcombe Hill. Highways came out to a drain on Lancombe Lane but they made it worse, came out again and made it even worse.

**2022.63 Apologies** were received from Cllr Groom, County Councillor Tom Power. Cllr Wells sent his apologies for tonight and his resignation from the Council due to having to move form the area. Cllr Waller said Cllr Wells has been brilliant with his contributions to the Council, we are very grateful to him and wish him well.

**2022.64 Declaration of Interest** Cllr Waller declared an interest in item 2022.68.iv as a Director of the Company which owns the field, namely Rye Ash Field. Cllr Hartnell and Cllr Fysh are Shareholders in the same company.

**2022.65 Minutes of the meeting** held on 5<sup>th</sup> July were approved and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

### **2022.66 Matters Arising:**

None

### **2022.67 To receive reports.**

i. Cllr Trimnell – Delay in the publication of the ofsted report into Children's services due to the death of the Queen. The County Council is open and working as usual this week. Cllr Trimnell has sent an email with the details of the LCN launch – **clerk to email Councillors**

ii. District Council Cllr Bastable Eviction notices have been issued to residents of Bruton School for Girls properties. SSDC are working hard to re-home people. No LCN info coming though from Somerset County. SSDC are on wind down mode, all meetings this week have been postponed – very little happening.

iii PCSO No report.

### **2022.71C At this point Cllr Waller decided to bring forward item 9c The Future of Bruton School for Girls to be discussed before the Planning item for Bruton School for Girls.**

Cllr Jones from Bruton Town Council gave a report of his meeting with Louis Tusson, Bursar and Ian Wilmshurst, Head of Kings School, Bruton He advised Cllr Waller he would invite him to any future meetings they have. They are trying to raise money to cover the wind up costs with the BSG site and Charity and for the 3 remaining members of staff on site, they have legal cases to settle with parents and former staff. They have issued notices to all bar one tenant, 2 tenants will be on the social housing ladder and need firm exit dates. The 2<sup>nd</sup> point they discussed with organisations the sale/lease of the site, 3 of the 5 organisations are for ongoing educational use of the site. Very early stages at present, Governors are meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> and want to know what the community wants.

No decision has been made about what to do with residual funds in the BSG Charity.

We need to register our interest as an Asset of Community Value for the Astro turf and Car Park.

The application doesn't give access to funds and gives us 5 years to raise the funds, it costs nothing at this stage, if someone else makes an offer on these items we must be given an option to buy them. Cllr

Hartnell Proposed we go ahead and apply to register the Astroturf pitches and carpark as Assets of Community Value. Cllr White seconded it – all in favour, Approved.

Clerk to draft email to Chairman to send to Mrs Nicky Fenton at BSG. Included in the email we will ask if Kings intend to list Old House as a listed property to protect the architecture in the future, If they haven't considered this, the Parish Council could apply for it to be listed. We will also ask for Pitcombe Parish Council to be included in any future meetings.

## 2022.68 Planning applications, footpaths and road closures.

### i. To consider new planning applications

	Application number	Proposal	Location
a)	22/02304/S73	S73 application to vary condition 2 of approval 03/02056/FUL for Erection of a two storey dwelling house for educational needs.	Hill House, Bruton School for Girls, Sunny Hill, Bruton Somerset BA10 0NT
b)	22/02191/TCA	Notification of intent to Fell No. 1 Tree within a Conservation Area.	9 Mill Lane Pitcombe Bruton Somerset BA10 0PQ

a) After discussion the Council's opinion is that they support this application Proposed Cllr White, seconded Cllr Hartnell – all in favour.

b) Notification only

### ii. Update on Planning applications currently under consideration by Local Planning Authority all applications are still awaiting decisions

a) **22/01256/DOC1** Gants Mill Cottage, Gants Mill Lane, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0DB. New window in existing opening, internal alterations including modification to shower room, new bathroom and associated services including vents, and removal of external pipework Appeal status Unknown

b) Gants Mill, 3 planning applications have been made first one on 16 March 22 22/00778/LBC New window in existing opening, internal alterations including modification to shower room, new bathroom and associated services including vents, and removal of external pipework -

#### Approved

The second one was Ref. No: 22/02160/LBC Internal alterations, altered door and window openings and new windows and doors in the south elevation, re-roofing, family room and stair hall extensions to rear of existing dwelling house, and demolition of outbuildings and associated landscaping.

Gants Mill Gants Mill Lane Bruton Somerset BA10 0DB

Received: Fri 22 Jul 2022 Status: Awaiting decision

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### iii. Outcome of Planning applications considered at previous meetings: a) **21/02143/FUL Land Adjoining Grove Farm Quarry Lime Kiln Lane Hadspen Castle Cary Somerset BA7 7NX**

a) Application for the change of use of land for the siting of 3 No. safari tents to provide holiday accommodation. **Approved**

b) **21/03703/FUL Land west of Cattle Hill, Welham, Castle Cary** Construction of hard surfaced estate track road and associated landscaping to provide to provide link for electric buggy use from existing track west of Welham Farm southwards to Roman Villa and Museum **Approved**

iv. **Footpaths** – With reference to Sheep in the Rye Ash Field footpath, Mrs Fone can speak to the County Footpaths Officer Eve Wynn, 1 option is to fence the footpath itself, which would be expensive. Mrs Fone would be prepared to discuss signage but there's plenty of signs already. It was suggested that Mr Jennings write in the Pitcombe Parish News and also in the Dove as Bruton people walk their dogs there as well The Parish Council would be prepared to write a footnote that they strongly support

Mr Jennings. Mrs Fone said there are many more dogs and people living locally and using our footpaths, Mrs Fone had spoken to Mrs Wynn who says there are pockets of our parish that need a lot of signage on footpaths., Mr M Jennings is exemplary in the way he lets people across his land but there is a foot path in the area that is chained and padlocked by a farmer preventing public access. Mrs Fone is in contact with the farmer to resolve this. Mrs Fone reports to Mrs Wynn who talks to landowners. The mapping of footpaths by Mrs Fone will start from mid October, then we can apply for funding to get it off the ground. Anyone interested in finding foot paths in Somerset can view [www.roam.somerset](http://www.roam.somerset) on their smart phones. Cllr Waller thanked Mrs Fone for her positive report.

#### **v. Temporary Road Closures**

None advised this time.

**vi. Finger posts Update** As Cllr Wells has resigned due to more pressing demands on his time. The clerk has been asked to contact Mr Wells and obtain the quotes and contact details for Mr Nash.

**vii) Highways** Our contact John Nicholson has been transferred to Mendip for this term.

#### **2022.69 Correspondence**

a) Castle Cary Library have written to request grant, last year we gave a donation of £100 – Clerk to send a grant form to them for completion.

b) Somerset Resilience Day 13<sup>th</sup> October 10- 4pm West Monkton Cllr Hutton will look into this.

#### **2022.70 Finance**

The following payments were approved, SALC £15.00 Councillors training course, Jimmy Flynn annual IT support £100, Clerks salary and HMRC income tax. Receipt for R Waller for Books of condolences for HM Queen Elizabeth 11. £41.80

The financial report was given and checked by Cllr Hartnell,

#### **2022.71 Council Matters:**

a) Bridge/parapet in Pitcombe ; the clerk had received email from Paul Tucker @Somerset Bridges work ongoing, Recent river clearance shows even more evidence of problems with the structure of the bridge. The Parish Council appreciate the help of the local people who recently helped to clear the river. Thank you to Martin Jennings and the local team.

b) Purchase of dog waste bin from GlasdonUK are £126.20 – Cllr Waller & Cllr Hartnell to look at the site to see what type of fixing we need for this, so we can go ahead and order it.

c) The future of Bruton School for Girls Site discussed above.

d) Somerset Day 2023 email forwarded to Councillors about this.

e) Grit bins Cllr Hartnell and Cllr Waller to check the rest of these and report back.

f) Defib @ Bruton School for Girls – in replying to the School email clerk to ask if it is Ok for defib to remain. A resident has found a site where we can be offered another defib, Discussions followed about where to site it , thoughts were either the Church or the telephone box so it was agreed to investigate this. Following on from this as Cllr Wells has resigned clerk asked to contact him about the two defibs the spare pads and batteries and the monthly checks.

#### **2022.72 Items for the next agenda**

*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. - None*

**2022.73. Date of the next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.30pm**

**The meeting closed at 9.15pm**

**Anne Tuck**

**Clerk - Pitcombe Parish Council** [clerk@pitcombeipc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@pitcombeipc.org.uk)