**Minutes of the Pitcombe Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9th July 2025**

**Present:**  Cllr Groom, Cllr Hartnell, Cllr Hutton, Cllr Shylan,

**In attendance:** 2 Members of the public, Zoe and Paul from the Newt, Mrs Tuck, clerk.

Cllr Groom as Vice Chair agreed to Chair this evenings meeting.

Open session. Mr & Mrs Mountsey stated that there are plans to do the drains outside their property in 2026. There is a big dip where the drains keep collapsing, the makes loud noises they are a safety issue, anyone on a bicycle or motor bike hitting it could have a nasty accident. All drains from Grove Cross to Grove Farm have been done which don’t have so many problems, The new highways manager is Tracy Harris. There is a huge hole in the road between Cole and Manor Farm, MH will report.

**2025.61 Apologies** None

**2025.62 Declaration** **of Interest –** None

**2025.63 Minutes of the last meeting:** Minutes of the April meeting were read, an address still needs to be added before they can be signed. The May minutes needed amending under matters arising and they will also be signed at the next meeting.

**2025.64 Matters Arising:** Defibs were discussed, The clerk had discovered that the battery is dead on the BSG one and the pads are out of date (28/1/24) need new supplies. Cllr Shylan will take on the inspections of the defibs at BSG and Hadspen Village Hall and ensure they are working properly.

Clerk to contact Ewan Jones ref PKF letter.

**2025.65 To receive reports:** Cllr Power’s report to follow. Cllr Trimnell reported that Yeovil College pupils will be able to catch the YC2 bus from Bruton Bridge stores – South West Coaches have confirmed it will be in service again next year. Somerset Council have not been able to appoint a Finance Officer, they still have an interim officer filling the role. The Boundary Commission is on the Somerset Website, they are proposing 96 single member wards, you can have your say online.

**2025.66 Planning applications, footpaths and road closures.**

1. **To consider new Planning** **applications** None received

**Ii. Update on Planning applications currently under consideration by Local Planning Authority** None

**iii. Outcome of Planning applications considered at previous meetings:** None

**iv. Footpaths** Mrs Fone had sent two emails which were forwarded to Councillors prior to tonight’s meeting. Thank you, one being a draft letter to the Newt asking for funding to repair problems on the Lancombe Lane footpath, however Mr Shylan has already discussed this with the Newt and they have asked him to submit an application. Mrs Fone will ask a contractor she knows to give a quote, Mr Shylan will give a quote and the clerk was asked to ask Kier to submit a quote. Clearing and sorting the step will get rid of the problem but not the cause, the amount or rain has taken top soil from both fields and the bans and everything is unstable, the base of the path used to be rocky so water could drain through but now it’s a muddy mess. The soil needs to be moved, grips need to be cut into the side of the path and filled with stone. The pipe in question has been in situ for a long time. There is excess water but if the footpath was cleared it wouldn’t be a problem, though it may want clearing again in 10-15 years. Cllr Shylan will write a specification and send to the clerk and Mrs Fone for them to obtain further quotes before we approach the Newt.

**v. Temporary Road Closures** TTRN (urgent) road closure at Shute Lane, Bruton 11th June 2025 - 13th June 2025 (00:00 - 23:59) for a total of 3 days for local drainage works on behalf of Somerset Highways.

**2025.67 Correspondence**

Letter from the Leader of the Opposition on enforcement.

Letter from Chair of SC re awards for service to the Community – The Chair asked Councillors to think about this and comment at the next meeting which would be in time to respond before the closing date. Somerset bus Partnership online survey, Cllr Trimnell thought it would be good to support this to ensure the bus stop in Sunnyhill Car Park CPRE membership – it was decided not to support this.

A report had been received from Highways about the state of the Pitcombe Bridge and a two stage repair of it.

**2025.68 Finance**

 a. Cheques for approval were agreed,

 b. Financial report was given and approved

**2025.69 Council Matters –**

a) Flooding Report received from Lucie Reader which Cllr Groom found interesting and asked for a link to be put on the website to this so everyone could read it and to tell residents about it in the Parish News magazine.

b) Defibrillators The clerk has registered the defibs on the circuit. Mr Shylan has taken over the checking of these as they are very cobwebby and don’t look as if they have been checked for quite a while.

 c) Barclays online banking update leave until we have a new Chairman.

***2025.70 Items for report and 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.*

**The meeting closed at 8.55pm**

**Date of the next Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 9th September 2025 at 7.30pm at Hadspen Village Hall**