

MINUTES OF THE PITCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM DUE TO COVID-19 ON
THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.30PM

Present:	Cllr Nigel Shaw	Chairman
	Cllr Philippa James	Acting Chairman
	Cllr Beverly Gorton	
	Cllr Jamie Cross	
	District Cllr Nigel Cooper	
	Holly Paton	Clerk

The Acting Chairman opened the meeting at 7.32pm.

There were no public questions.

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

County Cllr Keith Rippington
Cllr Michael Little

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were none.

**3. To CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON MARCH 12TH,
MAY 14TH, AUGUST 13TH**

Cllr James signed and dated the minutes.

4. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THIS AGENDA

There were none.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS:

a. County Councillor Report

The Parish Clerk had been in contact with Cllr Rippington prior to the meeting to discuss the land reinstatement issues close to the new Pitchcombe junction. Cllr Rippington was happy to help where possible.

b. District Councillor Report

An update was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting - see separate attachment.

Cllr Cooper explained about the Government White Paper on the new planning proposals and informed those in attendance to look at the internet link supplied in his report for further information.

Cllr Cooper mentioned that he had contacted SDC in response to a suggestion that smaller refuse vehicles could be used in Pitchcombe to reduce damage to boundary walls and property. There was hope that the collection rounds could be altered.

Q: Cllr James asked if Horsley rubbish tip was now fully open.

A: Cllr Cross explained that it was.

Q: Cllr Gorton requested that areas of the village serviced by the smaller refuse vehicle be extended.

A: This had been requested by Cllr Cooper. If SDC were in agreement, a new route might need to be proposed.

c. Members Reports.

Nothing to report.

6. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Parish Clerk explained that SDC may soon be approving a Code of Conduct that could be adopted by local parishes.

Cllr Shaw explained that he objected to a line in Appendix B, clause 2 on the draft Code of Conduct, written by Cllr Little. Cllr Cross agreed with this.

It was agreed that the words "a member of" would be removed and Cllr Little's draft Code of Conduct would be adopted by the Parish Council. The version from SDC could be used at a later date as a time frame had not been given.

7. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION: S.20/1942/FUL THE BYRE, RESTHAVEN NURSING HOME, PITCHCOMBE, STROUD – CHANGE OF USE AND CONVERSION OF COW BYRE TO 1 HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION UNIT

Cllr James showed no objection, however expressed her concern that there was little information about the large trees on the site. All Cllrs agreed that they would object to the planning application if said trees were to be removed.

The Parish Clerk will find out who the Tree Officer is for SDC and if the trees can be protected.

If the trees can be protected, a deadline extension would be requested to ensure that this was carried out.

All Cllrs agreed to support the planning application if the trees were to remain.

8. POSSIBLE DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATION IN THE VILLAGE

The Parish Clerk explained that Resthaven nursing home have a defibrillator which is located inside the building. It is for the nursing home use only and cannot be accessed by local residents.

A defibrillator in the village would need to be located next to a power supply and be easily accessible to local residents.

The Parish Clerk will ask via Pitchcombe.net if there is a need for a defibrillator in Pitchcombe, and if a suitable site could be suggested.

9. GIGACLEAR UPDATE

The Parish Clerk explained that contact had been made with Gigaclear. They were keen to be present at the December meeting to give an update and answer questions. The Cllrs would like to know when the service would be available with the associated sales information.

10. COVID-19 UPDATE

Nothing further to report. The residents had been well looked after so far and support in place was working well.

11. ONGOING DRAINAGE CLEARANCE

Cllr James explained that the drain had been checked by Cllr Little's house and the drain by the Mill had been cleared, however it was noted that there was a blockage opposite the Coach House. An initial attempt to clear it had been unsuccessful. SDC are able to try again but they will need to liaise with the residents in Pitchcombe Mill. Cllr Gorton had put the residents in touch with SDC.

12. FOOTPATH CLEARANCE

Cllr Little had previously suggested that Jack Rothwell could clear the footpaths every few months or so.

A local resident had expressed their concern that a deep hole behind Cllr Shaw's property needed filling in. Jack Rothwell could also do this.

Q: Cllr Shaw asked if weed killer could be used to help clear the vegetation.

A: Cllr Gorton suggested herbicide could be used which would prevent run off into the water course.

The Zoom meeting stopped at 8.09pm due to the time restrictions. A new meeting was schedule and invitations sent for 8.15pm. The meeting resumed at 8.15pm.

In attendance: Cllr Nigel Shaw
Cllr Philippa James
Cllr Beverly Gorton
Cllr Jamie Cross

Q: Cllr James asked if Jack Rothwell would give us quotes for the work?
A: Cllr Gorton replied that he would charge by the hour.

Cllr Shaw expressed a declaration of interest due to the proximity of his property and refrained from taking part in the conversation. Cllr Gorton agreed to oversee the work and explained that a steel blade on the brush cutter would only be used where appropriate to prevent damage to boundary fences.

Cllr James asked if Jack Rothwell could help in other areas of the village. The Parish Clerk suggested that a schedule of work be drawn up for Jack Rothwell. Cllr Gorton confirmed that Jack Rothwell has the appropriate insurance (public liability).

13. UPDATE ON THE A46/A4173 JUNCTION

The Parish Clerk gave a brief update from the Highways Commissioning Team:

- Awaiting the scheme completion road safety audit to ensure all comments and recommendations could be progressed.
- Land reinstatement and planting due to take place before the end of October.

Cllr Gorton expressed her wishes to support the land reinstatement. The parish Clerk will put the landowner in contact with SDC.

Q: Cllr Shaw asked if there had been any further information about the 40mph speed limit.

A: Ongoing following the road safety audit.

14. FINANCE

a. To approve payments in accordance with the budget

Clerks Salary / Expenses (May, Aug, Sep)	£493.45
HMRC	£136.60
I. Crowe (audit)	£25

Total invoices for payment **£655.05**

The accounts were approved for payment. The Parish Clerk will send the cheques to Cllr James to sign at a later date.

b. Agree donations

Cllr James suggested a donation of £100 to the Cotswold Wardens. This was agreed.

A donation of £200 was suggested for Resthaven nursing home. This was agreed.

Cllr Gorton explained that she had spoken to Joan Nash regarding the payment for the village hall hire. Invoices and receipts would be produced by the village hall in future.

The Parish Clerk had circulated a document prior to the meeting showing the dates when the village hall had been used by the Parish Council. It was agreed that we would wait to receive the invoice and pay in full.

A possible donation to the church will be discussed at the December meeting.

CPRE are in need of donations to keep running. This will also be discussed at the December meeting. The Parish Clerk will check to see if we are members in the meantime.

c. Website compliance

The parish website needs to be updated in order to comply with new accessibility regulations. A quote of £160 had been received. This will be discussed at the December meeting.

As the meeting drew to a close there were a number of small discussions between the Cllrs.

Light pollution: it was agreed to pass this to Painswick Parish Council as the site lies within the Painswick parish boundary.

Ash dieback: A local resident was concerned about how soon they had to comply with ash removal on their land. It was discussed and Cllrs concluded that as long as a survey had been carried out by the resident, they could respond to Highways asking for more information and possibly time.

Cllr Shaw explained that he would be formally retiring as the Chairman from the end of this meeting. Cllr Little had also sent a letter prior to the meeting explaining that he wished to retire from his Cllr position. Cllr Shaw circulated a letter (separate attachment) during the meeting expressing his gratitude and thanks to Cllr Little for all his involvement, guidance and care over the many years that he'd been a member of the Parish Council.

Cllr James expressed how sorry she was that Cllr Shaw was resigning as Chairman but thankful that he wished to remain as a Cllr.

Cllr Shaw explained that we would need to advertise for a new Cllr. Cllr James and Cllr Gorton agreed to look into this matter. The Parish Clerk will contact SDC.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 10th December 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.52 PM**