

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PITCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY 13th MAY 2021 AT 8PM**

Present: Cllr Philippa James Chairman
Cllr Jamie Cross Vice Chairman
Cllr Nigel Shaw
Cllr Beverly Gorton
Cllr Richard Pearson
Holly Paton Clerk

In attendance: One member of the public

1. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN

The Council unanimously agreed to appoint **Cllr Philippa James** as its Chairman.

2. TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN

The Council unanimously agreed to appoint **Cllr Jamie Cross** as its Vice Chairman.

3. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted for County Councillor Susan Williams and District Councillor Julie Job.

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Cllr Pearson declared an interest in the planning applications that were received from SDC on 10/05/21 and 12/05/21 – to be discussed under item 7 on the agenda.

5. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11th MARCH 2021

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

6. MAY ELECTIONS

All Cllrs DPI's (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) and Acceptance of Office forms were given to the clerk and signed. The clerk attested the Cllrs as proper officers of the Council.

The clerk explained the need to complete and return the election expense forms and would give details of where to send them following the meeting.

7. MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THIS AGENDA

Cllr Pearson left the village hall during this item due to declaring a Declaration of Interest.

a. Planning consultation S.21/1133/LBC The Mill House - internal and external alterations.

Cllr Shaw explained that the back of the building is not overlooked and therefore any alterations would not impact neighbouring properties.

It was agreed that NO objection would be submitted.

- b. Planning consultation S.21/1132/HHOLD The Mill House - construction of wall to block up existing access.

There was a concern amongst the Cllrs about the removal of existing roadside gates. Removal would impact the streetscape and it was felt that the gates were a village feature in the conservation area that needed to be preserved. Construction of the wall would also potentially result in losing a much needed parking space.

Cllrs agreed to OBJECT to the planning application on these grounds.

Cllr Pearson returned to the meeting

8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE A46/A4173 JUNCTION

Nothing to report following the email sent to SDC in March, April and again in May. The clerk will continue to chase this matter.

9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PHONE KIOSK

An update for the phone kiosk was given in the annual parish meeting which took place prior to this meeting.

A quote for moving the phone kiosk and the ground works required to install it were agreed to be sent to the parish council. Once quotes have been received, parishioners can be asked if they would like to go ahead with the installation via pitchcombe.net. It was suggested that a working party could be formed to assist with the project if approved.

The parish council will consider making a planning application once quotes have been agreed. Formal plans for this will need to be drawn up. A letter to the Highways Legal Department will also be required. It was agreed that support from the County Cllr would be needed.

The parish council agreed to check their insurance policy as they will be legally responsible for the phone kiosk once its in situ.

Q. Will the parish council need to pay Highways a rental charge?

A. Advice will be sought from SDC once a quote has been received.

10. VILLAGE GRASS CUTTING

Cllr Gorton was made aware that a parishioner no longer wanted to be responsible for cutting the grass where the phone kiosk is to be sited. This would have to be paid for by the parish council, potentially resulting in many other grassed areas in the village also needing to be paid for. The parish council are unable to contribute to grass verge cutting costs and therefore will continue to rely on those parishioners who volunteer their time to do so.

Grass along the verges, in front of the Pitchcombe road signs, was identified as needing to be cut. It was agreed that Cllr Pearson and Cllr Cross would, wearing the correct PPE, trim the grass and clean the signs.

11. VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD REPAIRS

Many of the village notice boards are in a state of disrepair – the one along Wragg Castle lane is unstable and doors fall off the notice board at the top of the Pitch. They are expensive to buy new and therefore it was agreed to ask via pitchcombe.net if anyone in the village would be willing to help restore them.

Cllr Cross asked if four notice boards were required? It was agreed that they were all useful at times.

12. TREE FELLING IN A CONSERVATION AREA

Cllrs were concerned that a tree had been felled in the village without planning permission.

A poster was created by Cllr Shaw to be circulated on pitchcombe.net. It was agreed that a copy would also be sent to the tree surgeon involved (not named). This would be hand delivered by Cllr James.

13. DOG FOULING

The informal notice placed at the top of Halfway Pitch had been removed and a conversation with the resident had occurred in which advice was given to contact the SDC dog warden, to put signage on their own property and to secure their property.

Q. Is dog fouling an issue in the village – do we need further help such as to apply for a dog waste bin?

A. A dog waste bin is not suitable.

It was agreed that Cllr Pearson would design a poster highlighting the dangers of dog waste which could then be put on the notice boards and circulated via pitchcombe.net. Cllr Pearson would get approval before circulating.

14. FINANCE

a. To approve the accounts for payment. The following accounts were presented for payment:

Parish Council Websites	£130.00
I. Crowe (Audit)	£25.00
H. Paton March salary	£164.55
H. Paton April salary	£164.55
HMRC	£67.60
Total Invoices for payment:	£551.70

The accounts were approved for payment.

b. To sign the Annual Governance Statement

The Council unanimously agreed to sign the Annual Governance Statement - the Annual Internal Audit Report was noted, section 1 of the AGAR was approved followed by section 2. The Certificate of Exemption was agreed.

c. To adopt the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021

The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the accounts.

d. Insurance renewal

Renewal quote yet to be received.

The clerk will check the current insurance policy for public liability and to see if building works is included to cover the phone kiosk installation.

Q. Cllr Shaw asked for the current budget

A. Balance as of 31st march 2021 £1928.51

There was a collective concern about the lack of funds in the account. The laurel hedge maintenance was identified as a large additional cost which was seen as an unfair expenditure for the village. Cllr Gorton suggested that residents behind the hedge may contribute to the annual maintenance.

It was agreed that the laurel hedge maintenance will be discussed further at the September meeting.

Q. A member of the public expressed their concern for the traffic speed coming from the Painswick direction. They suggested a 40mph speed limit to be put in place. Also a concern was raised about housing development at Whaddon and the impact this would have on the local roads.

A. Speed limit is an ongoing matter.

The date of the next meeting will be held on Thursday 16th September at 7.30pm in the Pitchcombe Village Hall.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.32pm**

***Please note items 6 and 7 were changed around following the agenda being sent. This was due to the need to discuss planning applications.**