

**MINUTES OF A PITCHCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL ON  
THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Cllr Philippa James Chairman  
Cllr Beverly Gorton  
Cllr Michael Parsons  
Cllr Nigel Shaw  
Cllr Paul Swadling

In Attendance: District Cllr Gary Luff.

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no members of the public therefore no public questions.

**1. Apologies** (To receive apologies for absence).

The Council accepted apologies from County Cllr Sue Williams, PCSO Nicola Wood and local resident Ian Inch.

**2. Declaration of Interest** (Members are requested to declare any interest they may have in the business set out on the Agenda to which the approved Code of Practice appears.)

There were none.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

**4. a. To receive a report from County Councillor.**

In the absence of County Cllr Sue Williams the Chairman provided an update on the following items:

- MPC17 – Confirmation was given that the rights of way team had recently visited the site, affirming that the bridleway cannot be accessed from Whiteshill due to a stile. It was suggested that the landowner will need to be contacted regarding the installation of a bridle gate to allow horse riders to use the route.
- A46 Traffic lights – Members were notified that there would be traffic lights on the A46 for approximately 2 weeks whilst a wall is being repaired near the rugby club.
- TRO – County Cllr Sue Williams confirmed TRO 5227-42 is still at stage 3 with no further updates.

Initials & date:

**b. To receive a report from the District Councillor.**

Distirct Cllr Gary Luff provided an update on recent District matters. Focus points included:

- An update on Stratford Park Leisure Centre and confirmation regarding the continuation of discounts and concession rates. *Link: [Active Lifestyles Stroud - Active Lifestyles Stroud District](#)*
- A reminder regarding the Brimscombe Port consultation on the 12<sup>th</sup> December at Stroud Brewery. *Link: [Date set for Brimscombe Port redevelopment consultation](#)*
- Details in reference to winter fuel payments and other energy related support options, including the ECO4 grant. *Link: [Energy Company Obligation Grants - ECO4](#)*

**c. To receive a report from the Council Chairman.**

The Chairman had no additional updates other than the items that had already been discussed.

**d. To receive the Clerk's Report.**

The Clerk provided a brief update on matters dealt with since the previous meeting, including a review of outstanding administrative documents and praise for the recent help from the Cotswold Wardens. The Clerk also confirmed that PCSO Nicola Wood had affirmed there were no issues to discuss at the meeting.

Whilst also reviewing updates on Parish Council matters the Parish Emergency box was discussed. Cllr Nigel Shaw kindly requested that another Cllr stored the box and the Chairman confirmed she would assist.

**5. To discuss planning application S.24/1911/TCA Spring Bank Cottage, Pitchcombe, Stroud, Gloucestershire. T1 Norway Spruce - Fell to near ground level. T2 Yew - Fell to near ground level. T3 Holly - Fell to near ground level. T4 Hawthorn - Reduce all over by up to 3.0m.**

[S.24/1911/TCA | T1 Norway Spruce - Fell to near ground level. T2 Yew - Fell to near ground level. T3 Holly - Fell to near ground level. T4 Hawthorn - Reduce all over by up to 3.0m. | Spring Bank Cottage Pitchcombe Stroud Gloucestershire GL6 6LN](#)

The Parish Council supported the application with the understanding that the T3 Holly would now be retained on the property.

Initials & date:

**6. To receive the following reports/ updates if relevant:****a. PROW - MPC17**

There were no further updates following the reading of County Cllr Sue Williams update.

**b. Footpaths in general within the parish.**

It was agreed that there had been some improvements and the Clerk and Councillors were impressed with the work recently completed by the Cotswold Wardens. It was agreed this relationship was working well and a donation should be discussed for their efforts. The Clerk reiterated that she would also continue to report items on FixMyStreet if they are brought to her attention.

**c. Dog fouling in the Parish**

It was confirmed that the issue had improved, however it would be discussed again in the spring meeting when the weather improves and more people are out.

**d. TRO 5227/42 and Highways**

There were no further updates following the reading of County Cllr Sue Williams update. It was generally agreed that members were disappointed with the slow progress, especially now the winter months had arrived and road conditions were more hazardous.

**7. To adopt the revised 2018 standing orders with 2024 amendments included.**

The item was deferred until the next meeting. The Clerk advised that the members must adopt a final version at the next meeting. Cllr Nigel Shaw confirmed he would assist the Clerk with a new version ready for presentation in March.

**8. To adopt the revised Financial Regulations.**

The item was deferred until the next meeting. The Clerk advised that the members must adopt a final version at the next meeting. Cllr Nigel Shaw confirmed he would assist the Clerk with a new version ready for presentation in March.

**9. To agree that Pitchcombe Parish Council will not look into changing their website to the .gov domain until it is a compliance requirement.**

It was agreed that no further discussions would be held on this item until it is a compliance requirement.

- 10. To discuss and approve the conversion of the Parish Council Treasurers Account from traditional management to online processing and transactions. To also discuss the recent notification regarding banking charges.**

It was agreed that the Clerk would look into this change and additionally confirm there are no other account options which would not incur a fee.

- 11. To approve the continuation of Parish Council meetings falling on the months of March, May, September and November (after a 6 month trial period of not having meetings alternate months).**

It was agreed that the new meeting schedule was working, however it could be reviewed again if required.

- 12. Accounts:**

- a. To approve the Accounts for Payment as per the list circulated prior to the meeting.**

Accounts for payment:		For meeting 28th Novemeber 2024	
Payee	Chq Number	Amount	Reason
T Slator	502	£184.49	Oct Salary £158.49 Exp £26
HMRC	503	£39.80	Oct PAYE tax
T Slator	504	£190.94	Nov Salary £158.69 Exp £32.25
HMRC	505	£39.60	Nov PAYE tax
Village Hall	506	£75	Village Hall hire: 25/1, 26/9 and 28/11
<b>Total</b>		<b>£529.83</b>	

The Council agreed that the accounts be accepted for payment.

- b. To approve and adopt the Budget for the financial year 2025/2026**

Queries were discussed and the budget for the financial year 25/26 was approved.

- c. To approve the Precept for the financial year 2025/2026**

The Precept for the financial year 25/26 was approved.

- d. To confirm the appointment of Mr Ian Crowe FFA as the Council's internal auditor for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.**

The members approved the use of Mr Ian Crowe's services for the upcoming

Initials & date:

audit.

- 13. **To confirm the date of the next meeting: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (or amendment pending agenda item 11) 7.30pm, The Village Hall.**

The next meeting date was confirmed as Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS  
THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.54 PM**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Initials & date: