

Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council
in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 6th January 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Steve Bowler
Holly Corfield
David Drew
Jean Foley
John Howe
Joseph King
R o g e r
Noble
Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

Two Members of the public were present and Councillor Nigel Woolcombe-Adams.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:** Steven Kearle

3 **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on the 2nd December 2105 were approved.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Item 12 Festival: Councillors R Kearle and H Corfield (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment). Councillors Bowler, Corfield, Drew, Foley, King and Howe, declared a personal interest (ticket). Councillor Drew declared in respect of planning applications "I do not have a declaration of interest but I might do in the future". Councillors R Kearle and Noble, personal interest in 4th planning application.

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Highways:

The Clerk confirms that all defects reported at last month's meeting now have reference number.

The Clerk will email Highways to report the following new defects:

- Mount Pleasant to the junction at Beals Hill up to Sweet Retreat is very uneven with holes appearing the entire length.
- Dreadful mess at the end of Top Street opposite the pathway to John Burns close and the Allotments. Several locals park there and it is a mud bath. It looks unsightly and as the mud is slowly being distributed further on the road it is becoming a hazard.

Discussion took place as to whether this should be a parking space or a passing place. A vote took place whether to report this issue to Highways. The vote was three for and three against, with the deciding vote from Councillor R Kearle voting to advise Highways of this issue.

- Stay cables across the pavement and people are walking into them at night. It was requested that these are made more visible or less painful.
- Road sign collapsed at Lamberts Hill, Springfield Cross. It has been down for about a month.
- On the left side as you go up the road, the drain on Copse Lane is filled with mud.
- There is a pothole that needs investigation on Top Street
- Reference 291974, manhole cover/road subsidence between Burford Cross and Stoodley is worse.
- The 30 mile sign on Top Street to Lower Street on right hand side of post is damaged.

The Clerk was asked to respond to an email from Andrew Tranter, SCC, asking why villagers would object to double white lines between Top Street and the Crown Inn and to state this work should be carried out.

- ii Zebra crossing between bus stops on the A361: Councillor Nigel Woolcombe-Adams provided an update regarding the Parish Councils request for the zebra crossing. The first stage of the Small Improvement Scheme has now closed but there are two further opportunities later in the year. Currently there are thirty schemes outstanding. Councillor Woolcombe-Adams has had a preliminary meeting with Nick Cowling, SCC, who stated that officers would not approve this scheme. Councillor Woolcombe-Adams was asked to respond to Nick Cowling to request that he meet on site to discuss the scheme further with the Parish Council. It was asked whether the scheme would be looked on more favourably if the Parish Council could obtain part funding? Councillor Woolcombe-Adams will request a quotation for the work and Councillor Kearle will investigate alternative funding options.

Councillor Woolcombe-Adams provided an update. He confirmed that the Rivers Board is going ahead. Devolution of Somerset and Devon, together with local enterprise, will put in a bid for things they want and are currently waiting for a response. Child Social Care has been deemed inadequate, improvements include fifty new social workers but this will not happen by April. The Councils finances are seriously bad at present, with 40% knocked off of budgets. There is a 2% proposed increase in Council Tax increase. This money would go towards Adult Social Care. Cancellation of the SW1 (IBM) contract and the financial penalties involved will be outweighed by the benefits of bringing this service back in-house. Councillor R Kearle thanked Councillor Woolcombe-Adams for his help.

- iii Fords and Bridges: The Clerk has received an email from Tony Lee, SCC to advise that SCC are proposing to start the works to Barrow Footbridge at the beginning of March 2016. This will require a road closure at the Ford for the duration, however emergency vehicles will have access if required. To save time on site the existing post and railings will be removed before works commence fully to try and repair existing or fabricate something similar. In place will be tubular steel post and rails but this is a temporary measure. The Clerk was requested to chase Paul Tucker for a copy of the detailed scheme and remind Tony Lee and Paul Tucker that they agreed to clean Cockmill Ford Bridge.
- iv Fingerposts: Discussion have been taking place with Cerdic Foundries. John Pratt will be visiting the company on the 14th January to finalise requirements and then the

Clerk will receive a final quotation, then the order can be placed. Councillor Bowler stated that he needs to advise John Pratt of the mileage figure.

The Clerk has written to Mr and Mrs Taylor requesting access to repair the fingerpost at Pylle Road and Worthy Lane.

- v Mendip Community Transport Service (Slinky Bus): The Clerk was requested to put in a request in the Roundabout magazine for the villages requirements for the new Slinky bus service. Councillor Corfield will put the same request in the Post Office and around the village.

The Mendip Community Forum is taking place on the 14th April.

- vi Speed Camera Devices: The Clerk has received an email from Tim Rust regarding the Speedwatch Group, advising that he will organise training in the new year and will update the Force website advising that Pilton Parish Council are being very proactive and want to train villager in the use of the SID.

The Clerk will chase Tim regarding this and copy in Councillor King.

Jude Glide emailed the Clerk to advise that Midsummer Norton have a permanent smiley face SID which shows the speed by either a smiley face or a frown. The Clerk was asked to contact Midsummer Norton Parish Council to ask how they obtained one. The Clerk will also ask Highways.

- vii Vegetation growing beside the roads on Top Street, Barrow Lane, John Beals Hill, and several other locations: The Clerk has written a letter to the owner of Grey Gables. Councillor Bowler will ask the ASBO's to work on the vegetation at John Beals Hill.

- viii Introduction to Assets of Community Value Course: There were no suggestions from Councillors re potential assets. This will be removed from the agenda.

- ix Low Cost Housing: The Clerk has received a letter MP James Heapey but the enclosure was missing. The Clerk will chase this. Councillor Howe has been reassured by Michael Eavis that the housing scheme is getting close to moving ahead. Councillors have not received a planning application for the housing yet.

- x Transparency Fund: It was felt that there was little benefit in pursuing this funding. SALC training will take place regarding the new code. The Clerk is awaiting a date. Remove from the agenda.

- xi Gypsy and Traveller Count: The Gypsy and Traveller Count is due to take place on the 14th January. Councillor Noble agreed to complete the count. Concerns were raised that the Parish Council receive no feedback from MDC and the Clerk was asked to request this.

- xii Rubbish at Whitstone Hill: This has now been collected. Remove from the agenda.

- xiii Defibrillator: Mrs Elkin emailed the Clerk to advise that Joy James has taken on the task of trying to get a free defibrillator. This is to be mounted on the outside of the village hall. No response has been received yet to the application.

6 **PLANNING:**

i Application No: 2015/3015/HSE
Proposal: Alterations to rear roof to provide 3 No dormer roof is one velux window and additional patio door GF
Location: The Old Smithy Conduit Square Pilton Shepton Mallet Somerset
Applicant: Mr John Reina
Application Type: Householder Application
Councillors Recommendation: APPROVAL (proposed by Councillor Bowler, seconded by Councillor Corfield, decision unanimous)

Application No: 2015/2785/HSE
Proposal: 1st floor gable extension, replacement of shed dormer with 2 no. gable dormer windows. Rear dining room bay window replaced with lean-to single storey extension with glazed double doors.
Location: Upper House Perridge Hill Pilton Shepton Mallet BA4 4EN
Applicant: Mr Mark Franklin
Application Type: Householder Application
Councillors Recommendation: APPROVAL (proposed by Councillor Noble, seconded by Councillor Bowler, decision unanimous)

Councillor Drew left the meeting

Application No: 2015/2819/LBC
2015/2831/FUL
Proposal: Extension to existing Methodist Chapel to provide new meeting room, catering facilities and accessible toilets.
Location: Pilton Methodist Chapel Top Street Pilton Shepton Mallet Somerset
Applicant: Mr Philip Eavis
Application Type: Listed Building Consent
Councillors Recommendation: APPROVAL (proposed by Councillor Howe, seconded by Councillor Bowler, decision unanimous)

Application No: 2015/2225/FUL
Proposal: Application for the erection of a dwelling and access (amended details)
Location: Harvest Gate Mount Pleasant, Pilton, Shepton Mallet.
Applicant: Mr A Bailey
Application Type: Full Application
Councillors Recommendation: APPROVAL (proposed by Councillor Bowler, seconded by Councillor King, decision unanimous)

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number: 2015/2408/HSE
Proposal: New dormer windows and roof light inserted in the front elevation roof slope.
Location: Beechcroft Top Street, Pilton
Decision: Approval with Conditions

Application Number: 2015/2401/HSE

Proposal: Proposed conversion of existing outbuilding to form ancillary accommodation to main house.

Location: Midsummer House, Compton Lane, West Compton.

Decision: Approval with Conditions

Application Number: 2015/2722/CNT

Proposal: Temporary stone quarry of Cumhill, temporary use of part of red barn for stone dressing, temporary storage alongside red barn, temporary use of green barn for stone breaking.

Location: Worthy Farm, Worthy Lane, Pilton

Decision: The Local Planning Authority raises no objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2015/2070/HSE

Proposal: Replace flat roof with pitched roof to provide first floor accommodation and insertion of dormer window in existing roof slope, removal of swimming pool and replacement access and parking.

Location: Upper House, Perridge Hill, Pilton

Decision: Approval with Conditions

Application Number: 2013/0676

Proposal: The change of use of the land from a mixed use (agriculture and siting of a non-residential caravan) to the siting of a Shepherds hut and yurt for use as holiday accommodation along with ancillary shower and WC building, associated parking and new vehicular access and septic tank. (amended description and amended plan received 25.08.2015)

Location: Windrow, Pylle Road, Pilton

Decision: Approval with Conditions

- iii The Clerk has received an email from North Wooton Parish Clerk stating their concerns regarding the Industrial Units, planning application 2015/2566. The Clerk was asked to respond thanking them for their concerns and advising that Pilton Parish Council approved this application at their last meeting and are unable to change their minds unless the application is resubmitted.
- iv Enforcement: The Clerk has received an email from Simon Snartt advising that a Planning Contravention Notice ref ENF/2015/0036 has been issued to Raymond Loxton on Friday 18th December for Beggars Roost.

Cock and Bull Drove: No update

It was discussed that Cutters Cottage is too close to the road. The road is being used as a builder's yard and the ditch is blocked. The Clerk was asked to email MDC to check whether the house is too close to the road as cars are having trouble passing. The Council voted five in favour and one abstention of advising MDC.

Mrs Stone at Friars Oven Farm has built two converted outbuildings without Planning Permission. There is also a caravan on site with a permanent resident.

Closed meeting

Open meeting

The Clerk was asked to email Nigel Hewitt-Cooper as he was investigating the yurts at Tanyard Lane/Watery Lane at Lower Westholme Road. Water and electricity is believed to have now been installed. The Clerk with copy in Mrs Pauline Hobbs.

It looks like footings have been dug out at Tanyard Farm on the east side.

7 **FOOTPATHS:**

i Update:

The first meeting of the Footpaths Committee is taking place at 7pm on the 3rd February, prior to the Parish Council meeting.

Councillor Noble advised that the Mendip Ramblers are replacing stiles and installing metal kissing gates. The Parish Council were advised that the Ramblers have carried out this work for over twenty years. It is SCC who have the authority to agree with the replacement. The Parish Council were unaware that this work was happening and Councillor Bowler stated that he has previously asked the Ramblers to advise the Parish Council if work is to be carried out. Councillor Bowler will contact the Ramblers again to advise that they need to speak to the Landowners and the Parish Council in future prior to work commencing.

The ASBO's have requested a new strimmer. Councillor King advised that there is a strimmer owned by the Parish Council that is used at Gabriel's Orchard that the ABBO's can use.

8 **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:

	Balance b/f from 02/12/2015	£38,225.14
	Plus banked:	<u>£ 0.00</u>
0.00		£
	Less cheques drawn:	
	Mrs K Buckley (Clerk) - salary/expenses	£225.79
	(ink cartridges £22.49, paper £2.50, expenses	
£10)	Mrs W Lynn (Burial Secretary) - salary	
£30.83		
	R England (Groundsman) - wages	<u>£0.00</u>
	Total cheques drawn:	£256.62
	Balance at 02.12.15	<u>£37,968.52</u>

ii Precept 2016/17: The Precept meeting took place at 7pm on the 6th January before the Parish Council Meeting. It was agreed that the Precept would remain at £8000. The Clerk will complete the necessary paperwork.

Councillor R Kearle stated that the Playing Field Trust will be applying for £10,000 next month. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Paul Warry as to how the Parish Council reclaim the VAT.

iii The Clerk has spoken to Paul Warry regarding the new audit procedures. His advice was not to opt out. The Parish Council agreed to take Paul's advice. Need to check as

the Parish Councils turnover will be unusually high next year due the vat reclaim on the playing fields (spend approx. £80K). The Clerk will investigate.

The Clerk was asked to check the insurance for Gabriel's Orchard. Put on next moths agenda.

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- i SALC Survey from the RSPB
- ii Fostering in Somerset
- iii Rural Opportunities Bulletin, 2/12/2015
- iv Rural Health Conference 2016, 3/12/2015
- v SALC Negotiate a Better Outcome in Planning Course
- vi Parish Council Information Bulletin, 3/12/2015
- vii Weekly Email News Digest, Monday 7th December
- viii SALC Allotments Training 19/1/2016
- ix Rural Services Network – Making Rural Settlements Work, 8/12/2015
- x Rural Vulnerability Service, Fuel Poverty, December 2015
- xi Recycle December 2015 SWP Briefing
- xii Weekly Email News Digest, Monday 14th December 2015
- xiii MDC – Warmer Improved Somerset Homes Course, 7th January 2016
- xiv Listening, Learning, Challenging – the future of hubs and libraries
- xv SALC – Referendum Principles
- xvi SCC - Article on Somerset Choices (Put in Roundabout Magazine)
- xvii Rural Economy Spotlight, 23/12/2015
- xviii Rural Vulnerability Service, Rural Transport, December 2015

10. BURIAL GROUND:

- i Maintenance reports: Councillor Drew has completed two reports, both were fine but he had run out of form. The Clerk will email him a copy.
- ii Mrs Whiteway: The repair to the headstone has been completed free of charge by AJS Memorials. The Clerk was asked to write to the company thanking them.

11. ITEMS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION:

- i Roundabout report

The Parish Council meeting in April has changed from the 7th April to the 12th April it will now be held after the GFL/PPC meeting.

SCC are proposing to start the works to Barrow Footbridge at the beginning of March 2016. This will require a road closure at the Ford for the duration, however emergency vehicles will have access if required. To save time on site the existing post and railings will be removed before works commence fully to try and repair existing or fabricate something similar. In place will be tubular steel post and rails but this is a temporary measure.

Mendip Community Transport Service (Slinky Bus) are asking for your requirements for community transport. The new service is starting in March 16 and they would like to arrange dates and schedules for local villages. Please email them and the village Clerk with what you need as soon as possible to ensure our requirements are met. Mendip Community Transport Service email address is mentrans@btconnect.com

The first meeting of the Footpaths Committee is taking place at 7pm on the 3rd February, prior to the Parish Council meeting.

- ii Councillor R Kearle will approach Audrey regarding providing soup and rolls for the litter pick.

The Clerk advised that she has received a letter from West Pennard Primary School requesting funding for a bus guide. This will be put on the agenda for next month's meeting.

Councillor Howe will drive around the village to check for potholes. The Clerk will email Neil Corp, SCC, to ask for dates to meet with Councillor Howe and Noble in February.

Another notice board is required as there is not enough space on the current one. The Clerk was requested to email Steve Bath (Chair of Trustees) to ask them to discuss at their earliest convenience.

The Clerk advised that due to holiday commitments she would like to change the Parish Council meeting in April from the 7th April to the 12th April and for it to be held after the GFL/PPC meeting.

12 **FESTIVAL:**

- i Festival/ Off Site Camping feedback: The Clerk read an email from Peter & Lis Lawrence which stated their thoughts regarding off site camping.

Councillors were requested to suggest formal wording or principles regarding off site camping in preparation for the GFL/PPC meeting.

The Clerk was asked to email GFL to ask their intentions re Weir Cottage and off site camping, their formal wording re passes etc and to check businesses cannot obtain access to hospitality tickets. Draft should be sent to Councillor Howe.

The Clerk was asked to chase the police re their festival report which the Parish Council was promised.

The Clerk was asked to email GFL as want to add to the agenda for the GFL/PPC meeting.

- ii Clearway System and Enforcement:
- iii GFL/PPC minutes: Dates of next meetings
6pm on 9th February 2016
6pm on 12th April 2016
6pm on 7th June 2016

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 3rd February 2015 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.40pm

Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2016/17, commencing at 7.30pm in the Winding Lake room.

Wednesday 4th May

Wednesday 8th June

Wednesday 6th July

Wednesday 3rd August

Wednesday 7th September

Wednesday 5th October

Wednesday 2nd November

Wednesday 7th December

Wednesday 4th January

Wednesday 8th February

Wednesday 1st March

Wednesday 5th April

Annual Parish Meeting TBC