

The Monthly Meeting of the Pilton Parish Council
was held in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 1 October 2014 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Paul Warry (Treasurer)
Audrey Brown
Dave Drew
John Howe
Jacquelyn Taylor
Clerk

3 members of the public.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mobile phones should be switched off please.

APOLOGIES: were received from Councillors Kelly Sumner (Vice Chairman), Elizabeth Elkin and Roger Noble.

MINUTES: of the meeting held on 3 September 2014 were amended and subsequently signed.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Item 12 Festival: Councillors Kearle, Brown and Taylor declared a prejudicial interest (employment, employment and bed and breakfast) respectively. (Dispensations approved). Councillors Drew, Howe and Warry declared a personal interest (ticket).

PLANNING:

MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

2014/1611/OTA Outline Planning Application (all matters reserved) – develop land by the erection of a single storey bungalow – Land South East of Wynton, Higher Westholme Road – REFUSAL.

Enforcement:

Planning Enforcement Team: The Clerk read an email from Stuart Cave on behalf of Stuart Brown Chief Executive at MDC stating “The Team is as you indicate busy dealing with the numerous requests and expectations brought to the attention of the department. As you are aware enforcement is not a statutory requirement and as such the Council is able to prioritise its response to breaches on a case by case basis to assist in managing appropriate levels of work activity. Nevertheless the Manager for the department monitors the work load and capacity on an ongoing basis and will take appropriate steps when necessary”.

The Clerk was asked to send a copy of the email to Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper and ask him if he thinks this is an adequate response.

Planning Contravention Notices: The Chairman advised Councillors that MDC had sent two notices for suspected breach of planning control to Mr Snook at Lower Westholme Road.

The Chairman closed the meeting for the public to speak.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

Cock and Bull Drove: Councillor Howe asked whether Council would receive information on the situation at Cock and Bull Drove.

The Chairman closed the meeting for the public to speak.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan: The Clerk circulated an email from St Cuthbert (Out) Parish Neighbourhood Planning Group suggesting that a Memorandum of Understanding may be necessary if they discover issues that cross their border into our Parish. Councillors noted.

MATTERS ARISING:

Highways: Councillors were advised that the SID had been positioned on Whitstone Hill.

Fords and Bridges:

Specifications: Councillors received copies of specifications for Cockmill ford and Pilton ford produced by Andrew Pearce. The Clerk was asked to carry out the following:-

- Send the specifications to SCC for their approval and question the insurance.
- Ask Councillor Hewitt-Cooper if there are any listed building issues.
- Ask SALC if Council have the powers to do the work.
- Send out for tenders to local builders, Liam Higgins, Derek Hurford, Ed Moon and Andrew Pearce.

Fingerposts:

Lower Street and bottom of Neat Lane: The Clerk read an email together with photographs of two more completed fingerposts from John Pratt.

Pylle Road opposite Worthy Lane: Councillors agreed to leave this fingerpost as it was on private land.

Lamberts Hill: The Clerk advised that Highways at Glastonbury were searching for spare arms. The Clerk was asked to establish who made new arms to enable Council to repair Lamberts Hill fingerpost.

Drain in East Town: The Clerk read a letter from Dr Jessica Holm advising Council that she had done everything possible to solve the foul water discharge into the environment local to East Town Lodge and Chanters House. Further investigations were being made and Dr Holm agreed to keep Council updated.

The Chairman closed the meeting for the public to speak.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

War Memorial: The Chairman advised Councillors that Phase 2 of the War Memorial had been completed by Mr Andrew Pearce who had done a first class job.

The Chairman closed the meeting for the public to speak.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

The Clerk was asked to send a letter of thanks to Mr and Mrs Newns for their help in the completion.

FOOTPATHS:

Date of Footpath Committee Meeting: The Clerk advised that the Chairman of the Footpath Committee Steve Bowler suggested 7pm on 5 November 2014 prior to the next monthly Council meeting. Councillors agreed.

FINANCE:

Financial Statement: The Treasurer presented and explained the financial statement.

Cheques drawn:

1770	HMRC – PAYE	142.40	
1771	Mrs J Warry – salary and expenses		376.56
1772	Mrs W Lynn – salary		26.75
1773	R England – wages		13.82
1774	PWMC – Hall hire		24.00

1775	J Paget – tree work at Cockmill	200.00
1776	A Pearce – Phase 2 of War Memorial	7,080.00

Capital projects: The Clerk read an email from Justin Robinson of SALC stating “the capital receipt can only be used for capital projects. It is entirely up to your members as to how they progress this and there are no other restrictions in place; of course, the Council can only spend the money within the powers it has”.

Councillor Warry stated that the expenditure on the War Memorial project was almost certainly covered by the powers of the Council. A decision whether it was to be treated as a capital project utilising the Bier House funds or from the precept did not have to be made until the end of the financial year in six months time.

Health and Wellbeing grants for Mendip: Councillors were advised that a grant was available and the deadline for applications was the end of November 2014. It was agreed the Clerk ask the Happy Circle if they had any needs. Councillor Taylor agreed to process the application if required.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Circulation:

- Rural Services Network - 1, 8, 15, 22 September 2014
- Rural Services Network - Rural Opportunities Bulletin - 10 September 2014
- Rural Services Network – Rural Vulnerability Service - 17 September
- MDC - Parishes Information Bulletin - September 2014
- Local Council Review - Autumn 2014
- Clerks & Councils Direct - September 2014
- Temporary Road Closures
A361 Woodlands Road to Stockbridge Lane, West Pennard from 6 Oct for 5 evenings
B3155 Cary Road, Castle Cary from 29 Oct for 1 evening
- SALC Annual Report and Accounts 2013/2014
- SALC All Area Agenda 27 September and Minutes of the last meeting 24 March 2014
- Somerset Waste Partnership – new effort on driver shortage collection delays
- Mendip Local Plan – notes for Parishes following Rural Forum 21 July 2014

The Chairman closed the meeting for the public to speak.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

BURIAL GROUND:

Report of site meeting on 27 September 2014: The Chairman reported that he and Councillors Drew, Elkin and Taylor attended the meeting and agreed the following works:-

- Cut hedges all round.
- Clear away grass cuttings.
- Clear away grave spoil.
- Remove internal fencing.
- Remove tree guards.
- Install 12’ wooden gate.
- Lift crowns of internal trees.
- Replace top gateway.

Councillors agreed that all the above work was necessary.

The Chairman also reported that he and Lee Brookes with his tractor and digger carried out the majority of the work the next day and an invoice from Lee Brookes would follow.

A further working party was agreed for Saturday 8 November 2014 at 9am to pick up leaves and clean up the seat.

Maintenance reports Councillor Drew confirmed all was well.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION:

Vehicles parked on the highway: Complaints had been received from residents regarding a van parked in St Mary's Lane and a caravan parked at Parsons Batch which was causing difficulty for passing traffic. The Clerk was asked to contact the Police to establish their rights.

FESTIVAL:

GFL Minutes of 28 July 2014 (amended version): circulated to Councillors.

Festival issues: The Clerk was asked to put this item on future agendas.

Future GFL/PPC meetings: 10.02.15, 14.04.15 and 09.06.15

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 5 November 2014 at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman Robert Kearle at the meeting on 5 November 2014.

Jean Warry, Clerk Pilton Parish Council