

The Monthly Meeting of the Pilton Parish Council
was held in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 3 September 2014 at 7.00pm

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

MDC representative Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.

Two members of the public.

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

APOLOGIES: were received from Nina Richards of MDC and Parish Councillor Elizabeth Elkin.

MINUTES: of the meeting held on 6 August 2014 were approved and signed.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Item 6i Land East of Totterdown planning: Councillor Kearle declared a personal interest (friend).

Item 6ii Cockmill Croft Bungalow planning: Councillor Kearle declared a personal interest (Festival).

Item 6iii Land South East of Wynton planning: Councillors Drew and Warry declared a prejudicial interest (work and neighbour) respectively. Councillor Kearle declared a personal interest (customer).

Item 13 Festival: Councillors Brown, Kearle 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).

Councillor Drew declared in respect of planning applications "I do not have a declaration of interest but I might do in the future".

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Paul Gardiner of EG Carter Ltd, circulated a plan showing a revised layout with a nursery added. Mr Gardiner pointed out the main improvements as follows:-

- Eight south facing gardens and two south west facing gardens.
- Visual end to the development.
- Parking mainly in curtilage.

Councillor Noble arrived.

Mr Gardiner stated that Michael Eavis was happy with the revised plans and future expansion had been facilitated at his request. The site will fit its setting nicely.

Ben Cane of Guinness Hermitage answered questions as follows:-

- The electricity cable to go underground instead of over the nursery.
- Roads and driveways to be non tarmac permeable to deal with surface water, urban drainage system being looked at.

Councillor Howe asked the following questions:-

- 1 Have the infiltration rates been compared with rainfall intensity figures?
- 2 How would any resulting run-off be dealt with?

- 3 Would the water be fed into the river at the bottom of the valley?
- 4 Due to the proximity of the proposed nursery to the road, please could the road side of the footpath running south be fenced.

It was noted that a footpath link with John Burns Cottages was favourable especially for safety.

A request for a 20mph speed limit outside the nursery, would be best dealt with when the planning application was received for Councils recommendations.

It was proposed a level 3 standard in building.

The Chairman thanked both gentlemen for a fantastic job.

PLANNING:

14/30 2014/1220/OTS Three dwellings and amended access to field – Land East of Totterdown Lane, Pilton
OUTLINE – SOME MATTERS RESERVED.

Councillors recommended REFUSAL for reasons as follows:-

- Major access issue.
- Outside development limit.
- Over development of land.

14/31 2014/1548/HSE Proposed replacement roof to create first floor bedroom and storage, proposed garage conversion – Cockmill Croft Bungalow, Cockmill Lane, East Pennard – HOUSEHOLD APPLICATION.
Councillors recommended unanimous APPROVAL.

14/32 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, Pilton – OUTLINE – ALL MATTERS RESERVED.

One objection had been received in respect of outside the development limit.

The Chairman closed the meeting for the public to speak.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

Councillors recommended APPROVAL.

MDC planning decisions and recommendations :

2014/0787/FUL Division of property into two semi-detached houses, extension of roof area to rear to provide additional accommodation – The Old Smith, Conduit Square – REFUSAL.

2014/1161/FUL Retrospective proposed extension of agricultural building for winter straw storage – Agricultural Farm, Worthy Farm – APPROVAL.

2014/1284/TCA Proposed works to felling of trees in a Conservation Area – Manor House, Shop Lane – TPO not required (No objection).

2014/1298/FUL Erection of livestock shed/covered feed yard – Old Burford Farm, Burford – APPROVAL.

Enforcement: The Clerk read an email from Dave Woodbridge Senior Enforcement Officer at MDC stating that currently the majority of his time is spent dealing with a single case in Pilton which is impacting significantly on his ability to progress other cases.

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The Chairman opened the meeting.

Councillor Howe proposed that the Clerk write to the Chief Executive at MDC stating that the Council are happy with Mr Woodridge's work but are deeply worried about the pressure he is under and would strongly support temporary help. Councillor Noble seconded this proposal. Councillors agreed.

MDC SLOT:

Councillor Hewitt-Cooper concurred that Mr Woodridge was under much pressure of work including the footpaths and a letter to the Chief Executive was a good idea.

MATTERS ARISING:

Highways: The Clerk read an email from Neil Corp of SCC stating that an inspection of the following items has been arranged and safety defects identified will be actioned as necessary:-

Neat Lane, Pylle Road, Barrow Lane, outside Vicars Cottage, Bread Street and outside Threlfalls on the A361 state of the roads.

The drainage in the main road was observed to be working effectively during a recent storm and will be monitored. SCC agreed that the trimming of the bank on the A361 was imminent and an approach had been made for a local farmer to trim both banks on the A361, SCC had no objection subject to the usual conditions. Councillors confirmed that Finn Christensen's men had trimmed the banks.

Fords and Bridges:

Cockmill Ford and Footbridge: The Clerk read an email from Paul Tucker of SCC stating "the condition of the structure has not changed significantly since 2005, the works do not fair very highly in our outstanding works database. With regards to timescale it would not be in the near future, in excess of 12 months plus".

Cockmill Lane and Ford Lane bridges: The Clerk read an email from John Pratt stating that "the bridges are old and in need of repair before they collapse. If this were to happen they could be replaced with new bridges taking away another piece of our heritage".

The Clerk read an email from Robert Kearle confirming that he had taken Andrew Pearce to look at both bridges and asked him to draw up a schedule of works and costing, also produce a brief report of his history of bridge work for MDC and English Heritage.

A letter from Mr Pearce giving a brief report of his history of bridge work was circulated. Mr Pearce requested any old photographs of the bridges before he drew up a specification of works needed. The Chairman advised that he had asked the History Group for any bridge photographs. It was agreed to request photographs in the Roundabout.

Cockmill ash tree: The Chairman advised that a large ash tree growing out of the bed of the stream had gone over and needed to be removed as it was on the edge of the highway and pulling a railing out of the ground. Once the tree had been removed the railing might push back. The Chairman's tree surgeon had quoted a price of £200. Councillor Noble proposed the work be carried out seconded by Councillor Brown. Councillors were unanimous.

Lamberts Hill fingerpost: The Clerk was asked to contact Highways at Glastonbury and enquire where new arms for fingerposts are made.

Speed Indicator Device – Whitstone Hill: The Clerk read an email from Dave Grabham of SCC stating that "the earliest I am able to schedule a SID is for week commencing 22 September 2014 although this cannot be guaranteed. Following the installation the Parish Council will receive a report showing a breakdown of the speeds. The results of the installation will determine whether or not the location can be included permanently in the SID programme (approximately once every four months)". The Clerk confirmed contacting Jude Glide who had requested the SID and advised her of SCC's response.

Bier House: The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to Margaret Miles enclosing copies of minutes relating to the Bier House in 1977 (acquired by travelling to the Records Office at Norton Fitzwarren) and advising her that Bartlett Gooding and Weelen had sent Mrs Fraser a copy of the letter she wrote to Mr Bartlett regarding the sale.

New Police contacts: The Clerk agreed to circulate an email received from PCSO Guy Dury giving the contact details for Shepton Mallet Town Beat Officers.

Police Report: The Chairman read the a report produced by PCSO Dury as follows:-

Disturbance in the village; dangerous driving in the village; cow in Conduit Square; traffic issues along the main road; damage to vehicle in village; cow on the road; burglaries and attempted burglary in the village; detrimental poem posted around the village; door to door seller in the village.

FOOTPATHS:

Meeting: The Clerk was asked to contact the Chairman of the Footpath Committee, Steve Bowler for a suitable date.

FINANCE:

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

Cheques drawn:

1765	Bartlett Gooding & Weelen – Bier House fees	180.00
1763/1766	Mrs J Warry – salary (2 months)	345.16
1764/1767	Mrs W Lynn – salary (2 months)	53.30
1768	R England – wages (2 months)	38.51
1769	PWMC – Hall hire	36.00

Capital projects: The Clerk advised that Justin Robinson of SALC had not elaborated on his original explanation which stated “As the proceeds are a capital receipt, the sum will need to be held in an earmarked capital reserve and can only be spent on capital projects. Apart from that, there are no restrictions.” The Clerk also advised of the definition of ‘Capital Project’ – A long term investment made in order to build upon, add or improve on a capital-intensive project. A capital project is any undertaking which requires the use of notable amounts of capital, both financial and labour, to undertake and complete. Capital projects are often defined by their large scale and large cost relative to other investments requiring less planning and resources. Capital projects are typically planned and debated for a long period to determine the most efficient and resourceful method of completion. Councillor Howe thanked the Clerk for moving the Council forward.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Circulation:

- Rural Services Network 4, 11, 18, August 2014
- Rural Services Network - Rural Opportunities Bulletin
- Rural Services Network – Rural Vulnerability Service 13, 21 August 2014
- Rural Services Network – Spotlight on older people in rural areas
- Presentation and Workshop: Proposed SM Health Campus – 9 October 2014
- Historic Towns Forum August Newsletter
- War Memorial Trust Bulletin – August 2014
- Avon and Somerset Newsletter July 2014

BURIAL GROUND:

Maintenance reports: Councillor Drew presented the reports for the last two months which were all fine.

Overflow area: It was confirmed that Harvey Bailey had cut the long grass in the overflow area.

Site meeting: This was arranged for Saturday 27 September 2014 at 9am.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION:

Drain in East Town: Councillor Sumner reported that foul water was still discharging from the drain in East Town. Councillors agreed the Clerk write a letter to all residents living in East Town and Councillor Sumner agreed to hand deliver the letter.

Roundabout report:

Old bridge photographs.

Burglaries in village.

Next meeting.

FESTIVAL:

Festival signs: The Clerk read an email from Steve Russell-Yarde advising that there is now a permanent Clearway either side of Pilton from the 30mph signs to the A37 and from the 30mph signs towards West Pennard.

Councillor Noble stated that there was a festival sign at Totterdown the Clerk agreed to advise Mr Russell-Yarde.

GFL Minutes of 28 July 2014 were circulated to all Councillors.

Councillor Noble stated that his comment regarding Festival off site camping and tickets now a large concern, was omitted from the minutes. The Clerk agreed to contact Teresa England of GFL.

Councillor Taylor suggested Councillors discuss issues prior to GFL meetings in order to make the Council's position.

The Clerk agreed to contact MDC regarding the noise level report and advise all Councillors.

Future GFL/PPC meetings:

10 February 2015 – suggest GFL minutes go on the web.

14 April 2015

9 June 2015

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 1 October 2014 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2014 were amended and subsequently signed by the Chairman Robert Kearle at the meeting held on 1 October 2014.

Jean Warry, Clerk, Pilton Parish Council