

The Annual Council Meeting of the Pilton Parish Council
was held in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 13 May 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Steve Bowler
Holly Corfield
Dave Drew (for part of the meeting)
Jean Foley
Stephen Kearle
Roger Noble

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

Jean Warry outgoing Clerk in attendance.

18 members of the public.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **COUNCILLORS:** Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms were completed by all Councillors present and handed to the Clerk. It was agreed Councillors John Howe and Joseph King could complete their forms at the beginning of the next meeting on 3 June 2015.

3 **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

i Chairman: The Chairman Robert Kearle asked for nominations for Chairman. Councillor Bowler proposed Councillor R Kearle seconded by Councillor Drew, Councillors unanimously agreed. Councillor R Kearle accepted, completed and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form witnessed by the Clerk Karen Buckley.

ii Vice Chairman: The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Councillors King, Noble and Bowler were proposed. Councillor Bowler received a majority. Councillor Bowler accepted.

iii Committees:

Footpath: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Councillors Drew and S Kearle.

Burial Ground: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Councillors Drew, Foley and Noble.

iv Reports and Representatives:

West Pennard School: Headteacher, Helen Burchell.

Gabriel's Orchard: Joe King.

4 **APOLOGIES:** were received from MDC representative Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper and Councillors Howe and King.

5 **MINUTES:** of the meetings held on 1 and 22 April 2015 were approved and signed.

6 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:**

Item 14 Festival: Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), Corfield and S Kearle declared a prejudicial interest (employment) Councillors Foley, Drew, Noble and Bowler declared a personal interest (ticket).

Councillors R Kearle and Drew declared in respect of planning applications “I do not have a declaration of interest but I might do in the future”.

7 **MATTERS ARISING:**

- i Highways: The Clerk read an email from Neil Corp SCC stating that; an inspection of Perridge Hill has been arranged and any safety defects identified will be actioned as necessary.
- ii Zebra crossing between bus stops on the A361: The Clerk read an email from Mr Corp SCC which provided information relating to the small improvement scheme led by SCC and stating that the support of Nigel Woollacombe-Adams would be needed. The Clerk also read an update from Steve Russell-Yarde GFL as to how his meeting went with Highways.
The Clerk was asked to email Councillor Nigel Woollacombe-Adams to see how he is progressing this.
- iii East Town drain: The Clerk read a letter from Dr Jessica Holm with an update regarding the 'smelly drain'. The Clerk was requested to send a copy of the letter to Neil Corp Somerset District Council and reply thanking Dr Jessica Holm for her letter.
- iv Fords and Bridges: The Clerk read an email from Paul Tucker SCC confirming that Andrew Pearce was not approved for carrying out the work and the work is classed as low priority with SCC. The Clerk was asked to email Mr Tucker again requesting he look at the bridges, as the bridge at the ford has stones falling out and the pointing is in a bad state. The Clerk was asked to contact the insurance company, to see if insurance would cover the Parish Council should they arrange repair themselves.
- v Footpath opposite Barrow House: It was agreed that work needed doing. Councillor Bowler agreed to investigate.
- vi Fingerposts: Payment to John Pratt was agreed for work completed. Councillor Drew agreed to investigate a post facing the wrong way at Compton Lane.
- vii Proposal to widen Copse Lane: The Clerk read letters of grave concern from residents Janet Lees, Maureen Tofts and an email from Freda Marsden regarding proposals at Copse Lane.

Meeting closed

Meeting opened

The Council voted that they will withdraw previous support of any proposed changes to Copse Lane. Councillor Bowler will contact Mr Corp regarding issues.

The Clerk will write to GFL requesting clarification on the original proposal and any changes and why.

- viii Annual Parish Meeting report: The Chairman reported on the APM and stated that he would have liked to have seen more residents there.

Jean Warry read a letter of thanks for her retirement gifts and wished the new Clerk well.

Councillor Drew left the meeting.

8 **PLANNING:**

- i 15/14 2015/0731/HSE Proposed 2 new dormer roofs to rear and additional rear access door and patio – The Old Smithy, Conduit Square, Pilton – HOUSEHOLDER APPLICATION.
Councillors recommend - REFUSAL OF PERMISSION for the following reasons:-

The Council agree with the comments made by the Conservation Officer. The windows are too big and out of kilter with the property. It is felt that the windows should be more traditional and in keeping with the conservation area.

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

2015/0122/TCA Work on crown reduction, thin and removal of trees – Mulberry Cottage, Bread Street – TPO not required (No Objection)

2015/0244/HSE To erect a glazed oak orangery onto an existing patio at upper garden level, adjacent the house. To change two small windows at lower garden level to a French door and larger window – Freedom Cottage, Cumhill Lane – APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS

2015/0265/TCA Proposed felling of Ash tree, reduction of conifers and trimming of a larch – Freedom Cottage, Cumhill Lane – TPO not required (No Objection)

2015/0546/TCA Proposed pollarding, coppicing and pruning of trees in a Conservation Area – Weir Cottage, Weir Lane, Pilton – TPO not required (No objection)

iii MDC – Mendip Local Plan: The Clerk read an email from Councillor Hewitt-Cooper advising of the withdrawal of the High Court challenge to the Local Plan Pt 1.

iv Enforcement: No enforcement matters to report.

9 **FOOTPATHS:**

i Date for next meeting: Councillors agreed Tuesday 9 June at 8pm after GFL meeting.

10 **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement: The Clerk/RFO explained the financial statement for May.

Cheques drawn:

1804	Zurich Municipal – insurance	1,430.04
1805	Village Trust – subsidy for Post Office	600.00
1806	St John Ambulance – donation	50.00
1807	J Pratt – paint for fingerposts	42.43
1808	NALC – subscription	17.00
1809	Mrs E Elkin – APM catering	16.29
1810	Mrs J Warry (outgoing Clerk) – salary/expenses	244.70
1811	Mrs K Buckley (incoming Clerk) – salary/expenses	261.09
1812	Mrs W Lynn (Burial Secretary) – salary	30.83
1813	R England (Groundsman) – wages	38.10
1814	SALC – subscription	333.36

ii Internal Auditor Report: The Clerk read a letter from Tony Williams confirming that "all records and actions taken were found to be correct and in good order".

iii Bank Mandate: Councillors agreed that the new signatories should be the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Councillor Noble was already a signatory, making three required.

iv St John Ambulance: The Clerk read a letter of thanks for the Council's donation.

11 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i Somerset Local Authorities - Somerset Emergency Community Contacts: Councillors Bowler and Noble agreed to be contacts.
- ii Mendip Community Transport Service (Slinky Bus): The Clerk read a letter from Mrs Wendy Lynn requesting support for the continuation of this service.

Meeting closed

Meeting opened

It was agreed that this was a well used and valued service. The Clerk was asked to write to Mendip Community Transport advising that the Council wishes to keep the service as is.

iii Circulation:

- ≡ Rural Services Network – 30 March, 7, 13, 20, 27 April
- ≡ Rural Services Network – Rural Vulnerability Service – Fuel Poverty – April 2015
- ≡ Rural Services Network – Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Broadband – April 2015
- ≡ Rural Services Network – Rural Opportunities Bulletin – April 2015
- ≡ Rural Services Network – Spotlight on the heart of the village – April 2015
- ≡ SCC – The Care Act 2014 Factsheet
- ≡ SCC – Communications 0300 123 2224 poster (also on notice boards)
- ≡ SCC – Environmental Maintenance Information 2015
- ≡ Clerk & Councils Direct - May 2015

It was agreed that in future items for circulation that could be emailed would not be printed.

12 **BURIAL GROUND:**

- i Maintenance reports: Prior to his leaving Councillor Drew produced two maintenance reports which were both fine.

The Clerk was requested to contact Ron England to request that the area around cremation stones was trimmed and to contact Harvey Bailey to cut the long grass at his earliest convenience.

13 **ITEMS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION:**

- i Roundabout report: the following needs to be included:
 - ≡ Copse Hill - Councillors voted to withdraw Parish Council support for the proposed changes to Copse Hill.
 - ≡ GFL/ Footpaths meeting - the next GFL and Footpaths meeting is being held on the 9 June at 6pm. Footpaths meeting to follow.
 - ≡ Parish Council Meeting - the next Parish Council Meeting is to be held on the 3 June at 7.30pm
 - ≡ New number - the new single number for Somerset County Council is 0300 123 2224

14 **FESTIVAL:**

- i Report of 14 April GFL meeting:
- ii Weir Cottage bell tents removed from website - the Clerk read an email from Miranda and Simon Coombes confirming that the advert had been removed from the website.
- iii Temporary Traffic Restrictions Order 2015: an order has been received from SCC for the Festival which can be found on www.somerset.gov.uk
- iv Vehicle access to Worthy Farm: – the Clerk read an email from Jenny de Gex regarding her impressions of the impact of closing Hitchin Hill/Worthy lane to the bulk of the traffic needing access to Worthy Farm.

v Future GFL/PPC meeting: 9 June 2015 at 6pm

15 **NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 3 June 2015 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.04pm