

**Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council held  
in the Pilton Village Hall  
on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)  
Lynda Allen  
Audrey Brown  
David Drew  
Colin Elkin  
Stephen Kearle  
Joe King  
Roger Noble  
Andrew Shaw

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

11 members of the public were present.

1 **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i The Clerk asked for mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:** None

3 **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

- i. Appointment of Chairman – Councillor King proposed Councillor R Kearle, Councillor Shaw seconded, the vote was unanimously in favour.– Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by Councillor R Kearle
- ii Appointment of Vice Chair – Councillor King proposed Councillor Noble, Councillor Shaw seconded, the vote was unanimously in favour.
- iii Appointment of Committees – It was agreed that Councillors King, Shaw, R Kearle and Noble would be on the Footpaths Committee. All other Planning and Finance Committees include all Parish Councillors. Councillors Drew, R Kearle and Noble will for the Burial Ground Committee.
- iv Declarations of Acceptance of Office – Completed and signed by all Councillors at the start of the meeting and counter signed by the Clerk

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), A Brown and D Drew declared an interest (Trustee) in planning application 2019/1019/FUL. Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), L Allen, A Brown S Kearle, declared a prejudicial interest (employment) GFEL.  
R Kearle declared an interest in planning application 2019/0710/TCA.  
Councillors Allen, Brown, Drew, Elkin, King, Noble and Shaw declared a personal interest (ticket). Councillor Drew “I do not have a declaration of interest in any planning applications but I might do in the future”

5. **TO RE-AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**

- i. Standing Orders – Were approved.
- ii. Financial Regulations – Were approved
- iii. Complaints Procedure – Were approved

- iv. Freedom of Information & Data Protection – Were approved
  - v. Policy for dealing with the press/media – Were approved
6. **MINUTES:** of the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 were approved subject to an error stating stair lift not stair and Bishops Hill should read Fishers Hill.
7. **MATTERS ARISING:**
- i. Traffic Matters:
    - A361 meeting: Councillor King advised that there have been no further meetings. There could be finance put forward by the Government and MP James Heapey is PPS for the Minister for Transport so this could be beneficial.  
The Glastonbury Bypass could be detrimental for Pilton as the A361 could be a national freight route or it could be the Ridgeway Route proposal.  
The Clerk was asked to write to MP James Heapey to ask to denationalise the A361 as a HGV route.
    - Highways: Clerks Report – See Appendix A  
New Defects: Email from resident  
A361 the tarmac has broken away outside Fairfield Bungalow  
Bad pothole outside Springfield House, Neat Lane.  
Drain grid down from Lamberts Hill Farm has sunk down and dangerous, others are the same in that stretch of road.  
Stoodley Hill potholes getting worse. Some have been repaired but not all.  
West Compton towards Friars Oven towards Stumps Cross has bad potholes.  
Bad potholes in St Mary's Lane.  
Water going from Lower Street towards Beales House next to Gable House, either the drain is blocked or spring.  
In the road outside Burford there is a covered up drain outside Burford House, approximately two feet above the gate going upwards.
  - ii. Community Speedwatch:
    - Update – Speedwatch is going well at the Neat Lane junction with up to 50 vehicles speeding per hour. The highest speed recorded last month was 67mph. Having a weekly presence at the site is proving beneficial.  
Approval have been received from Avon and Somerset Police to monitor near Bush Nursery during the Festival Period.  
If the Speedwatch Team can identify that there is a problem with speeding at a location then the police will take action.  
  
It was stated that at Neat Lane/ Copse Hill and Top Street examples of careless driving has been noted of drivers on phones and speeding in tractors. Residents are asked to obtain registration numbers and Inspector Nicholson will be contact with the information.
    - Truck Count for April – Debbie Smith has stepped done from compiling the Truck Count each month. A volunteer to take over was requested. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.  
Councillor Noble expressed a big thank you to Debbie for her time, support and dedication for the Truck Count and the monitoring of Conduit Square. This was echoed by all Councillors.
  - iii. The Crown Inn: Assets of Community Value: Councillor King explained the principle of making The Crown Inn an Asset of Community Value for the new Councillors. The forms have now been completed and Councillors voted 7 in favour and 1 abstention

for the Clerk to check that Ian Mundy is still the contact at Mendip District Council and then submitting the forms.

iv Police Report: April Police Report

Specific reports for Pilton

19/04 – Summers Hill Lane, reported possible drink driver, Officer dealing, registered keeper from West Midlands.

24/04 – A361, Parsons Batch, Quarry Lorry caught electricity cable. Police attendance, Western Power attended and made safe.

The car crash outside Elm Farm was not listed in the Police Report.

v Wells Blue School Bus: Withdrawal of Service. A resident has contacted Councillor King as Somerset County Council have provided notice to parents that they will be withdrawing the bus service for children attending the Blue School in Wells. This is going to cause great difficulty for parents getting their children to school from September, when this takes effect. This is a service parents pay £800 per annum for and will affect 8 children within Pilton. There is no public transport that could replace this service. Private minibus companies have been approached but none of these can guarantee transportation both ways. Parents are greatly concerned that the children are returned safely as there is a County Lines issue within Wells.

The Clerk was asked write to MP James Heapey and Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper to make them aware of the situation.

It was also suggested that Mendip Community Transport may be able to provide the service and there is also a village minibus, Michael Eavis will be contacted regarding use of the

vi Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper: It was confirmed that Nigel was re-elected as Mendip District Councillor.

8. **PLANNING:**

i

Application Number	Proposal	Applicant & Location
2019/0641/HSE	Single storey extension to east elevation of dwelling	Scott Baldwin Wesley House, Top Street, Pilton
Councillor King proposed approval, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval.		
2019/0723/TCA	Works to trees with a Conservation Area: T1 – Conifer – Fell T2 – Conifer – height reduction by 4-5 metres. T3 – Ash Crown reduction and dead branch removal x 2 metres. T4 – Birch – Removal of low, lateral limbs. T5 – Yew – Crown reduction x 2 metres	Mrs Madeleine Mnatzaganian, Gable House, Lower Street, Pilton
Councillor Noble proposed approval, Councillor Shaw seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval.		
Councillor R Kearle left the meeting		

2019/0710/TCA	Works to trees in a conservation area:- T1 – Ash, fell. T2 – Spruce, crown raise. T3 – Ash, fell. T4 – Macrocarpa, crown raise and prune. T5 – Macrocarpa, fell. T6-8 – Ash, fell. T9 – Field maple, prune. T10 – Elm, prune. T11 – Ash, fell.	Mrs Angela Smith Hope Cottage, Mount Pleasant, Pilton
Councillor Brown proposed approval, Councillor S Kearle seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval		
Councillors Brown and Drew left the meeting and Councillor R Kearle returned.		
2019/1019/FUL	External alterations to the building to include change of use of existing double door to single automatic door, change of side door to steel secure door. Installation of an external plant and equipment and enclosure to include new 2.5m close board timber fence, external cold room. Lowering of existing external patio slabs by 200mm	Mr S Finlay Pilton Parish Hall St Mary's Lane Pilton
The Chairman of the Trustees spoke regarding the application. The existing doors will be retained in case they need to be reinstated at a later date. The refrigeration and storage unit will be below a required noise level. The Co op has not yet declared the level of noise of equipment they wish to fit. The Co op are expecting this to be a condition on the planning decision. Councillor S Kearle proposed approval, Councillor Allen seconded. The vote was 5-1 in favour of approval.		
Councillors Brown and Drew returned to the meeting.		
2019/1040/HSE	Refurbishment of detached orangery to create ancillary accommodation (Resubmission of 2018/2343/HSE).	Mr & Mrs V Ives Orchard House, East Compton Road East Compton
Councillor Noble proposed approval, Councillor King seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval		

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number	Proposal	Location	Decision
2019/0042/FUL	Infill of masonry arch bridge	Ridge Lane Bridge, Shepton Mallet	Approval with conditions
2018/1867/FUL	Development of 6 self-contained lodges & associated infrastructure (change of use of land)	Midsomer House Farm, East Compton Road, East Compton.	Approval with conditions

SCC/3538/2018	Extraction of up to 400 tonnes of Blue Lias building stone off Cumhill (Hitchens Hill Ground) over a 12 month period including the temporary use of part of the 'Red Barn' for processing and storage and the temporary use of the 'Green Barn' for stone breaking	Worthy Farm, Worthy Lane, Pilton	Conditionally Permitted
2019/0555/PAA	Notification of Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a 'larger' dwelling house (Class C3), and for the associated operational development	Mr Jason Turner Courtyard East Town Lane Pilton	Not Permitted Development
2019/0501/APP	Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (materials) and 4 (joinery) on planning consent 2018/2862/VRC	Mr C Armytage Bridge Cottage, Compton Lane, West Compton	Approval
2019/0480/APP	Approval of details of condition 5 (landscaping planting scheme) from application 2018/1729/HSE	Mr C Armytage Bridge Cottage, Compton Lane West Compton	Approval
2019/0234/FUL	Proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class 3) and for associated operational development.	Barn at Brook House Farm, Compton Lane, West Compton	Approval with Conditions

iii Enforcement:

- Councillor Noble stated that enforcement need to ensure that there are no visitors to Beggars Roost or Cock and Bull Drove during the Festival.

9. **FOOTPATHS:**

- i Update: Councillors R Kearle and Noble have walked Ford Lane/Weir Lane and have instructed a local contractor to make the lane safe and to put in a handrail. The budget is expected to be £2000.
- It was reported that the footpath at Lamberts Hill needs the bushes cutting back. Councillor Shaw will investigate.
- There has been an incident where a dog has attacked sheep. It was felt that signs need to be erected stating that dogs should be kept on leads.
- Jobs Lane footpath has brambles on one side.
- There is ragwort on the bank on the main road. The ASBO's were asked to remove and burn the plant but to remember to wear gloves.
- Joint ASBO/PPC committee meetings: It was agreed that Councillor King would continue as Chair of the Footpaths Committee and that meetings would be combined with the ASBO's meetings.

10. **FINANCE:**

- i Financial Statement:

Balance b/f from 31/03/2019							14,294.45
Plus banked:							
	Quantock Funerals					£	240.00
	Precept					£	9,500.00
							£ 9,740.00
Less cheques drawn:							
2101	K Buckley					£	396.00
	(£10 home working allowance, £5.50 Insurance, Stamps £12.75, Ink						
2102	£33.98					£	62.23
2100	W Lynn					£	37.00
2099	HMRC (K.Buckley £250.40 R England £17.60)					£	268.00
2097	K Buckley (Ink cartridge)					£	23.99
2103	R Kearle Postage					£	1.50
2091	Zurich Insurance					£	1,524.51
2104	SALC Training					£	30.00
2105	Pilton Working Mens Club Hall Hire					£	15.00
	Pilton Working Mens Club APM Hall Hire/Refreshments					£	75.00
2106	Information Commissioner (ICO, Data Protection)					£	40.00
							£ 2,473.23
Balance at 31/03/2019							£ 21,561.22

ii Review of signatories:

It was felt that it would be beneficial to have a third signatory. The vote was unanimous that this should be Councillor King.

iii Financial News/ Requests for Grants:

Councillor R Kearle advised that a request for £10k would be forthcoming from the Playing Fields.

It was felt that funding for Councillors training courses should be added for discussion to next month's agenda. Should the Parish Council pay for all or some Councillors training?

11. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

i. Clerks report: See Appendix B

ii. Any correspondence requiring further discussion:

12. **BURIAL GROUND**

i Maintenance reports:

Two reports were received both were fine. Councillor Drew confirmed that he was happy to continue his role and Councillors agreed.

It was reported that the Penny Lane grave has been completed and the burial ground tidied.

It was felt that Harvey Bailey should be contacted to trim the hedge.

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

i Roundabout report:

A villager's kitten was killed by a speeding car. There have also been reports of speeding in Top Street and parking too close to junctions. Residents are reminded to drive and park considerately.

The Parish Council wishes to pass on its thanks to the previous Councillors for the time and dedication that they gave to the Parish Council.

A resident stated that they felt that the Parish Council could do more to publicise the good work that they do, perhaps this could be done via the Roundabout.

14. **GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL:**

- i. Dates of the GFEL/PPC meetings:
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 6pm

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9pm

## **Appendix A**

### **Outstanding Pilton Parish Defects - May 2019**

#### **Blocked Drains/ Gullies:**

- a) Gullies were working at the time of inspection on 22/2/18. Query closed by SCC

- b) The Gully was working when inspected 20/2/18. However after an inspection with Councillor R Kearle programme. Due for clearance later this year as part of the next planned works programme.
- c) Overflowing drain in East Town Lane: SCC advised complete however Councillors advised that the drain is full and water is not running away. The drain needs sucking. Still awaiting a details of locations as unable to locate.
- d) Blocked drain at Parsons Batch. Councillor R Kearle showed the SCC representative the defect as he advised that it was not included as part of the cleaning rota and should be added. Confirmed due for clearance later this year as part of planned maintenance programme.
- e) Lower Street down towards Beales House on the left. Inspection arranged ref 531000.
- f) Westholme opposite the Lodge. Inspection arranged ref 531001
- g) Perridge drain needs sucking Inspection arranged ref 531002
- h) Top Street up to Culverwell House water running along the road. Inspection arranged ref 531005
- i) Outside Burford as turn in on upside as turn in. Inspection arranged ref 531007
- j) Opposite Pilton House there is a blocked Drain. Inspection arranged ref 531008
- k) The drain on the drive of Barrowfields House is full and running down towards the ford. It will be extremely dangerous should it freeze.
- l) Two drains outside The Lodge at Westholme are overflowing and pouring water across the road. Councillor R Kearle showed SCC representative the drain when they reviewed the defects but no action has yet to be taken.
- m) The drain is blocked by the railway bridge going into Shepton Mallet and the water is running across the road.
- n) There is a blocked drain near Lorien Bungalow at Top Street near Culverwell Cottage.
- o) There is still flooding at Pilton House. Further location details required.
- p) At the bottom of Watery Lane the drain is silted to the top outside Higher Westholme Farm. Reference 532067.
- q) Drain grid down from Lamberts Hill Farm has sunk down and dangerous, others are the same in that stretch of road.
- r) Water going from Lower Street towards Beales House next to Gable House, either the drain is blocked or spring.
- s) In the road outside Burford there is a covered up drain outside Burford House, approximately two feet above the gate going upwards.

### **Potholes**

- a) There is a large Pothole at the top of Mount Pleasant. Inspection arranged ref 531013
- b) A parishioner has highlighted potholes in Compton Lane, at the end where it turns left (East) and runs along the side of Manor Barn. There are several holes and at least 3 large ones appear to fall within Somerset CC's criteria for repair.
- c) Bad pothole outside Springfield House, Neat Lane
- d) Stoodley Hill potholes getting worse. Some have been repaired but not all.
- e) West Compton towards Friars Oven towards Stumps Cross has bad potholes.
- f) Bad potholes in St Mary's Lane.

### **General**

- a) Road Markings on Stoodley Lane and Bowermead Lane: These have been inspected and passed to traffic for inclusion in their works programme. These have been added to our parking review programme.
- b) Overgrown Vegetation: This has been referred to the 'Traffic Section'



- c) Visibility down Lamberts Hill: This has been referred to the 'Traffic Section' *An inspection has been carried out and no actionable defects could be identified.* A Councillor had a near miss due to the visibility at the Lamberts Hill/Shepton Mallet cross roads. There is poor visibility when looking right towards Lamberts Hill into Pilton. Traffic section dealing (SIS submission) In light of accident history Traffic Management will look at what improvements can be made and they will advise Nigel Hewitt-Cooper of updates. No timescales can be given.
- d) Yellow Lines at the bottom of Totterdown Lane: This has been added to the next Mendip Traffic Regulation Order with the support of Nigel Hewitt-Cooper. This is now only done once a year and likely to be done later in the year with all other Mendip sites. Traffic section dealing (SIS submission)
- e) Bank channels to ditch need redigging in Neat Lane: Ref 52476 Not a safety defect as on hill and not traffic impeding. Works will be considered for inclusion in programmed works. Works will be considered for inclusion in future works list subject to budget provision.
- f) The wall belonging to Orchard House in Pylle Road seems to be unstable, it is along the road that leads to the playing fields and there is concern that children could be walking along side it. Item passed to building control MDC.
- g) The road down Perridge Hill is veering to the right and the road is cracking up in the middle. No safety defects identified, site subject to Badger excavations. To be monitored when staff in areas.
- h) The Bridge has now been hit for a third time and the Parish Council think it's in a dangerous state. This has been reported twice previously. SCC advised that this has been passed to the Structures Team in Taunton [bridges@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:bridges@somerset.gov.uk). The bridge at Stoodley has been hit for the fourth time. Urgent action is required. The Clerk has chased March 19. **Update (March 19) there is now a large section, approx. half a metre wide, which has fallen off completely, exposing the risk of falling through into the stream.**
- i) The Clerk was asked to contact SCC regarding a request for 'Stop' signs at Burford. SCC advised that this has been forwarded to the traffic team for consideration. Not aware of this request, however if you are requesting a stop sign in place of a Give Way, DfT guidance states that new approvals for stop signs are only in exceptional circumstances. It is widely considered that all existing junctions requiring a stop sign would already have one approved. The guidance also states that a stop should only be used where visibility is so restricted that it is essential to stop, and that it cannot be used where visibility can be improved by cutting back a hedge etc.
- j) Lot of detritus in the drains, a list needs to be compiled of the locations and Councillor King will ask the ASBO's to clear the drains. Ridge Lane into Compton Lane. Noted
- k) Shop Lane and Top Street, an ambulance couldn't get through. Nigel will chase the painting of the double yellow lines. Forwarded to Traffic Section.
- l) Toll Cottage and North Wootton Road. Please provide further information as to the nature of the issue.
- m) The pavement at the bottom of Shop Lane has been damaged since the Water Board was working there. An inspection of the location has been arranged and safety defects identified will be actioned as necessary. Ref 530986.
- n) Top Street opposite allotments by side of road sinking away. Inspection arranged ref 531010
- o) Parsons Batch along the Church Wall subsidence. Inspection arranged ref 531012.
- p) There has been flooding in front of Gable House, which has never happened before.
- q) The road markings at Neat Lane, Copse Hill into Lower Street need replacing, the gravel needs removing and a road sign replacing.
- r) The weight limit sign at Barrows Hill needs putting back up.
- s) The sign at the top of Compton Lane (no through road) has been knocked over: Not aware of this request, please could you confirm whether the sign still needs to be erected? Is the sign still there?

- t) Fingerposts - A temporary repair on the one at the top of Copse Lane hill. ASBOs are looking into replacing the other listed damaged ones.
- u) The bank in Totterdown Lane opposite the new build houses has been pushed into the ditch and needs clearing. Reference 532062.
- v) By Lower Street going into Beales Hill there is running water from a drain or spring. Reference 532063
- w) The direction sign at the top of Beards Hill, East Compton towards the A37 has been knocked down. Reference 532064.
- x) The sign at the Top Street crossroads needs putting back up. Reference 532065
- y) The plastic chevron road sign on the verge outside the Manor House has been knocked over and people are driving on the verge. Further location details required.
- z) A361 the tarmac has broken away outside Fairfield Bungalow

## **Appendix B**

### **Pilton Parish Council**

#### **List of Correspondence received April/May 2019**

- i. Rural Services Network – The Rural Bulletin 2/4
- ii. SALC – Electric Car Charging Points 2/4

- iii. Rural Services Network – RSN Rural Funding Digest April 2019
- iv. April Parish Information Bulletin 4/4
- v. Mendip Local Plan Examination – Inspectors updated Matters and Issues 8/4
- vi. Rural Services Network – The Rural Bulletin 9/4
- vii. Nomination for Chair Awards 9/4
- viii. TTRO – Temporary Traffic Restrictions for the 2019 Glastonbury Festival 10/4
- ix. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 11/4
- x. RCNME11240 -.Public Notice Order – Townsend, Shepton Mallet 11/4
- xi. Community Roles at CCS 11/4
- xii. Local Authority Parking – Creating a Fairer and more Efficient Future 15/4
- xiii. Rural Services Network – The Rural Bulletin 16/4
- xiv. SCC Press Release – Primary school admission figures announced
- xv. Temporary closure of bridleway SM 16/40 – Pilton
- xvi. NALC Star Council Awards 2019
- xvii. April 2019 SWP monthly briefing 17/4
- xviii. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 18/4
- xix. The Rural Bulletin – Rural Services Network 24/4
- xx. Policy E Briefing PC7-19 – Traffic Commissioners 24/4
- xxi. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 24/4
- xxii. Parish Bulletin – May 2019
- xxiii. Wells Vineyard Church 26/4
- xxiv. Rural Services Network – The Rural Bulletin 30/4
- xxv. Rainwater Harvesting for Pilton Parish Council 30/4
- xxvi. RSN Rural Funding Digest – May 2019
- xxvii. SCC Press Release: Proposals to step up support for young carers 4/5
- xxviii. Community Connect Event 10<sup>th</sup> June 19
- xxix. Rural Services Network – The Rural Bulletin 8/5
- xxx. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 8/5
- xxxi. How can you foster integration in your local area? 9/4
- xxxii. SALC June & July Training Events 9/5
- xxxiii. Somerset Prepared – How resilient are you? 10/5
- xxxiv. Interested in Somerset digital programme of work for health & care services? 12//5

