

**Minutes of the meeting of the
Pilton Parish Council
in the Pilton Village Hall on
Wednesday 1st February 2017 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Steve Bowler
Holly Corfield
David Drew
Jean Foley
Stephen Kearle
Joe King
Roger Noble

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

12 Members of the public was present and Councillor Nigel Woolcombe-Adams representing Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:** John Howe

3 **MINUTES:** of the 4th January 2017 were approved. It needs to be noted and Councillors are requested to approve that the December minutes are incorrect and 7i, paragraph 2 should read:

Councillor Bowler has sent Barrie Fox an email re the ASBO's works remit. Angela Pearce emailed the Clerk to ask if permission had been given to the ASBO's to weed kill by the bus shelter or adjacent to their land. Councillor Bowler will discuss with the ASBO's. No complaint was received.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Item 12 Festival: Councillors R Kearle, Councillor Corfield and S Kearle (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment). Councillors Bowler, Drew, Foley, King, and Noble, declared a personal interest (ticket). R Kearle and S Kearle, declared a prejudicial interest (employment) in planning application 2016/3142/FUL.

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Highways: Updates re the following:-

- Parking issues – Totterdown Lane: Sheila Thompson, Avon and Somerset Police emailed to advise that any obstructions will be dealt with accordingly but it may be worth contacting Somerset County Council/Highways with any possibility of double yellow lines, however this would be for Mendip Council to approve and enforce.

- Springfield Cross 30mph: Steve Russell-Yarde confirmed that the proposal is for the section of road between the layby and the existing 30mph on the A361 to be changed to a 30mph. This would also affect the B3136 approaching the junction. Jeff Bunting is working on the details of the exact locations of the speed limit signs and has been asked about a self-powering electronic (solar powered) warning sign.

The suggestion is that the sign is placed after the 30mph starts and would flash with a warning about the junction rather than speed. Michael Eavis has agreed to pay for the signs and works for the 30mph and is willing to put something towards the sign. The last sign cost £5500 and the County Council do not have the funds for this. This would mean that the Parish Council would need to pay £4000 towards the cost of the sign.

Much discussion took place and it was felt that this was expensive. Councillor Noble proposed that we keep to just the 30mph signs at present and revisit the solar panel sign at a later date, if necessary. Councillor Drew seconded the proposal. The vote was 6 in favour and was carried.

Thanks was given to Steve Russell-Yarde for all his help.

- Culverts: Conduit Square Neil Corp advised that he was not aware of any problems with the culvert/pipe under the highway in Conduit Square

A map has been received from MDC and this was then forwarded to Angela Pearce.

- Top Street Blocked Drains: Neil Corp, SCC, advised that the drain was recently jetted and was found to be in working order and is of sufficient size and capacity to drain the highway under normal circumstances.

There are blocked drains in the following places:

- Top Street by Culverwell House
- Beales Hill and up to Lower Street from Beales Hill
- Opposite Pilton House Barn, are waiting for a jetter.

- Damaged verges – Neil Corp advised that an inspection has been carried out of the Stoodley Hill verges and although unsightly the overrun to the verges does not constitute a safety defect in accordance with the Highway Safety Inspection Manual. There is now more erosion at Stoodley Hill and a 1ft drop of the highway probably does constitute a safety defect.

- 20 mph limit between Long House and Cockmill Junction: Email from Steve Russell-Yarde. The criteria required for a 20mph limit can be found at <http://www.rosipa.com/rospaweb/docs/advice-services/road-safety/drivers/20-mph-zone-factsheet.pdf>

Nigel Woollcombe-Adams was asked for his support as there are playing fields and a nursery nearby. Nigel Woollcombe-Adams will talk to Steve Russell-Yarde and take forward.

- Grit Bin – The Clerk was asked to order a green 400L grit bin. This needs to be delivered to Councillor R Kearle at Red Barn, Worthy Farm.
- Parking at Neat Lane junction continues and opposite John Burns Cottages. Steve Russell-Yarde will raise this with Robert Richards.

- Passing places along East Town Lane – Councillor Corfield will approach John Broxup regarding the passing point which needs infilling.
 - Neil Corp advised that a road surface inspection has been arranged for opposite Avalyn House.
 - The road gully outside of Raynsford House has been inspected by SCC during a recent rain storm and seems to be in working order, however a further inspection has been arranged to insure it is in good order.
 - Defects:
 - There are potholes near the bridge at West Compton Road, West Compton towards Stump Cross the side of the road is washing away the tarmac.
 - The ‘No Entry’ sign at Shop Lane needs pushing back to face the right way. Councillor S Kearle will rectify this.
 - The potholes at Mount Pleasant towards Lower Street are bad.
 - The salt bin near the Church needs filling the Clerk will advise MDC again.
 - Stoodley Hill back to Burford’s Cross the ditches are not taking the water.
 - There is road subsidence from Platterwell Lane, down hill from over the stream bridge to Bourne Farm.
- ii Traffic Strategy: Councillor King advised that during a recent count carried out between 8am and 9am over 100 HGV lorries were counted. Nigel Woolcombe-Adams was asked to help arrange a meeting with Highways for that time of the morning for them to witness the traffic for themselves. Nigel will ask Glastonbury how they deal with their traffic issues. Between 3pm and 4pm and 7.30am and 9am were the busiest times, with the beginning of the week and Fridays being the busiest days,
- iii Zebra crossing between bus stops on the A361: There was no update this month. It was agreed to remove this from the agenda as it will be included into the Traffic Strategy.
- iv Fords and Bridges: An email has been received from Edward Moon stating that he will be unable to quote for the repairs until mid-February and a quote to the Parish Council by March.
- v Fingerposts: The Winding Lake sign will be completed mid-February and then the remaining fingerposts will be picked up and erected when the weather breaks.
- vi Community Speedwatch: Councillor King advised that all is going well and wished to thank Debbie for the lorry count. He has spoken with the Farley Hungerford Speedwatch Team and they don’t send letters but instead ring the Transport Managers. Councillors felt by sending a letter there was a record. Thanks were given to Councillor King and the Speedwatch Team (also known as the Traffic Angels by locals).
- vii The Crown Inn:

- Assets of Community Value: Councillor Bowler advised that the forms have been completed and that he has a meeting arranged with MDC in the next couple of weeks.

- viii Police Report: January Police Report
- ix Worthy Farm Signs: There was no update this month
- x Next Phase of Low Cost Housing: The Clerk has emailed MDC advising that the Parish Council request a Full Housing Survey be completed.
- xi Church Roof Repairs: The Clerk has sent a letter of support to Viridor to support a grant request of £10,000 submitted by Maurice Davies to repair the Nave Roof.
- xii Flooding Talk: Roger Noble advised that Andy Dowding, from the Drainage Board, would be willing to talk to the Parish Council, it was agreed to invite him to the March meeting.

6 PLANNING

- i Application Number: 2016/3076/LBC
 Proposal: To install two conservation style rooflights into an existing single storey utility room roof. To install/construct a single storey timber Home/Garden Office with tool store
 Location: St Mary's Cottage, St Mary's Lane, Pilton BA4 4BD
 Applicant: Mr Andrew Williamson
 Application Type: Listed Building Consent
 Parish Council Recommends: REFUSAL
 The reason for refusal was due to the already inadequate parking facilities. There are ongoing parking issue regarding the property as demonstrated with parking on the junction.
 Councillor Noble proposed refusal. Four were in favour of refusal. The motion was carried.

- Application Number: 2016/3075/FUL
 Proposal: To install two conservation style rooflights into an existing single storey utility room roof. To install/construct a single storey timber Home/Garden Office with tool store
 Location: St Mary's Cottage, St Mary's Lane, Pilton BA4 4BD
 Applicant: Mr Andrew Williamson
 Application Type: Full Application
 Parish Council Recommends: REFUSAL
 The reason for refusal was due to the already inadequate parking facilities. There are ongoing parking issue regarding the property as demonstrated with parking on the junction
 Councillor Noble proposed refusal, seconded by Councillor King. Four were in favour of refusal. The motion was carried.

Councillor Dave Drew left the meeting

Application Number: 2016/2836/FUL
Proposal: Proposed erection of 3 light industrial units
Location: Land at 356569 141150, Lower Westholme Road, Pilton BA4 4HJ
Applicant: Mr G Watts
Application Type: Full Application
Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL
Councillor Bowler proposed approval, Councillor King seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Councillors R Kearle and S Kearle left the meeting

Application Number: 2016/3142/FUL
Proposal: Proposed storage building for agricultural machinery
Location: Worthy Farm Worthy Lane Pilton
Applicant: Mr Michael Eavis
Application Type: Full Application
Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL
Councillors decided that the building would be in a discreet position, therefore Councillor Bowler proposed approval, Councillor King seconded. The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour.

Councillors R Kearle and S Kearle returned to the meeting

Application Number: 2016/2740/FUL
Proposal: Change of use from agricultural to stationing of eight static caravans for use as holiday lets
Location: The Old Guppy Barn, Land Off Copse Lane, Pilton, BA4 4HS
Applicant: Mr Williams
Application Type: Full Application
Parish Council Recommends: REFUSAL
The Parish Council refused the application on the following grounds:

- Poor plans.
- Adverse impact on traffic (increase in traffic, where the Parish Council are already requesting a 20mph zone be introduced)
- Adverse impact on the countryside
- Adverse impact on footpaths
- Adverse impact on the environment

A letter of objection has been received from Vivien Goode, she stated that as the nearest neighbour she had not been informed of the planning application by Mendip District Council.

It was suggested that a Freedom of Information Request be submitted. It was advised that the recent court case has cost £60k. The Clerk was asked to look back through the records as a FOI was received previously. This will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor Noble proposed refusal, Councillor King seconded, the vote was unanimous.

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number: 2016/2748/TCA
Location: Ashfield, Bakery Lane, Pilton
Proposal: Remove 6 ash trees that have grown out of a hedge
Grid ref: 359197 1406741
Decision: TPO Not Required

iii Enforcement:

- Cock and Bull Drove: No further update this month.
- Tanyards Lane: Information has been given to MDC and they are investigating.

Nigel Woollcombe-Adams on behalf of Nigel Hewitt-Cooper, who was unable to attend.

There is a possibility that Taunton and Bridgwater Colleges may merge to become a Somerset University.

Devolution ticks on.

A letter has been sent a letter to Somerset County Council from the relevant Government Minister advising that Children's Services are moving in the right direction.

Somerset is in the top 3rd in the Country of progress in children for the 1st and 2nd years of Secondary School.

The Sustainability and Transformation Plan is the pooling of resources such as Doctors, Nurses and Pharmacists and the merging of budgets. It is a money saving exercise and is going for public consultation in May/June.

There is still a lack of money for Adult Social Care.

Councillor Noble asked Nigel that if illegal caravans were being fined £9k in other area's, would Mendip be better off trying this? Nigel advised that the legal process would be the same as with Cock and Bull Drove.

Thanks were given to Nigel.

7 **FOOTPATHS:**

i Update:

- Weir Lane – It was decided to obtain the views of residents who live near Weir Lane, as to what work needs to be carried out and then quotes can be obtained.
- Weed killing – Councillor Bowler has spoken to Barrie Fox, who confirmed that the ASBO's have not carried out work around the bus stop or weed killed for several years. The Clerk was asked to respond to Angela Pearce.
- ASBO storage – Edna Challener has kindly offered her garage to store the equipment. The Parish Council wished to pass on their thanks to Edna.

8 **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:

Balance b/f from 04/01/2017	Total Funds £24,908.69
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Plus banked:		0.00
Less cheques drawn:		
1927	Mrs K Buckley (Clerk) - salary & o/t (7 hours) (expenses £10 home working allowance)	£260.08 £10.00
1928	Mrs W Lynn (Burial Secretary) - salary	£35.00
1929	Pilton Working Mens Club	£12.00
1930	CSW Treasure – (Community Speedwatch)	£200.00
Total cheques drawn:		£517.08
Balance at 03/02/2017		£24,391.61

9 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i Rural Services Network, Weekly Email News Digest, Tuesday 3rd January
- ii Rural Services Network, Rural Opportunities Bulletin
- iii Claire Dicken, Mendip District Council Calendar
- iv Public Sector Executive Online 5/1/17
- v Rural Services Network, Weekly Email News Digest Monday 9th January
- vi Public Sector Executive Online 9/1/17
- vii Natasha Durham, Neighbourhood Planning Conference
- viii Rural Services Network, Rural Vulnerability Network, Rural Broadband
- ix Public Sector Executive Online 11/1/17
- x Nicola Pearce, Avian Influenza
- xi Public Sector Executive Online 12/1/17
- xii Public Sector Executive Online 16/1/17
- xiv Rural Services Network, Weekly Email News Digest, Monday 16th January
- xv Public Sector Executive Online 17/1/17
- xvi Rural Services Network, Rural Housing Spotlight 18th January 2017
- xvii Sally Taylor, Draft Empty Homes Strategy
- xviii Rural Services Network, Rural Health Conference
- xix Public Sector Executive Online 19/1/17
- xx Public Sector Executive Online 24/1/17
- xxi Rural Services Network, Weekly Email News Digest, Monday 23rd January
- xxii Parish Council Information Bulletin 26/1
- xxiii Public Sector Executive Online 26/1/17

10 **BURIAL GROUND:**

- i Maintenance reports:
Two maintenance reports were received, both were fine.

Shelley Phillips has been in touch on behalf of Charlie Pearce to enquire where Charlie Pearce can put the bench and thanking the Parish Council. The Clerk will respond advising that Councillor Drew is the best person to contact.

There is a broken post on the hedge side of the burial ground. Councillors R Kearle and Noble will decide what action to take in due course.

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

i Roundabout report

Andy Dowding from the Drainage Board will be at the next Parish Council meeting being held on the 1st March at 7.30pm, to give a talk on flooding.

The Parish Council would like to thank John and Sandra Howe for their years of loyal and dedicated service to Pilton and the Parish Council and wish them all the very best wishes for the future. They will be missed.

Do you know of any common ground within the village that the ASBO's may be able to tackle? If so, please speak to Steve Bowler.

Residents are asked to clear up any items that may have blown out of their recycling boxes.

Councillor R Kearle advised that Councillor Howe is moving from the village and will therefore be resigning from the Parish Council. The Chairman wishes to thank Councillor Howe and Sandra for their years of loyal and dedicated service to Pilton and Parish Council

Councillor King stated that in future he will organise a Speedwatch listing in the Roundabout in addition the Parish Council submission.

Councillor Noble has kindly completed the Gypsy and Traveller Count. The numbers have increased on previous counts. It was stated that Beggars Roost and Cock and Bull Drive are in a disgusting state. This has been reported to Mendip District Council. Councillor Noble asked that he be advised if residents see people dumping rubbish and to take photos or vehicle registration numbers, if safe to do so.

Thanks was given to Councillor Noble for completing the count.

Nigel Woollcombe-Adams was asked what MDC do with this information as the Parish Council receives no feedback. He advised that MDC are only acting as agents for Government.

12 **FESTIVAL:**

i Festival General:

- A361 Clearway (including layby) No update this month
- Neat Lane Junction (No entry): It was agreed that the barrier should be at the junction rather than 20ft back. This should stop that area being a drop off place.

ii GFL/PPC minutes: Dates of next meetings:

Tuesday 7th February 2017 at 6pm

Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 6pm (to be confirmed)

Tuesday 6th June 2017 at 6pm

Jean Foley gave her apologies for the meeting on the 7th February.

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 1st March 2017 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.25pm