

**Minutes of the meeting of the
Pilton Parish Council
in the Pilton Village Hall on
Wednesday 1st March 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)

7 Members of the public was present and Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:**

3 **MINUTES:** of the 1st February 2017 need amending, to be approved at the April Parish Council meeting.

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 in planning application 2016/2960/FUL

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Highways: Updates re the following:-

- Parking issues – Totterdown Lane: There was no update.
- Springfield Cross 30mph: No update
- Culverts: No update has been received this month.
- Top Street Blocked Drains: Highways will inspect, reference number 298406.
- Damaged verges – Neil Corp stated that the ditches at Stoodley Hill to Burford Cross are the responsibility of the landowner.
- 20 mph limit between Long House and Cockmill Junction: Bev Norman from Somerset County Council has advised that it does not meet the criteria.
- Grit Bin – The Clerk could not order a green grit bin from Glasons and would need to order from Broxap. It was decided to wait until next winter to order. Highways confirmed that the Church grit bin is half full.
- Parking at Neat Lane: Cars are parking in the field opposite. Rubbish in Neat Lane is not getting picked up. Councillor S Kearle will discuss with Site Manager and report to MDC.

- Passing places along East Town Lane. Councillor Corfield obtained permission to fill the hole with stones. Holly will chase MDC regarding the Platterwell Lane subsidence.
- Defects: An email has been received from Neil Corp providing reference numbers for all previously reported defects.

There is a blocked drain near Pilton House Barn. There may be a need to dig up drain to find blockage. There is another blocked drain across East Town Lane opposite Chanter House, Westholme Road near Westholme House close to the crossroad. There are two on Parkhill on A361 opposite Parsons Batch.

The potholes as you go up the hill from Perridge Hill are so deep they could do damage to cars and when filled with water are difficult to see how deep they are.

A couple of Councillors have tried to report potholes on the MDC website but the website keeps failing.

- ii Traffic Strategy: Councillor Bowler has drafted a Traffic Strategy which he will email to the Clerk. Steve will arrange a meeting with MDC to discuss how the Parish Council can take this forward. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper agreed to be involved. As Pilton is a main transport route for Hinkley the traffic situation needs to be well managed.
- iii Fords and Bridges: The Clerk has emailed Liam Higgins chasing the quotation but no response has been received. The bridge by the old bakery, in the centre of the village is starting to break away. The Clerk will notify Somerset County Council.
- iv Fingerposts: Councillor Bowler confirmed that work will continue on the fingerpost once the weather improves.
- v Community Speedwatch: All going well. Councillor King advised that Pilton is the 2nd busiest Speedwatch area; only Coxley has more traffic. Aggregate lorries equates to one third of vehicles.
- vi The Crown Inn:
Assets of Community Value: No progress to report this month.
- vii Police Report: The Clerk read the February Police Report. It was stated that there was no mention of the accident at the top of Springfield. The Clerk was asked to the Police as to why this was not listed in the report.
- viii Next Phase of Low Cost Housing: The Clerk has responded to Nina Richards of Mendip District Council to advise that the Parish Council do not wish to pay in the region of £6000 to £8000 for a full Housing Survey to be completed but are happy for an MDC in-house survey to be completed by MDC.
- ix Flooding Talk: A talk was given by Antony Dowding from the Drainage Board. Thanks was given to Antony for an interesting and informative talk.

6 PLANNING

Councillors R Kearle and S Kearle left the meeting. Councillor Noble took over as Chairman.

- i Application Number: 2016/2960/FUL
Proposal: Retrospective application for a farm track

Location: Land adjoining Pylle Lane, Grid Ref 361243, 139293

Applicant: Mr Steve Kearle

Application Type: Full Application

Pilton Parish Council Recommended: Approval

It was felt by Councillors that this would reduce traffic around the village and local roads. Councillor Drew proposed approval and Councillor Bowler seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Councillors R Kearle and S Kearle returned to the meeting.

Application Number: 2017/0314/TCA

Proposal: Silver Birch T1 -Fell

Location: 1 Abbots Way Pilton

Applicant: Mr Barry Wareham

Application Type: Works/Felling in a CA

Pilton Parish Council Recommended: Approval

Councillors voted unanimously in favour.

Application Number: 2017/0328/LBC

Proposal: Alterations and two storey rear extension to a listed building

Location: Ebenezer Chapel Pylle Road Pilton

Applicant: Miss Joy James

Application Type: Listed Building Consent

Pilton Parish Council Recommended: Approval

Councillor King recommended approval, Councillor Bowler seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Application Number: 2017/0327/HSE

Proposal: Alterations and two storey rear extension to a listed building

Location: Ebenezer Chapel Pylle Road Pilton

Applicant: Miss Joy James

Application Type: Listed Building Consent

Pilton Parish Council Recommended: Approval

Councillor King recommended approval, Councillor Bowler seconded. The vote was unanimous.

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number: 2016/3142/FUL

Location: Worthy Farm, Worthy Lane, Pilton

Proposal: Proposed storage building for agricultural machinery

Decision: Approval with Conditions

iii Enforcement:

- Cock and Bull Drove: The Clerk read an email from Colin Fraser-Mackenzie, which contained a letter sent to MP James Heapey. The Clerk will write to James Heapey in support of the letter. Discussion took place regarding the Freedom of Information response that the Clerk had previously received from Mendip District Council. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper was given a copy. Councillor felt that the Freedom of Information report was unsatisfactory and unrealistic.

The Clerk will

There are two dates for the site to be cleared, July and September. Individuals have been named to leave on each date but as the notices keep being removed the exact dates and persons are unknown. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper will follow this up.

Councillor Noble asked if anyone from MDC visits Beggars Roost, Nigel confirmed yes.

Closed meeting

Open meeting

Discussion took place regarding how illegal sites can receive benefits. It was stated that if it is a legal requirement for MDC to put a notice up regarding the eviction of the site, should the people responsible for removing the notice not be reported to the police? It was suggested that that Parish Council receive a copy and that a notice be put up in the Village Hall.

If residents are against the planning proposal at Cock and Bull Drove and Beggars Roost then they need to ensure they write to Mendip District Council with their objections.

Councillor Drew left the meeting.

Nigel Hewitt-Cooper updated the Parish Council regarding the following:

Wells new playground was destroyed last November and now have new CCTV and equipment in place.

MDC are looking at the loss of village assets and are looking for opinions of the public when determining planning. Further details can be found on the MDC website.

The new Dulcot Quarry Food Production business creating 300 new jobs. This will be the first phase.

MDC are now running a lottery with a £25k prize. If charity community groups can sell tickets and raise a percentage of the money for their charity. Nigel will send the link to the Clerk.

There will be a Council Tax increase of 1.99% which County have approved. Nigel confirmed that he will be standing for office in May when Nigel Woollcombe-Adams steps down. If he is successful, he will take on both roles.

Councillor Noble asked for the reason why Mendip only recycled 42% of rubbish. This is due to the cost involved and the number of people in the district it is not viable to recycle more. Councillor Noble also asked why nobody has been charged with fly tipping in Mendip. Nigel stated this was not correct.

- Tanyards Lane: Councillor Hewitt-Cooper stated that he has driven past the site and will follow it up.

7 FOOTPATHS:

i Update:

- Weir Lane – this can now be removed from the agenda.

No responses have been received from residents with regards to suggested work for the ASBO's.

8 **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:

Balance b/f from 01/02/2017	£24,391.61
Plus banked:	£0.00
Less cheques drawn:	
1932 Mrs K Buckley (Clerk) - salary & o/t (11 hours)	£298.64
1935 (expenses £10 home working allowance, flowers £39.98)	£49.98
1933 Mrs W Lynn (Burial Secretary) - salary	£35.00
1934 Pilton Working Mens Club	£12.00
Total cheques drawn:	£395.62
Balance at 01/03/2017	£23,995.99

9 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i Public Sector Executive Online 30/1/17
- ii Rural Services Network, Weekly Email News Digest 30/1/17
- iii Rural Services Network, Rural Opportunities Bulletin 1/2/17
- iv Westminster Briefing, Women in Local Government 2/2/17
- v Public Sector Executive Online 2/2/17
- vi Rural Services Network 2/2/17
- vii Sally Grubb, Spring Clean 2/2/17
- viii Rural Services Network. Free RSN Seminar
- ix Public Sector Executive Online 6/2/17
- x Rural Services Network, Weekly Email News Digest 6/2/17
- xi Broadband in your Parish 7/2/17
- xii Rural Services Network, Rural Spotlight on Heart of the Village 8/2/17
- xiv Bridgwater Library Community Event
- xv Sally Grubb, Free Neighbourhood Planning
- xvi Volunteer, Final Surviving Winter 2016/17
- xvii Rural Services Network, Rural Vulnerability Service, Rural Transport 15/2/17
- xviii Public Sector Executive Online 16/2/17
- xix Rural Services Network, Free RSN Seminar 16/2/17
- xx Public Sector executive Online 20/2/17
- xxi Rural Services Network, Weekly Email News Digest 20/2/17
- xxii Recycle, February 2017 SWP Briefing
- xxiii Westminster Briefing 22/2/17
- xxiv Road Closures TTRO – RCNSE8031 Temporary road closure of Bath Road and Berhill.
- xxv Rural Services Network, Rural Vulnerability Service - Rural Broadband 22/2/17
- xxvi Public Sector Executive Online 23/2/17

10 **BURIAL GROUND:**

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

Councillor Bowler has reviewed the Burial Ground and he will order the top soil and complete the work in early April. A date will be decided at the next Parish Council meeting.

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

i Roundabout report

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested please email the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Council would like to thank all those who were involved with the Village Litter Pick, especially Audrey and Terry for the delicious food.

MDC have sent a notice to be displayed in regards to appointing a new Parish Councillor. The Clerk will organise this.

Three expressions of interest have been received regarding the Parish Councillor Vacancy. This will be put on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

There is firewood and screwed up ironwork in the road near Brook House Farm on the Corner of Brook Lane.

At Friars Oven, the land to the North, is being used by someone living in a caravan, next to the building.

Permission was given for one caravan however there is more than one caravan and a cabin. The Clerk will report to MDC.

12 **FESTIVAL:**

i Festival General:

Feedback from GFEL/PPC meeting held on the 7th February 2017.

Councillor R Kearle stated that he was disappointed with the number of Councillors who attended the meeting, especially as it was the Parish Council who requested that the three meetings remain, rather than GFEL reducing them to two.

Councillors wanted clarification as to whether residents of Cock and Bull Grove receive Village Tickets, as the size of the site grows during Festival time.

ii GFL/PPC minutes: Dates of next meetings:

Tuesday 11th April 2017

Tuesday 6th June 2017

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 5th April 2017 at 7.30pm
Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 19th April 2017 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.22pm