

Minutes of the meeting of the  
Pilton Parish Council  
in the Pilton Village Hall on  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)  
Steve Bowler  
Holly Corfield  
David Drew  
Jean Foley  
Roger Noble  
Debbie Smith  
  
Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

13 Members of the public were present as was Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:** Stephen Kearle and Joe King

3 **MINUTES:** of the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017 to be approved.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Item 12 Festival: Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved) and Corfield, declared a prejudicial interest (employment). Councillors Bowler, Drew, Foley, Smith and Noble declared a personal interest (ticket).

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Traffic Strategy:

Nigel Hewitt-Cooper provided the following update:

- The East Town Lane drain has now been fixed.
- Nigel believed that the meeting had taken place between the Parish Council and Bev Norman and Jeff Bunting. The Chairman advised it had not. Nigel will arrange this. It was felt that it should be arranged for a time when the children will be waiting for the bus to show just how dangerous the A361 can be. Councillors also want to show them the subsidence of the roads, potholes and Burford Cross.
- Councillor R Kearle stated that he wanted to obtain approval for the Puffin Crossing and resolve the traffic problems as the turning near Shop Lane. Nigel will identify who the best people are within MDC to help and arrange a meeting. Any meeting will now be in September now due to holidays etc.

County Update

Nigel Hewitt-Cooper provided an update on County Council issues:

Nigel is now Vice Chair of the Regulation Committee, Childcare and Families Scrutiny Board and the Corporate Parenting Board.

Somerset County Council are looking at resurfacing 200 miles of road this financial year.

A Consultation Survey is coming up regarding Libraries as usage of them is declining. Nigel will distribute the survey to Parish Councillor in due course. Shepton Mallet Library may move to the MDC site.

There is currently a £1.8 million gap in funding.

Adult Social Care is being accessed by Ofsted in September. They have been receiving help for Essex County Council to move in the right direction.

Beggars Roost is under enforcement but it will be a slow process.

Nigel was told of rubbish dumped in West Compton and asked the meeting if anyone knew the exact location. Nigel will advise MDC.

Nigel was told that there was firewood and car parts dumped by the side of the road near Brook Farm Councillor Noble asked Nigel to organise removal.

ii Highways: Updates re the following:-

- Culverts: No update this month but it was agreed to keep it on the agenda.
- Blocked Drains: The Clerk read and email from Neil Corp, Somerset County Council who advised an inspection has been arranged for the drains at Cumhill, Bread Street and Pylle Road.

Regarding the planned cleaning of drains the following was advised:

The frequency of planned gully cleansing depends on where they are (the classification of the road) and the relative risk of flooding.

Gullies in flood susceptible areas will be cleaned every year

Gullies in rural non-flood susceptible areas (outside a 30 or 40mph speed limit) will be cleaned every two years

Gullies in urban non-flood susceptible areas (inside a 30 or 40mph speed limit) will be cleaned every four years

The planned programme is reviewed and adjusted each year to respond to the changing nature of risk and flooding on the county's road network.

Where defects or flooding are identified, outside the planned gully cleansing routine, these will be dealt with as necessary. Nigel will obtain a report ascertaining which drains have been cleaned and when.

- 20 mph limit between Long House and Cockmill Junction: No update from Councillor King as he was not at the meeting.
- Overflowing drain in East Town Lane: It is believed that this has been resolved but Councillors will check.
- Defects:

Firewood and car parts dumped by the side of the road near Brook Farm Councillor Noble asked Nigel to organise removal.

Councillors were advised that a resident was pushed off the road in a vehicle in Stoodley by a taxi coming down the road. There is jagged edges where the road is breaking up. The road is also breaking up at Burford's Cross.

At Neat Lane on the right a gully has been washed away and needs urgent repair as there will be no side left soon.

The drains that is first on the right on the way to Shepton Mallet at Blandford Hill crossroads towards the bridge has had water 4ft across the road this week.

A grit bin has moved where it has been hit by a car. It is not damaged but needs to be put back in place. It is situated on Neat Lane/East Town Lane junction. Councillor R Kearle will rectify this.

The Clerk will chase outstanding defects and in particular the subsidence.

- iii Fords and Bridges:  
Councillor King was not at the meeting so was unable to provide an update re funding.  
Nigel Hewitt-Cooper advised that he now has a contact to discuss transferring ownership of the Cockmill Ford Bridge and will discuss this with them.  
The Clerk will continue to chase the quotes for the work on the Cockmill Ford Bridge.
- iv Fingerposts:  
Councillor Bowler has received the quote from Cerdic Foundries and will forward it to the Clerk.  
Councillor Noble stated that the fingerposts at the top of Compton Lane are looking green and asked that perhaps the ASBO's could clean them.
- v Community Speedwatch:  
Joe King was absent from the meeting but Councillor Smith advised that everything was going well. There is a meeting being scheduled for September with Terry Drake and Inspector Nicholson to discuss area speeding and funding.  
Councillor Smith updated the meeting on the truck count for June. The pattern is back to normal after numbers reaching 203 per hour prior to the Festival. Counts have also taken place at 3am where 11 trucks were counted and 4am where 16 per hour were counted. Between 10-11am 80 trucks per hour have been counted. Quarry lorries have been working later at night due to daylight hours.
- vi The Crown Inn:  
Assets of Community Value: There was no update from Steve Bowler this month as he is still waiting for information from Reg.
- vii Police Report: July Police Report:  
03/07 – Burglary- Purse taken from property bedroom, entry gained via side gate.  
Fatal RTC, A37 Pylle.  
05/07 - ASB, Cold calling, selling leather household items.  
Pylle Rd – Stolen ladder from property garden.  
08/07 - Erratic driving reported of Motor bike with pillion passenger.  
26/07 – A361 – Minor Injury RTC, Lorry & car.  
28/07 – Shop Lane, Parking issue, keeper found and vehicle moved.
- viii Low Cost Housing: There have been many emails between Nina Richards MDC due to an email received from Claire Connock. Clarification was sought into the process of obtaining a Low Cost Home. The Clerk will provide contact details for Claire. It was felt that villages have been misled as they were told that the houses would be for Pilton people for future generations but this does not seem to be the case.  
There has been a different for the phase two houses than there was for the phase one houses.  
Nigel will discuss this with his colleagues at Mendip District Council.
- viv Gypsy and Traveller Count:  
Councillor Noble has completed the Gypsy and Traveller Count and the Clerk will now forward the information to Mendip District Council.  
Nigel Hewitt-Cooper advised that the information is required for the Government to monitor these sites.  
It was confirmed that the Moorlands site is being evicted due to pollution.

Councillor Noble advised that there are more than forty caravans within Pilton. He has been completing the count for four or five years and the situation is not improving. Nigel stated that he didn't think anything would change until legislation does.

vv Roadside selling in Pilton:

An email from North Wootton Parish Council has been received advising of a man living in a vehicle selling items such as an ironing board and rabbit hutch. They have been there since leaving the Festival. They have no licence to sell and vehicles are frequently blocking the road. A resident stated that children have been stopped from playing in their gardens due to the foul language coming from the site. A section 215 could be issued to make them tidy the site.

It was stated that a barn at West Compton needs this as well.

Nigel will investigate both locations.

6 **PLANNING**

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number: 2017/1266/HSE

Proposal: Alternations to existing garage and a single-storey side extension which will include an accessible garage to accommodate the requirements of a wheelchair user.

Location: East Town House East Town Lane Pilton

Decision: Approval with Conditions

Application Number: 2017/1535/TCA

Proposal: Yew Tree – T1 – Reduce all lateral branches by up to 2 metres and reduce height by up to 2 metres

Location: Malt Cottage Ford Lane Pilton

Decision: TPO Not Required (No Objection)

Application Number: 2017/1388/TCA

Proposal: T1. Yew – crown raise by 1 metre approx; T2 Bay – fell (multi stem, leaning lower shoots); T3. Willow – fell; T4. Ash – fell; T5. Willow – fell; T6. Rowan – reduce laterals by 1 metre.

Location: Laurel Cottage Shop Lane Pilton

Decision: TPO Not Required (No Objection)

iii Enforcement:

- Cock and Bull Drove: Nigel Hewitt-Cooper advised that the last person to leave the site is due to leave on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. So far all residents have complied with the eviction order.
- Friars Oven Farm: There is a caravan there. Nigel will investigate as Enforcement deny there are caravans there.
- Tanyards Lane: Yurts are still there but the item has been removed from the agenda as Enforcement has been informed. Nigel advised that they can have yurts on the site whilst building work takes place but only as a temporary measure. Building work seems to be complete so temporary structures should be removed. Nigel will investigate.

7 **FOOTPATHS:**

i Update:

The work on the footpaths is ongoing. Barrie Fox is waiting further instructions from Councillor Bowler. Councillor Bowler has also spoken to the householder. Councillors have met with the owners of land surrounding Weir Lane. Work will take place September/October to ensure the bank does not slip away anymore. Councillor Corfield stated that it is difficult to get big dogs through the stiles. The policy is to replace stiles where possible with kissing gates. Councillor Corfield will let Councillor Bowler know which stile so the vegetation can be cut back. The footpath up to Gabriel's Orchard need a trim due to a lot of nettles.

8 **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:

							<b>Total Funds</b>
Balance b/f from 31/06/2017							<u>£ 27,000.01</u>
Plus banked:							
							<u>£ -</u>
Less cheques drawn:							
1973	Mrs K Buckley (Clerk) - salary & o/t (9 hours)					£	279.00
	( <b>£10 home working allowance, £48.98 ink cartridges &amp; paper, £2 envelopes, folder</b> )					£	60.98
1971	Mrs W Lynn (Burial Secretary) - salary					£	35.00
1968	Pilton Working Mens Club					£	12.00
1972	Mr R England					£	68.00
1974	LCR subscription					£	17.00
1969	West Pennard Primary School					£	2,000.00
							<u>£ 2,471.98</u>
Balance at 31/07/2017							<u>£ 24,528.03</u>

ii Financial News:

A letter of thanks has been received from Helen Burchill for the £2000 given to West Pennard Primary School towards manning the school bus.

9 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i. Weekly Update from James Heappey
- ii. Public Sector Executive Online 3/7
- iii. Rural Weekly Email News Digest Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 17
- iv. MDC – Consultation on Public Space Protection Order 4/7
- v. Public Sector Executive Online 6/7
- vi. Weekly Update from James Heappey 7/7
- vii. Public Sector Executive Online 10/7
- viii. Public Sector Executive Online 11/7
- ix. Somerset County Council Chairman's Awards 11/7
- x. Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Broadband 12/7
- xi. RCNME8851 Temporary Road Closure
- xii. Recycle SWB Briefing July 2017

- xiii. Weekly Update from James Heappey 15/7
- xiv. Public Sector Executive Online 17/7
- xv. Weekly Email News Digest 17/7
- xvi. Rural Services Network, Spotlight on Older People in Rural Areas 19/7
- xvii. Public Sector Executive Online 23/7
- xviii. No Parish Information Bulletin for August
- xix. Weekly Email News Digest 24/7
- xx. Public Sector Executive Online 24/7
- xxi. Weekly Update from James Heappey 24/7
- xxii. Public Sector Executive Online 25/7
- xxiii. Rural Services Network, Rural Housing Spotlight 26/7
- xxiv. RCNME8911 Temporary Road Closure Old Wells Road, Pilton
- xxv. Public Sector Executive Online 27/7

10 **BURIAL GROUND:**

- i Maintenance reports:  
Two reports have been completed, both were fine.  
The new bench looks lovely.  
The tree by the side of the road need cutting and this will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

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

- i Roundabout report

When using public spaces please ensure all litter is taken with you. This includes dog mess.

In order to keep drains and gullies clear homeowners are asked to pick up hedge cuttings and leaves etc so they do not block them.

Your feedback regarding this year Festival is required, please email the Parish Clerk with your thoughts.

Councillor Bowler has resigned from the Parish Council. The Parish Council expresses their thanks to Steve for his good humour and hard work, he will be greatly missed.

If you would like to apply to be a Councillor please notify the Clerk and she will send you an application form.

Karen Buckley  
Pilton Parish Clerk  
piltonparishclerk@yahoo.com

The Laurels at the War Memorial will be added to next month's agenda as work need to be started.

12 **FESTIVAL:**

- i Festival General:
  - Festival Feedback: currently nine letters have been received from residents and the draft Festival Feedback Report has been sent to Councillors. More feedback is expected this month and the report will be updated.

- Nigel was asked why MDC don't believe the Parish Council that Cock and Bull Drove increases in size over the Festival period. Nigel advised that it is probably due to the fact that the site is being evicted and best not to act at this time.  
Steve Russel-Yarde is aware of the problems at Conduit Square during the Festival due to the CCTV that was put in place for the Festival period.
- Email from MDC re offsite camping has now been received by Councillors.

ii GFEL/PPC minutes: Dates of next meetings:  
Tuesday 16th October 2017

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 8.40pm

DRAFT