

**Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council held
in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Lynda Allen
Audrey Brown
Colin Elkin
Stephen Kearle
Joe King
Roger Noble

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

26 members of the public were present.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Andrew Shaw, David Drew

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment) GFEL. Councillor R Kearle declared an interest in planning application 2019/1019/FUL as members of the Village Trust as did Councillors Brown and Drew.

Councillor Noble declared a personal interest in planning application 2019/2298/FUL.
Councillors Allen, Brown, King, and Noble declared a personal interest (ticket).

4. **MINUTES:** of the 4th September 2019 were approved.

5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Traffic Matters:

- A361 meeting: Councillor King advised that the full suggested route should be known shortly. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper stated he did not know the proposal but will know more by the next meeting.
- Highways: Clerks Report – See Appendix A
- Whitstone Hill: The road was closed for 5 days. During this time traffic was using Top Street and Bread Street. Should the road ever be closed again then there needs to be better signage directing traffic. Two vehicles were written off by an articulated lorry. This happened only 10 minutes before school finished so it could have been a lot more serious. The road should have been closed at the bottom of the hill giving vehicles the opportunity to turn into the entrance of Red Gate. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper will raise this with Highways, as more than the statutory requirements need to be done. The barriers and signage were inadequate.
- New Defects:
Bad potholes in Perridge Hill.
The road between Burford and West Compton needs attention.

At East Town Farm House, East Town Lane – more damage has been done to the road. A resident advised of four accidents due to speeding in the last few weeks including a car being written off.
 On the West Compton Road towards Friars Oven the potholes are very bad and there is mud and scalplings on the road.

- ii Community Speedwatch:
 - Update: - Councillor King stated that the Speedwatch Team had a week off whilst Whitstone Hill was closed.
 - Truck Count:- There were 675 vehicles counted during an hours session at 2pm, 10% of these were HGV's. There seems to be a reduction in quarry lorries but not a huge one. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper was asked to investigate what percentage of lorries were using the Hinkley Point barge.

- iii Police Report: September Report

Specific reports for... Pilton
Twelve reports received ... Only two reports suitable for Public notification.

12/09 – Neat Lane Junction, Minor Injury RTC. Ladder on top of vehicle collided into side window of another vehicle. Ambulance & Police on scene. No obstruction to Highway.

14/09 – Report of Horse & cart travelling on Whitstone Hill. 21.08 hrs & no lighting to cart. Area tour by Police but cart was not located.

Councillor R Kearle stated that the accident was on the A361 not Neat Lane as stated on the Police Report.

- iv Friars Oven Site: Residents attended the planning meeting, the residents said that it was clear that only one councillor had visited the site before the decision was made. Residents stated that there are 28 people living in West Compton and 11 traveller sites, they felt that another site was unfair to residents and that Councillors are not representing the community.

- v Over 50's Affordable Housing:

- vi Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper: See Appendix C

Nigel will arrange for the grit bins to be filled.
 Nigel will chase for an update regarding the Blue School bus service.
 There is no update regarding the Zebra crossing bus Nigel is still pushing for this.
 Nigel will chase for an update for the yellow lines in Shop Lane.
 Thanks was given to Nigel for his continued support.

6. **PLANNING:**

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Application Number	Proposal	Applicant & Location
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2019/1019/FUL (amendments received)	External alternations to the building to include change of existing double door to single automatic door, change of side door to steel secure door. Installation of an external plant and equipment and cold room. Lowering of existing external patio slabs by 200mm.	Mr S Finaly, c/o Agent Pilton Village Hall At Mary's Lane, Pilton.
No documents were received by Mendip District Council so the application could not be discussed.		
2019/2280/HSE	Erection of 2.4 boundary fencing, installation of replacement 1.m entrance gates and resurfacing the existing access driveway.	Mrs & Mrs Edgley Winding Lake Farm, Pylle Road, Pilton
Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL Councillor S Kearle proposed approval, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour. Councillor Noble left the meeting.		
2019/2298/FUL	Extension of existing residential development for 20 new residential units including: 4 no. 3 bed houses, 8 no. 2 bed houses, 8 no. 1 bed flats.	Mr Syb Bailey Land North of John Burns Cottages, Neat Lane, Pilton
Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS The entrance needs to have better visibility. The sewage capacity needs to be improved. There needs to be a footpath built to Top Street for pedestrians and for the safety of children catching the school bus. Speed bumps/traffic calming all along the site to slow the traffic where children are playing. 1 letter was received against the application. Councillor Roberts proposed approval, Councillor King seconded. The vote as unanimously carried subject to the conditions above.		

Councillor Noble returned to the meeting.

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number	Proposal	Location	Decision
2019/1817/TCA	Proposed felling of T1 Japanese laurel in a Conservation Area.	Monks Mill, Weir Lane, Pilton	TPO not required
20019/2282/ APP	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (roofing sample panel) on planning consent 2018/2995/FUL	Bierhouse, Cumhill Lane, Pilton.	Approval

iii Enforcement: Update re Cock and Bull Drove: the Enforcement Team at MDC are aware that residents are still on site and have referred this back to the courts.

7. **FOOTPATHS:**

- i Update: Update from Councillors: Everything has been running smoothly but they now have a fallow period. The footpaths are in a good state. There are two signs, one at the top of Copse Hill and one in East Town Lane that need putting right as they are loose. Councillor King will make the ASBO's aware.

8. **FINANCE:**

- i Financial Statement:

Balance b/f from 31/08/2019					8,089.06
Plus banked:					
					£ -
Less cheques drawn:					
cq number	details				
2133	K Buckley	(salary + expenses)			301.40
(HWA £10 insurance £5.50)					
2132	SALC fees				362.64
2134	HMRC				281.80
2135	R England				153.60
2136	W Lynn				37.00
2137	Pilton Working Mens Club				15.00
					£ 1,151.44
Balance at 30/09/2019					£ 6,937.62

- ii Financial News/ Requests for Grants: No grant requests were received this month.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i. Clerks report: See Appendix B
 ii. Any correspondence requiring further discussion:

10. **BURIAL GROUND**

- i Maintenance reports: No reports were received at the meeting as Councillor Drew was not present.
- ii Report of sunken graves and holes in grass: Councillor Noble stated that two loads of top soil has been used and grass seed has been sown. Another load has been requested for the spring so the ground will be easier to mow.
 Thanks was given to Ron England and his son for their hard work.
 The Penny Lane grave has been tidied and the headstone has been straightened.
 Ben has cut the hedges. Councillor S Kearle will ask Ben to cut the other side of the hedge as well.

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

- i Roundabout report

This year's Remembrance Service will take place on Sunday 10th November at the Pilton War Memorial at 10.45am, followed by a service in the Church.

The Village Litterpick is being held on Saturday 30th November starting at 9am at the Village Hall. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Please come along and help to keep our beautiful village clean.

If you notice any rubbish that has been fly tipped in or around the village please report it to Mendip District Council at <https://www.mendip.gov.uk/article/7612/Report-Fly-tipping->

There have been a number of reports of speeding in East Town Lane. If you witness this happening please take the registration number of the vehicle and report it to the police.

Remembrance Sunday – November 10th – thank you to Steve Russell-Yarde for organising the road closure. Pete Chetham will be organising the wreath, Councillor Noble agreed to lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council and tidy the war memorial. It was agreed by Councillors that they would like to put up the poppies that were purchased last year.

Councillors R Kearle and King advised that they will be attending a confidential briefing regarding the A361 Bypass.

It was reported that there was rubbish at the top of Copse Lane in the ditch. In Bush lane there is soil wood and wire.

12. **GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL:**

- i. Date of the next GFEL/PPC meeting: 15th October 2019 (Items for agenda by 7th October)
- ii Items for further discussion with GFEL at meeting: Councillors agreed that they were happy with the Festival Report and that it could be sent to MDC and Avon & Somerset Police.
Councillor R Kearle asked residents to attend the meeting to raise any concerns they have.

13. **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 6th November 2019 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.10pm

APPENDIX A

Outstanding Pilton Parish Defects - September 2019

Blocked Drains/ Gullies:

- a) 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.
- b) There is still flooding at Pilton House. **Further location details required.**
- c) Water going from Lower Street towards Beales House next to Gable House, either the drain is blocked or spring. **Under investigation**

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) Stoodley Hill potholes getting worse. Some have been repaired but not all. **Works order issued**
- d) Bad potholes in St Mary's Lane. **Works Order issued.**
- e) The large pothole outside the gates of Springfield House at the top end of Neat Lane is causing cars to come round the bend from Shepton direction on the wrong side of the road, trying to avoid the deep pothole there. The hole appeared there as it seems to have got rougher and deeper. Ref 533859
- f) Pothole at East Town Lane by East Town Farm

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) 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.**
- c) 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)
- d) 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.

- e) 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.
- f) 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. 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.
The Bridge at Stoodley has been repaired after it was driven into on numerous occasions. The Clerk has asked Highways for the availability of a 'narrow bridge', 'weak bridge' or 'weight restriction' sign.
- g) 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.**
- h) 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
- i) 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.
- j) 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.
- k) The weight limit sign at Barrows Hill needs putting back up.
- l) 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? With Traffic Dept**
- m) Fingerposts - A temporary repair on the one at the top of Copse Lane hill. ASBOs are looking into replacing the other listed damaged ones. **With Traffic Dept**
- n) 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.**
- o) A361 the tarmac has broken away outside Fairfield Bungalow. **Reported**
- p) The grass verge has been gouged out to the tarmac at Copse Hill to Pylle Road. This is deemed urgent as will damage a tyre. Ref: 533862
- q) The reflectors need replacing by the Manor House. Ref:533841
- r) Stoodley Hill is pretty rough at moment in places. Ref: 533857
- s) Uneven camber at top of lane going to Perridge Farm. Ref: 533857
- t) On the way to Shepton on the B road, the next turning on left after the West Compton turn, going along the ridges down to Dinder has got dreadfully rough side edges not good for tyres, which I keep getting pushed into by 4 x 4.
- u) There is a rough edge to the road as you go down Neat Lane on the left gully.
- v) At Copse Hill/Copse Lane along Pylle Road the verges need reinstating. This will be brought up at the next GFEL/PPC meeting.
- w) The edges to the road in Stoodley Lane need attention.
- x) On the B136 before Shepton Mallet 150 yards before the railway bridge there is a large sunken drain which is blocked,

- y) The sign and wall at the War Memorial have been damaged due to a car crash, the sign needs re-erecting please.
 - z) The verges on Top Street near Oathill Cottages are mud and it's a mess.
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- aa) Where cars pull in by The Manor, the verge is in a dreadful state.
 - bb) A 20 metre stretch of road on Perridge Hill by Brown Cow Organics has subsided.
 - cc) Outside Walnut House the manholes have sunk and are very noisy when vehicles go over them. Just in case no-one else has noticed it, the "temporarily repaired" sunken manhole at the bottom of Lamberts Hill is now as bad, if not worse, than ever. Moreover, drivers are either more aware of it now or can see it better with its new red border and are swerving onto the wrong side of the road to avoid it. Surely even Highways would consider this a safety issue.
 - dd) Whilst repairing that one they might also look at another one, also in Lamberts Hill but this time on the southbound side (OS 142 Ref 605,420 approximately).

APPENDIX B

Pilton Parish Council

List of Correspondence received September 2019

- i. Rural Services Network, The Rural Bulletin 3/9
- ii. Recycle - SWP Briefing September 2019
- iii. RSN Rural Funding Digest, Rural Services Network September 2019
- iv. September Parish Bulletin 4/9
- v. Agenda for the Parish Forum 10/9
- vi. Engagement Bulletin 4/9
- vii. Planning Board 6/9
- viii. SALC Policy Consultation E-Briefing 10-19 – 5G Mobile Coverage
- ix. Request for help – Cardiff University Student
- x. Parish Forum 12th September 10/9
- xi. Rethinking Local Government Service Provision 11/9
- xii. CPRE Somerset 11/9
- xiii. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 10/9
- xiv. Engagement Bulletin 11/9
- xv. Supporting Neurodiversity in the Workplace 12/9
- xvi. Safer Together Programme – Fire Service Consultation 13/9
- xvii. Parish Councillor Training 16/9
- xviii. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 17/9
- xix. Electoral Administration Briefing 17/9
- xx. Gender Equality in the Workplace 17/9
- xxi. Briefing to update on the Major Road Network 17/9
- xxii. Mendip Glorious Garden Evening 17/9
- xxiii. Engagement Bulletin 18/9
- xxiv. Standards Committee 19/9
- xxv. Glastonbury Town Council A361 Committee Meeting 26th September at 5pm
- xxvi. SALC AGM 9/9
- xxvii. SALC Quiet Lane Status 23/9
- xxviii. Free Parish Online Licences 23/9

- xxix. SALC Councillor Training Events 23/9
- xxx. Clerks/Officers Allotment Training 23/9
- xxxi. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 24/9
- xxxii. Zero Carbon Britain – Staff and Councillor Training 24/9
- xxxiii. Tackling Sexual Harassment in the Workplace 24/9
- xxxiv. Reimagining the Levels – Draft Tree Policy for Town and Parish Councils 24/9
- xxxv. Engagement Bulletin 25/9
- xxxvi. Amendments to the Parish Council notification MDC 25/9
- xxxvii. Community Resilience Day, Somerset Prepared 26/9
- xxxviii. Marie Curie Helper and Companion Services publicity in Parish Magazine 26/9
- xxxix. Interactive Budget Setting for Beginners Course 26/9
- xl. SALC - Legal Advice Surgery 26/9
- xli. Power to your Parish 27/9
- xlii. SALC AGM 26/9

Appendix C

Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper October 2019

Measles: Measles is a highly infectious viral illness that can be very unpleasant and sometimes lead to serious complications. Earlier this year the UK lost its measles free status due to the increased number of confirmed cases in the UK and evidence that transmissions of measles had been re-established. This increased number of cases is directly linked to the drop in the number of Children vaccinated, in particular the second dose of the MMR vaccination. Evidence has shown that cases of measles occur in communities where vaccine uptake is low. As measles is highly infectious, even small decline in uptake can have an impact, and anyone who has not received 2 doses of MMR vaccine is at risk. Those people who missed out on getting the vaccine are urged to make an appointment now to get vaccinated. For more information, visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles

School places: September saw the opening of applications for school places for 2020. The deadline for secondary school places is 31 October 2019 and for Primary school admissions the deadline is 15 January 2020. SCC encourage everyone to submit three preferences, including their local school as one of those preferences. In recent years, some applications have only included one preference for a non-local school and if demand is high for that single school, it can mean that students and parents have to wait longer for a confirmed placement at a different school, making the experience more stressful. www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/apply-to-start-school

New school openings: September saw two new schools open their doors in Taunton, the £8.5m Hazelbrook campus at Selworthy Special School and the new £7.3m Nerrols Primary

school, creating 500 new school places. The state-of-the-art new campus at Selworthy will offer 80-100 places for secondary age pupils with a wide range of Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. The development will help to ensure pupils can be educated close to their homes and communities, without needing to take long journeys to a school, which can accommodate their needs.

Libraries: Over 7,000 children visited libraries across Somerset to take part in 'Space Chase' - this year's national Summer Reading Challenge inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. Children signed up to read up to six books over the summer and received rewards for every book they read. During the holidays over 160,000 books were read in total and hundreds of children and families took part in free events held in their local libraries such as slime making, story times, 3D printing, Virtual reality, LEGO days, Nintendo Switch gaming events, and many more.

Costa Coffee Fostering Events: Over the next few weeks information events about Fostering opportunities are being held in Yeovil, Shepton Mallett and Bridgwater, kindly supported by Costa Coffee. More information can be found at www.fosteringinsomerset.gov.uk

Enterprise centres: Two business-boosting enterprise centres for Somerset have taken a leap forward with construction work now underway. Cathedral Park, Wells will offer two larger offices, ten smaller offices and two meeting rooms as well as five 50 square metre industrial units whilst the new, purpose-built Wiveliscombe centre will offer ten offices, two meeting rooms and seven industrial units. The aim is for both centres - which are each costing in the region of £2m - to be open next Spring, bringing the total number of centres in the Somerset network up to seven. All centres provide modern, accessible space for small and growing businesses - something that can be hard to find in rural areas. They offer flexible tenancies, superfast broadband, business networking, access to business support and competitive rents.

Gritting routes: As the County Council's financial position has now significantly improved SCC has confirmed it will make available an additional £200,000 for the highway winter service to fund additional routes and activities. The precautionary gritting network has been reviewed in line with the most up to date code of practice. This has resulted in an increase in the precautionary gritting network from approximately 720 miles to 900 miles of road which will be treated every time ice or snow is forecast. This is around 21 per cent of the total roads in Somerset - bringing it back to previous levels. SCC will be operating 23 gritting lorries, running out of five depots across the county.

Grit Bins: Parish council are being asked to check their grit bins and to let SCC know by 31st October if they need filling. This will assist with the continuing sustainability of this service by targeting visits by the road maintenance teams to only those locations in need. One tonne dumpy bags of salt are sometimes provided on steep slopes, especially on Exmoor and the Mendips, and this will continue to be the case. If Parish/Town Councils have any questions regarding the provision of roadside salt please contact the area highways office. The parish/town council salt bag collection day which has taken place for a number of years up until last winter was also reviewed. The conclusion was that on recent occasions the take up of this service was generally low and it did not provide good value for money. 'k',

Opposite Sex Civil Partnerships: Somerset's Registration Service is ready and waiting for couples wishing to tie the knot through a new 'opposite sex civil partnership' next year. The service would like to hear from couples interested in

booking a ceremony in 2020 following the change of Government legislation which will make civil partnerships available to opposite as well as same sex couples. Somerset Registration Service has a large team of professional celebrants who will tailor ceremonies to suit each couple's preferences at over 120 licensed venues. Contact Somerset Registration Service via somersetregistrations@somerset.gov.uk