

Minutes of the Meeting of the Pilton Parish Council
in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 2nd September 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Steve Bowler
Jean Foley
John Howe
Stephen Kearle
Joseph King
Roger Noble

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

4 Member of the public were present.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:** Councillor Corfield, Councillor Drew and Councillor Nigel Woolcombe-Adams

3 **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on 5th August 2015. Minutes of the 1st July 2015 have been amended and subsequently approved.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Item 12 Festival: Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), Councillors Bowler, Foley, King, Howe and Noble, declared a personal interest (ticket). Councillors R Kearle and Noble declared personal interest in respect planning application ii (they have nothing to gain from this application). R Kearle personal interest in Bourne Farm 8iii.

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Highways: A manhole cover is clattering near the entrance to Gould's. The Clerk will report to SCC.

ii Zebra crossing between bus stops on the A361: No update this month.

iii Fords and Bridges: The Clerk read an email from Paul Tucker SCC, stating that he has visited the Barrow Footbridge and Barrow Ford and Cockmill Footbridge and Cockmill Ford.

Barrow Footbridge and Barrow Ford

Paul Tucker stated that whilst this structure does need some maintenance works carrying out, the repair works required to this structure are generally of a minor nature given the usage of the structure. However the repairs to the loose parapet posts/railings do need addressing sooner rather than later and it would be more cost effective to get all of the works at this structure done at the same time in one hit so to speak. SCC are currently investigating new methods of procuring works with their contractors and are therefore looking to

issue this one to them within the next few weeks so that they can work up a repair scheme and programme the works in.

Cockmill Footbridge and Cockmill Ford.

SCC advised that they appreciate that this structure does need a significant amount of maintenance works carrying out but state the repair works required to this structure are of a relatively minor nature at present and have been classified as being of a low priority status in comparison with other structures on their highway network. The works to this structure do require more detailed thought/investigation and planning before being worked up into a scheme and therefore remain on their outstanding works database for the time being. In order to have a better feel for the works required they will get the gang carrying out the works at Barrow Ford/Footbridge to pop round so to remove the vegetation to enable more detailed inspection to be carried out to ascertain the full extents of the works required so that they can be worked up into a scheme for next year.

The Clerk was asked to reply to Paul Tucker thanking him for the statement of intent.

Councillor Bowler has investigated the Parish Councils eligibility to funding from the Ree's Jefferies Fund however the Council would not be eligible for this kind of work.

- iv Fingerposts: The Clerk was asked to write to John Pratt to thank him for all his hard work regarding providing information to the Clerk and to companies, to enable the Clerk to obtain quotes. Discussion took place as to what other potential companies could be approached for a quotation, as Sign of the Times are finding it difficult to meet our requirements. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Cerdic Foundries in Chard and Councillor King would contact the widow of Richard Bowditch to enquire which company bought the business and the Clerk will request a quotation from that company also.
- v Mendip Community Transport Service (Slinky Bus): No update
- vi Community and Ownership and Management of Assets Programme: It was agreed to remove this from the agenda funding is no longer required for the fords and bridges if Somerset County Council will be repairing them.
- vii Speed Camera Devices: The Clerk has received an email from Steve Watts of Mendip District Council stating that he has noted the issues that have been raised but is unable to offer any additional comments or proposals to alleviate vehicles exceeding the designated speed limit at the present time. He confirmed however that a representative from the Traffic Management Team would meet on site with the Parish Council.

Tim Rust from Avon and Somerset Police emailed to advise that he has spoken with the Speed Enforcement Unit and they have a site on the A361 at Pilton to carry out speed enforcement and they will attend very soon.

The Clerk approached Ann Emsley from Lydford, to ask about their Community Speedwatch team and how it works. The Clerk read the response from Ann. The Clerk will put a notice in the Roundabout magazine to see if there is any interest in setting up a similar scheme in Pilton.

The Clerk also received an email from Jenni Vernon advising of developments regarding a similar issue in Glastonbury.

The Clerk was asked to enquire about illuminate signs for the village.

- viii Local Resident, The Clerk has received an email from Sue Mountstevens, Avon and Somerset Crime Commissioner, acknowledging the villages concerns and advising that Avon and Somerset Constabulary will respond directly but she has been asked to be kept informed. Stuart Cave from Mendip District Council wrote to advise that the council do not have the powers to intervene in matters that are the remit of the police. An email was received from Tim Rust, Shepton Mallet Beat Manager, with an update of the situation and confirming that the police will be sitting down with the resident prior to the next festival to see how the Police can assist. The council felt that it was not just a problem at festival time and it was agreed that the Clerk will write back to Avon and Somerset Police advising them of this. It was stated that the Parish Council used to receive a report of incidents each month from the police and asked for this to resume. The Clerk will request this.

Closed Meeting

Opened Meeting

It was also agreed that the police 101 number be published in the Roundabout Magazine and anyone in the village feel the need to report a crime they should phone this number, report it and obtain a crime number. The Clerk agreed she was happy for residents to email her with these details and a log of crimes in the village would be kept on file.

- ix Highway Gullies at Toll Cottage: The homeowner has contacted the Clerk to advise that nothing has been done to the drain directly to the front of the house, a highway lorry did all the drains leading down Shop Lane and when I asked why they had left the drain at Toll Cottage was told it was council highway drain and wasn't on their list. The Clerk will chase with Highways. She will also ask that they use a camera to look at the culverts and cause of the problem be identified.

Closed Meeting

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- x Manholes: The Clerk has received an email from Mendip District Council confirming that they have been entered into the system for inspection/action as necessary.

- xi Unauthorised Business at Kenton Farm: The Clerk has emailed MDC advising them of the unauthorised business but no response has been received. The Clerk with chase.
- xii Dumped rubbish in layby between Steanbow and Lower Westholme Road: The Clerk has emailed MDC to advise them of the dumped rubbish but no response has been received. The Clerk was asked to chase.
- xiii Rave at Platterwell Lane: The Clerk has emailed MDC but no response has been received. The Clerk was asked to chase.

6 **PLANNING:**

- i Application Number: 2015/1689/HSE
 Proposal: Demolition of existing wood store and outbuilding and erection of new outbuilding.
 Location: Chanters House East Town Lane Pilton Shepton Mallet BA4 4NX
 Applicant: Mr Tony Nobbs
 Application Type: Householder Application
 Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL

Application Number: 2015/1878/LBC
 Proposal: Single storey extension to form study and en-suite bathroom. Infill rear porch to form WC.
 Location: Red House Farm Stoodley Lane North Wootton Shepton Mallet Somerset
 Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hamish Leng
 Application Type: Listed Building Consent
 Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL

Application Number: 2015/1708/HSE
 Proposal: 10 replacement windows and 2 new doors.
 Location: Grain Cottage Pylle Road Pilton Shepton Mallet BA4 4BP
 Applicant: Mr O'CALLAGHAN
 Application Type: Householder Application
 Parish Council Recommends: No response. No agreement could be made, the Parish Council voted 3 for and 3 against.

- ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:
 Proposal: Proposed works to /felling of trees in a Conservation Area
 Location: Barrow House, Ford Lane, Pilton, Shepton Mallet
 Grid Ref: 359138 140745
 Decision: TPO Not Required (No Objection)
- iii Enforcement:
Cock and Bull Drove: A Freedom of Information Request was requested and due back by the 12th August. No response was received. The Clerk chased MDC but still no response. The Clerk will keep chasing and copy into any correspondence Councillor Woolcombe-Adams.

The Gables: An allegation has been received that a new entrance for non-agricultural purposes has been created without planning permission. It was felt that the access was dangerous and not suitable and should only be used by agricultural vehicles. The Clerk was asked to write to planning at Mendip District Council to advise them.

Bourne Farm: An allegation has been received that hedging has been removed and a new drive created without planning permission. The landowner was in attendance and apologised and advised that they had replicated the hedge and planted over 1000 trees since they have had the property. Councillor King advised that he has already reported this to the Council a number of months ago. Councillor Noble proposed that MDC be notified again and this was seconded by Councillor King. Councillor S Kearle proposed that nothing be done, Councillor Bowler seconded. The Council voted four in favour, two against in favour of no action being taken.

7 **FOOTPATHS:**

- i Update: Councillor Bowler advised that the footpath maps are no on the Pilton Parish website and is now looking into zoning it with the help of Scott. It was stated that it would cost too much to produce an app.
Councillor Bowler advised that footpath 51 has now been cleared.

8 **FINANCE:**

- i Financial Statement: The Clerk provided and update

Balance b/f from 05.08.15	£41,169.28
Plus banked:	
Young Johnson Limited	£ <u>20.00</u>
	£ <u>20.00</u>
Less cheques drawn:	
Mrs K Buckley (Clerk) - salary/expenses	£190.60
Mrs W Lynn (Burial Secretary) - salary	£ 30.83
R England (Groundsman) - wages	£ 64.00
Norton Garden Machinery - strimmer head	£ 25.00
Total cheques drawn:	£310.43
Balance at 02.09.15	<u>£40,878.85</u>

- ii Pension Regulations: The Clerk confirmed that neither Ron England nor herself are eligible but will check what action is required..

Councillor R Kearle advised that the Playing Field Committee will be writing to the Parish Council shortly to officially request the £10k earmarked for the playing fields.

The Clerk received permission to order two new filing cabinets as the current ones were damaged.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- i Weekly Email News Digest - Monday, 10 August, 2015
- ii Rural Services Network Bulletin 19th August 2015
- iii Mindline Somerset - Out of hours helpline for people in distress
- iv Weekly Email News Digest - Monday, 17 August, 2015
- v RCNME7137 - Temporary road closure for Cumhill Lane, Pilton
- vi Q&A with John Osman at the SALC AGM 26/09/15
- vii August 2015 SWP briefing
- viii Weekly Email News Digest - Monday, 10 August, 2015
- ix Letter from MP James Heapey re information and his contact details
- x Weekly Email News Digest - Monday, 24 August, 2015
- xi Final opportunity to book your place on the RSN Rural Conference 2015
- xiii Vegetation growing beside the roads on Top Street, Barrow Lane, John Beals Hill, and several other locations.

10 **BURIAL GROUND:**

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

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

- i Roundabout report
The Parish Council are asking for interest in setting up a Community Speedwatch Group within Pilton. If you feel this would be a good idea or would be interested in sparing a few hours per month please let the Parish Clerk know.

The Parish Council want to monitor crimes within the village. Should you be a victim feel the need to report a crime you should phone the police on 101, which is a non-emergency number, report it and obtain a crime number. Calls to 101 (from both landlines and mobile networks) cost 15p per call, no matter what time of day you call, or how long you are on the phone. Please then email the Clerk with these details and she will keep a log of crimes in the village. The Parish Council will then be able to monitor the crimes and pursue persistent crimes with the police.

Pilton footpath maps are now on the Pilton Parish Website.

Mindline is free service for people in Somerset provided by Mind in Taunton and West Somerset. It is an out of hours helpline that is here for people that are in distress, feel isolated, distressed or upset. **01823 276 892 or www.mindline.org**

12 **FESTIVAL:**

- i Festival feedback: The Clerk is currently reviewing the festival feedback and will report back at the next meeting.
- ii Vehicle Access to Worthy Farm: The Clerk has emailed Phil Appleton for details of village passes issued. Details will be included into the Clerks report.
- iii Collection of signs from Councillor Howe: Phil Appleton is due to collect these on Friday 4th September
- iv Clearway System and Enforcement: Discussion took place as to whether cars in a clearway should be automatically towed away or the owners identified to have the opportunity for them to move them first. Further discussion will take place on the Clerk has circulated the report.

v GFL/PPC minutes: The Clerk will contact Mark Cann to request a copy of the last GFL/PCC meeting minutes

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 7th October 2015 7.30pm
Meeting closed 9.00pm