

Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council
in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 3rd February 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Steven Kearle
Steve Bowler
David Drew
Jean Foley
John Howe
Joseph King
R o g e r
Noble
Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

Two Members of the public were present and Councillor Nigel Woolcombe-Adams.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:**

3 **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on the 6th January 2016 were approved.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:**

Item 12 Festival: Councillors R Kearle and S Kearle (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment). Councillors Bowler, Drew, Foley, King Noble and Howe, declared a personal interest (ticket).

Councillor Drew declared in respect of planning applications "I do not have a declaration of interest but I might do in the future".

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Highways: Councillors Howe and Noble have driven around the village and compiled a list of road defects. The Clerk will send this to Neil Corp, Highways, SCC. The Clerk has received an email from Neil Corp providing reference numbers for previously reported defects.

ii Zebra crossing between bus stops on the A361: The Clerk has received an email from Andrew Tranter asking why the Parish Councillor requires double white line. The Clerk will respond advising it is due to traffic racing and speeding.

iii Fords and Bridges: The Clerk has received an email from Tony Lee re the Schedule of Work. The Clerk was asked to respond stating that the Parish Council did not want concrete coping stones and the rails should be repaired not replaced. The build-up of silt should also be removed as part of this work. Confirmation will also be sought regarding the work on the other footbridge as this also needs attention.

- iv Fingerposts: The Clerk has received an email from Mrs Taylor confirming that she is happy for work to be carried out on the fingerpost on their land. John Pratt emailed the Clerk stating that this work will start as soon as the weather permits. The order for the new fingerposts has been raised and an order acknowledgement received from Cerdic Foundries and a cheque has been signed to pay for the work.
- v Mendip Community Transport Service (Slinky Bus): A letter has been received from Mendip Community Transport Service asking for the Parish Councils support by way of a grant towards the running cost of the charity. The Council voted 5 in favour of providing Mendip Community Transport Service with a grant of £250. They also request that PC put an advert in the Roundabout Magazine for Mini Bus Drivers and Volunteer Car Driver. The Clerk will send the information to the Roundabout Magazine.
- vi Speed Camera Devices: The Clerk has written to Midsomer Norton Clerk however the police have advised that it Radstock who have this device. Terry Drake has been in touch regarding Speedwatch training, he is requesting names of new volunteers and will be in touch again with training dates. Councillor King stated that Mike Mayhew if the courses were not held on a Monday or Tuesday. Councillor King confirmed that he is happy to co-ordinate the Speedwatch and will contact Terry Drake with the information he requires. The Clerk will email Councillor King with contact details of the parishioners who have offered to be a volunteer. The Council discussed the various options and agreed they would like a ‘smiley face’ device all year round.
- vii Vegetation growing beside the roads on Top Street, Barrow Lane, John Beals Hill, and several other locations. The Clerk has written a letter to Grey Gables but not yet received a response. The ASBO’s will be completing work at Beal’s Hill.
- viii Low Cost Housing: A letter has been received from MP James Heapey, including attachment. The Councillors felt that the figures were dubious.
- ix Gypsy and Traveller Count: Councillor Noble has completed the count for Mendip District Council. The Clerk will forward this information.
- x Gabriel’s Orchard Insurance: Councillor King stated that this year Wassail was a great success and that they were hoping to hold another next year. Insurance has been taken out to last a year and if another Wassail is held it would be within the 12 month period. Councillor King was advised seek written confirmation that the Wassail was covered by the Village Trusts insurance when on their property as it was believed that this was not correct and likewise with the Gabriels Orchard insurance for an event.

The Clerk will check with SALC if the Parish Council, as custodian trustees can we insure Gabriel’s Orchard and not charge them.

Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper updated the Council. He confirmed that he had received the email from the Clerk regarding the Yurts at Tanyard Farm and is aware however enforcement is extremely busy covering 53 parishes with only four enforcement officers.

The Court hearing for Cock and Bull Drove is scheduled for the 4th/5th May. Mendip is ahead of other districts with 252 new affordable houses being built. Mendip District Council is working with Capita as part of a shared services scheme. MDC have proposed a raise in Council Tax this year.

- xi Heritage at Risk Register 2016: The Clerk as received a letter from Mendip District Council asking for sites of interest. It was agreed that the Cockmill Bridge would be listed. The Clerk will respond.

6 **PLANNING:**

- i Application No: 2015/2819/LBC
Proposal: Extension to existing Methodist Chapel to provide new meeting room, catering facilities and accessible toilets.
Location: Pilton Methodist Chapel Top Street Pilton Shepton Mallet Somerset
Applicant: Mr Philip Eavis
Application Type: Listed Building Consent
This application has been withdrawn and Mendip District Council will take no further action upon it.
An email has been received from Philip Eavis confirming that the application has been withdrawn from MDC as the scheme comes under the Ecclesiastical Exception Order. This means anyone wishing to make a comment or objection should write to Support Services of the Methodist Church at Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ. More details can be obtained under the Public Notices, page 49 of this weeks Shepton Journal.
- ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:
- Application No: 2015/2769/APP
Proposal: Application for the approval of details reserved by condition 4 (joinery details), 5 (same panel external joinery),6 (materials of external surfaces) 7 (rainwater goods) and 8 (hard/soft landscape scheme) on listed building consent 2014/2694/LBC.
Location: The Cider House John Beales Hill Pilton
Decision: APPROVAL
- Application No: 2015/2728/APP
Proposal: Application for the approval of details reserved by condition 4 (joinery details), 5 (same panel external joinery),6 (materials of external surfaces) 7 (rainwater goods) and 8 (hard/soft landscape scheme) on listed building consent 2014/2694/LBC.
Location: The Cider House John Beales Hill Pilton
Decision: APPROVAL
- Application No: 2015/2785/HSE
Proposal: 1st floor gable extension, replacement of shed dormer with 2 no, gable dormer windows. Rear dining room bay window replaced with lean-to single storey extension with glazed double doors.
Location: Upper House, Perridge Hill, Pilton
Councillors Recommends: APPROVAL

iii The Clerk has replied to North Wooton Parish Clerk re Industrial Units stating the Parish Council have already responded, recommending approval.

iii Enforcement: Councillor Howe has received a letter from Mrs B Garland. The Chairman read the letter which concerned the development at Friars Oven. The Parish Council agreed that this was a dispute between neighbours and as Mrs Garland has already raised the issue with MDC the Parish Council should not get involved. Councillor Howe had advised Mrs Garland that she should contact the Chief Executive of MDC if she was not happy with way the planners had dealt with this matter.

The Clerk will write to Mrs Garland on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cock and Bull Drove: The Court hearing for Cock and Bull Drove is scheduled for the 4th/5th May.

7 **FOOTPATHS:**

i Update:

The Footpaths meeting took place prior to the Parish Council meeting. The next meeting will be held on the 2nd March 2016, before the next Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman and the Clerk received an email from John Pratt re future funding for the ASBO's. It was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council will provide the ASBO's £300 per annum.

8 **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement: January's statement and approval of previous amended statements.

ii A letter was received from West Pennard Primary School asking for a contribution for towards the £4000 required annually to man the school bus. Councillor Bowler proposed that the Parish Council Contribute £2000, Councillor S Kearle seconded. This money is ring fenced only to be used for this purpose and should be returned to the Parish if not spend on this. This will be reviewed again next financial year.

iii Audit Procedures: The Clerk has received a huge amount of data of SALC regarding the new audit procedures but could confirm that the Parish Council will be under the £25k turnover threshold when the new procedure come into force in 2017.

iv Insurance: Renewal of Policy:

v Council Tax Support Grant: The Clerk confirmed the Council Tax Support Grant for Pilton for 2016/17 is £239.77.

The Clerk has received an email from Janet Ladyman stating that the Pilton Village Trust will not be receiving the financial assistance or the defibrillator they were hoping for and have asked the Parish Council for £700. This will be put on the agenda for further discussion at the next Parish Council meeting but the Clerk was asked to obtain more information regarding maintenance etc in the meantime.

The Clerk will write to Colin Elkin confirming that the £10000 for the Multi-Use playing field is still available.

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- i Weekly Email News Digest - Monday, 4 January, 2016
- ii Mendip Rural Forum - Jan 12th
- iii Mendip District Council, Calendar of Public Meetings 2016-17
- iv Rural Opportunities Bulletin 6th January 2016
- v Free RSN Seminar - Making Rural Settlements Work - Planning & Affordable Housing - 7th January 2016
- vi MDC Built Environment Group Newsletter - 7th January 2016
- vii Member Training, WISH, worksheet and handouts – 11th January 2016
- viii New guidance on procurement – 11th January 2016
- ix Weekly Email News Digest - Monday, 11 January, 2016
- x HM Queen’s 90th Birthday celebrations – 13th January 2016
- xi The Great British Fish and Chip Supper – 13th January 2016
- xii Rural Vulnerability Service - Rural Broadband - January 2016
- xiii SWP January 2016 monthly briefing
- xiv Weekly Email News Digest - Tuesday, 19 January, 2016
- xv Rural Vulnerability Service - Fuel Poverty - January 2016
- xvi Mind Press release 20/1/16
- xvii Clean for the Queen Campaign
- xviii Rural Services Network, Rural Housing Spotlight 27th January 2016

10. BURIAL GROUND:

- i Maintenance reports: .

Two reports were received from Councillor Drew, both were fine.

Councillor S Kearle will ask Bradley Hadadine to cut the long hedge.

Discussion took place regarding the tall hedge in the corner of the burial ground whether it requires tidying up or cutting back. This will be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.

11. ITEMS FOR COUNCIL’S INFORMATION:

- i Roundabout report

Please contact either a Parish Councillor or the Clerk if you are interested in celebrating the Queen’s Birthday by lighting beacons.

The advert for the recruiting of volunteer drivers for Mendip Community Transport

Growth Programme: Grants for the Rural Economy – Defra

The European Growth Programme provides funding to help projects which create jobs and boost the economy in England. These grants are funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) manages the grants, working with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and local partners.

From March 2015, the RPA is publishing ‘calls for applications’ under the Growth Programme. The calls for application invite applications for grants in specific LEP

areas. Calls for applications are currently open in a limited number of LEP areas, as part of an initial phase, before the programme opens fully. These calls will only include some of the grants listed below, depending on local priorities.

The website states that calls for applications will open across the country “from June.” The grants that are available will reflect the priorities of each local area and may include:

- Business development
- Business start-up
- Renewable energy
- Small scale tourism infrastructure
- Tourism co-operation
- Food processing

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/growth-programme-grants-for-the-rural-economy>

Councillor Noble advised that there has been thefts within the village. The Clerk was asked to chase Avon and Somerset Police for the crime figure they were going to send on a monthly basis.

12 **FESTIVAL:**

i Festival General:

The Clerk will write to GFL to ask them to formally write to the Parish Council stating their policy on Off Site Camping and Hospitality Tickets

- ii Councillors were asked at the last Parish Council meeting to compile form of words to be put to GFL regarding the 10 topics to take forward to GFL. Councillor Bowler, King and Foley had formulated some wording which they will send to the Clerk for further distribution prior to the GFL/PPC meeting on the 9th February.

Discussion took place regarding Copse Hill and its perceived overuse. Councillor Bowler proposed this was taken forward but it there was no support from other Councillors.

iii GFL/PPC minutes: Dates of next meetings

- 6pm on 9th February 2016
- 6pm on 12th April 2016
- 6pm on 7th June 2016

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 2nd March 2016 at 7.30pm.

Councillor Foley gave her apologies for the next meeting

Meeting closed 9.37pm

