

**Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council held  
in the Pilton Village Hall  
on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)  
Lynda Allen  
Audrey Brown  
David Drew  
Joe King  
Roger Noble

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

8 members of the public were present.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Colin Elkin, Stephen Kearle, Andrew Shaw, Nigel Hewitt-Cooper

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment) GFEL. Councillor R Kearle declared an interest in planning application 2019/1927/ADV as members of the Village Trust as did Councillors Brown and Drew.

Councillors Allen, Brown, Drew, King, and Noble declared a personal interest (ticket).

4. **MINUTES:** of the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019 were approved subject the including the name of Beat Manager Jane Ellis.

5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Traffic Matters:

- A361 meeting: Councillor King advised that he believes Glastonbury Town Council have done all they can. Their preferred option is to have HGV's redirected on to the A37. This would mean that major bridge work would be required at Lydford, which is a cheaper option. There is a large pot of money with ten different schemes bidding. Devon submitted a more detailed application, therefore the Glastonbury scheme is unlikely to get funding. It was agreed to remove this from the agenda.
- Highways: Clerks Report – See Appendix A
- New Defects:

ii Community Speedwatch:

- Councillor King stated that everything is going well and that the team are out every week. HGV's have been recorded doing 50mph in Neat Lane. Speed Enforcement have been out with the Speedwatch Team and have caught a lot of high end speeders. The SID should be in place shortly. It was requested that the entrance to Steanbow Farm be a Speedwatch site. Councillor King agreed to investigate.

Residents in Top Street have raised concern regarding speeding vehicles. Residents were advised to take the registration number and report to the police by calling 101.

- Truck Count – The Truck Count takes place during the Speedwatch sessions. The amount of HGV’s has decreased from 70 (6-9 months ago) to 45 per hour.  
Thanks was given to Debbie Smith and the Speedwatch Team.

iii Police Report: August Report - Specific reports for... Pilton

03/08 – Whitstone Hill, vehicle stopped for driving offences, caution issued.  
07/08 – Lamberts Hill, Police road closure due to live electricity cable down across carriageway.  
14/08 – Totterdown Lane Dwelling Burglary whilst residents were away on holiday. Entry via forced back lounge window. No CCTV or witnesses, CSI attended.  
14/08 – Whitstone Hill, Abandoned vehicle partially blocking carriageway. Police attended & recovered.  
23/08 – Bread Street, ASB reported of apples thrown at property & noise issues. Patrols of area no offenders located.  
27/08 – Reported male driving in his field, believed unfit to drive. Person check showing no orders preventing driving. Observations passed as no units available nearby.

iv Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper: There was no update from Nigel this month.

6. **PLANNING:**

i

Application Number	Proposal	Applicant & Location
2019/1927/ADV	1 no. Fascia, 1 no. Projecting sign, 1 no, Suspended logo	Mr S Finlay Pilton Parish Hall, St Mary’s Lane, Pilton
<p>Pilton Parish Council Recommends: REFUSAL It was felt that 3 signs were excessive and inappropriate in a conservation area. [The main users will be villagers and they will know the shop is there, therefore there is no need for 3 signs advertising the shop. Councillor Noble proposed refusal, Councillor King seconded. The vote was 3 in favour of refusal and 2 abstained.</p>		

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number	Proposal	Location	Decision
2019/1346/FUL	Barn for storage of hay, farm vehicles and machinery.	Mr & Mrs S Kearle, Two Oaks, Totterdown Lane, Pilton	Approval with Conditions
2019/1341/HSE	Extension to farmhouse to enlarge bedrooms and living room, form new bedroom & en-suite and enlarge garage.	Mr & Mrs S Kearle, Totterdown Farm, Totterdown Lane, Pilton.	Approval with Conditions

2019/1529/TCA	T1 – Poplar – Reduced by 40% as large branches are damaged.	Mr Philip Clarke Beales House John Beales Hill Pilton	TPO Not Required
---------------	---	--	------------------

Councillor Kearle advised that the Friers Oven site has been approved. A resident spoke against the decision and will be replying to an article in the Mendip Journal. This will be put on the agenda for next month's meeting.

iii Enforcement:

The Cock and Bull Drove site still has a cabin in the corner of the field, there are also campervans, cars and caravans. The Clerk was asked to make Simon Snart and Nigel Hewitt-Cooper aware.

7. **FOOTPATHS:**

i Update: Councillor King stated that the ASBO's are 'pawing the ground and ready to leap into action in the Autumn'.

ii Gabriel's Orchard Footpath: Councillor King clarified that this relates to the footpath above Gabriel's Orchard. Councillor King has met with the resident and given them the appropriate contact details.

8. **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:

			<b>Total Funds</b>
Balance b/f from 31/07/2019			8,742.87
Plus banked:			
			£ -
Less cheques drawn:			
cq number	details		
2127	K Buckley (salary + expenses)		342.81
(HWA £10 insurance £5.50 stamps £7.32, ink £11.99)			
2126	Roger Noble		117.00
2128	Roger Noble		117.00
2129	Pilton Working Mens Club		15.00
2130	SALC training course		25.00
2131	W Lynn		37.00
			£ 653.81
Balance at 31/08/2019			£ 8,089.06

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

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

i. Clerks report: See Appendix B

ii. Any correspondence requiring further discussion:

The Clerk was asked to put 'over 50's Affordable Housing on the agenda for next months meeting.

10. **BURIAL GROUND**

- i Maintenance reports: Two reports were received, both were fine.
- ii Report of sunken graves and holes in grass: Two tonnes of top soil has been ordered and used to repair the burial ground. Thanks were given to Councillor Noble for organising this and also to Ron and Richard England for carrying out the work.

Councillor Noble will check to see that the Penny Lane grave has been tidied and the gravestone straightened.

- iii Burial Ground Rules: Laminated copies of the Burial Ground Rules have been given to Councillor Drew to be erected at the burial ground. A copy has also been emailed to the Burial Secretary.

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

- i Roundabout report

The next GFEL/Pilton Parish Council meeting is being held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 6pm in the Village Hall. All residents are welcome to attend.

The Pilton Litter Pick is taking place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 9am, meeting outside the Village Hall. Refreshments will be provided afterwards. Please come along and help keep Pilton the beautiful village it is!

Residents have raised concerns regarding speeding in Top Street. The registration of one vehicle speeding has been given to the police. If you notice anyone speeding please take the registration number and report it to the police by calling 101.

12. **GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL:**

- i. Date of the next GFEL/PPC meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (Items for agenda by 7<sup>th</sup> October)
- ii Items for further discussion with GFEL at meeting:
  1. It was suggested that the crossroads to Neat Lane could be made into two lanes, turning left and across and right.
  2. Immediately before and after the Festival more thought could be given to how lorries could be reduced further. More surveillance would be appreciated.
  3. At the Green Car Park exit at the top of Copse Hill, visibility is poor due to high hedges and cars couldn't see pulling out. Could the hedge be cut during the winter?
  4. CCTV set up earlier in the village to monitor large vehicles.
  5. Councillor Noble visited the Drop-in Centre on the Sunday morning, there was only two security staff there and Councillor Noble was told to fill in a form. There was no-one present with any local knowledge and there were no village maps.
  6. In Top Street vehicles were being abandoned a week prior to the Festival, including a caravan, this was raised with Phil Appleton on the Parish Council tour. Could it be a clearway like Bread Street or parking on one side of the road only from Culverwell.

13. **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 at

7.30pm

Meeting closed 8.37pm

**APPENDIX A**

## Outstanding Pilton Parish Defects – August 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 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 the spring. **Under investigation**
- d) There is a bad gully in Neat Lane, the tarmac is very sharp on the edge. This road will be used so much in the next few weeks due to the Festival, urgent action is required; Ref 533863 - COMPLETE

### 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 there 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](mailto: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 at Ridge Lane into Compton Lane. Noted
- i) At 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 the 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 muddy and it's a mess.
- 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 August 2019**

- i. Engagement Bulletin 7/8
- ii. RSN Rural Funding Digest, Rural Services Network August 2019
- iii. July CSW Figures 8/8

- iv. Chair of Council Invitation 9/8
- v. SALC – Councillor’s guide to handling intimidation 9/8
- vi. Planning Board 9/8
- vii. Bristol Airport – Invitation to participate in an Airspace Change workshop 9/8
- viii. Plunkett community business event 12/8
- ix. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 12/8
- x. Ringerpost Restoration, Lydford-on-Fosse 14/8
- xi. Engagement Bulletin 14/8
- xii. SALC – SID query from Lopen PC 19/8
- xiii. The RuraBul Bulletin, Rural Services Network 20/8
- xiv. Engagement Bulletin 21/8
- xv. VAT for Local Councils – Training Event 22/8
- xvi. St Margaret’s Hospice 22/8
- xvii. Star Council Awards 22/8
- xviii. Emergency Preparedness Month 27/8
- xix. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 28/8
- xx. Lydford-on-Fosse Parish Clerk re Fingerposts 28/8
- xxi. Does your council need to rethink the provision of its services? 28/8
- xxii. Engagement Bulletin 28/8
- xxiii. Councillor Essentials Training – Castle Cary 28/8
- xxiv. Policy Consultation E-Briefing 09/19 – Independent Review 28/8
- xxv. Bristol & Bath Science Park 29/8
- xxvi. Area CSW meeting update from Debbie Smith 30/8
- xxvii. Shepton Mallet Library – Plans for Community Interest Company 31/8
- xxviii. Emails re Bus Shelter