

**Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council held
in the Pilton Village Hall
on Wednesday 4th December 2019 at 7.30pm**

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
Audrey Brown
David Drew
Colin Elkin
Stephen Kearle
Joe King
Roger Noble
Andrew Shaw

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

13 members of the public were present.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Lynda Allen and Nigel Hewitt-Cooper

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment) GFEL.
Councillors Brown, Drew, Elkin, S Kearle, King, and Noble and Shaw declared a personal interest (ticket).

4. **MINUTES:** of the 7th November 2019 were approved.

5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Traffic Matters:

- A361 Bypass: Gerald Tucker, Town Clerk for Glastonbury advised there will no meeting until January. The Glastonbury Group is against all proposed routes. Sending HGV's through rural areas makes no sense and the local populous do not want it.

The Action Group has had a meeting with MP James Heapey and Tessa Mud and discussed upgrading designated routes for improved productivity. Government can only fund 85%, the rest would need to come from the Local Authority area and private developers. More research needs to take place. The Action Group is struggling to obtain the figures for housing and the proposed Trading Estate. James Heapey stated that he will be voting against it.

Both political candidates are against the proposals.

- Highways: Clerks Report – See Appendix A
- Puffin Crossing: It was confirmed that a survey was carried out to identify how many children would use a puffin crossing, however the survey was carried out during the school summer holiday and was unrealistic. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper has been made aware of this.

- Whitstone Hill: No feedback was received from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.
- Road Closure/ Memorial Service: An email has been received from a resident. It was suggested by a resident to request a road closure order for the next Remembrance Day Service. Traffic would then be on the Main Road and Top Street. It was stated that the Parish Council would not be able to get permission to do this.
- Salt and Grit: An email from Highways stated that the closing date for grit was back in October however they would deliver to the Village when they are able.
The Clerk was asked to obtain grit for the Burfords crossroads.
- New Defects:
North of Perridge Farm there are very deep potholes.
On Neat Lane before the allotments, the drain is full with detritus.
There is silt in the middle of road in Bakery Lane. The ASBO's were asked to see if this was work they could do.
The manor wall it rutted near the Bier House.
The drain at Burford has been cleared.

ii Community Speedwatch:

- It was agreed that the Speedwatch would carry out a count of children using the Puffin Crossing during term time. It was confirmed that the count could only take place in full daylight.
It was suggested that the Park Hill end of the village may be a good location. Councillor King advised that each site must have 60 yards visibility each way and space to step back into a 'safe zone'. Red Gate was suggested. Councillor King will investigate.
A new volunteer has been fully trained and started with the Speedwatch Team.
- Truck Count – The average Truck Count is now 50 HGV's per hour, it was 70. It was suggested that this was due to the jetty at Hinkley and the completion of a phase of building. It has been reported that the jetty has subsequently sunk, so HGV number may increase.

iii Police Report: October/November Reports

Specific reports for... Pilton for October

12/10 – A361 through Pilton, reported flooding, Highways made aware.
14/10 – West Compton Lane, suspicious incident concerning tampering with active Badger set... Under investigation.
18/10 – St Marys Lane, reported parking issue. Police attended no obstructions found.
19/10 – Ridge Road, reported tampering with building site cameras, Police attended found in order.
21/10 – Ridge Road, reported sheep on road, farmer located to collect.

Specific reports for.... Pilton for November

Ten calls received nine unsuitable for public reporting.
11/11 – Lamberts Hill, three vehicle RTC sustaining minor injuries, disruption to traffic managed by Police

iv Neighbourhood Watch: It was confirmed that no response has been received from the Police regarding who is leading on this however Councillor King has a suspicion who it may be and he will ask him.

- v Shepton Mallet Library: Councillors are pleased that the Library will be staying in its current location. A final decision will be announced on the 18th December.
- vi Hedge near Lamberts Hill Farm (going towards Shepton on A361): A resident stated that they felt the visibility was impaired due to the hedge. Councillor R Kearle stated that he has spoken to the landowner who has agreed to cut it. The Clerk will chase Nigel Hewitt-Cooper as to what action can be taken for this accident black spot.
- vii VE Day Anniversary: The Parish Council have been approached regarding a celebration for the VE Day Anniversary. It was unsure what the event would be. Councillor Shaw will pursue and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.
- viii Bus Shelter: The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour of the Pearce's completing the work on the bus Shelter and expressed their thanks on excellent job so far.
- ix Dog Poo Bins: It was confirmed that the Dog Poo Bins are the responsibility of the Playing Fields Trust and Councillor R Kearle will chase them to get emptied. It was decided to investigate the best position to site another bin. Councillor King offered to empty the bin when it is in place.
- x Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper: There was no update received this month.

6. **PLANNING:**

i

| Application Number | Proposal | Applicant & Location |
|---|--|--|
| 2019/2795/FUL | Proposed change of use of land to 1 no. travellers pitch. | Mr Julian Kanssen Land at Beggars Roost, Pylle Road, Pilton |
| Pilton Parish Council Recommended – REFUSAL. It was felt that Pilton had more than their quota of travellers pitches. The access to the land, safety and traffic being an issue. Impact on public visual amenity. | | |
| 2019/2773/LBC | Refurbishment works to include rebuilding wall using existing stone, improve structural support to part of end gable end wall, re-point property with lime mortar, rebuilding part of roof frame and replace bedroom 1 floor construction. | Mr & Mrs C Humphrey Riverdale, East Town Lane, Pilton |
| Pilton Parish Council Recommended – APPROVAL | | |
| 2019/2378/FUL | Rear first storey extension over existing(revised plans received 11/11/2019) | Miss Chloe Knapp, 1 Beardsly Batch, Church Lane, Cannards Grave. |
| Pilton Parish Council Recommended – APPROVAL | | |

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

| Application Number | Proposal | Location | Decision |
|--------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| 2019/2424/HSE | Proposed extension over single storey element of existing dwelling | Highthorn Cottage, 4 Beardly Batch, Church lane, Cannards Grave | Approval with Conditions |
| 19/00017/REF | Change of land from agricultural to 3 No. Traveller pitches and associated works including hardstanding. | Ms E Wolliams Land at Ridge Lane, West Compton | Withdrawn by the Apellent |
| 2019/2280/HSE | Erection of 2.4m boundary fencing, installation of replacement 1.8m entrance gates and re-surfacing the existing access driveway. | Mr & Mrs Edgley Winding Lake Farm, Pylle Road | Approval with Conditions |
| 2019/2678/AGB | Application for prior notification of agricultural development for a proposed building. | Mr Ty Cook Land At 360080 139131 Cockmill Lane East Pennard | Prior Approval is Not Required |
| 2019/1019/FUL | External alterations to the building to include change of existing double door to single automatic door, change of side door to steel secure door. Erection of an external plant and equipment building. | Mr S Finlay Pilton Village Hall, St Mary's Lane, Pilton | Approval with Conditions |
| 2019/0461/FUL | Change of Use of part of existing Working Men's Club and Village Hall to Class A1 convenience store. | Mr S Finlay Pilton Village Hall, St Mary's Lane, Pilton | Approval with Conditions |

iii Enforcement:

7. **FOOTPATHS:**

- i Update: The ABSO's are recruiting for the new season. It was stated that they will mainly be concentrating on footpaths next year.
Thanks was given to the ASBO team.

8. **FINANCE:**

- i Financial Statement:

| | | | | | Total Funds |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------|
| Balance b/f from 31/10/2019 | | | | | 6,543.62 |
| Plus banked: | | | | | |
| A B Hampson | | | | | £ 200.00 |
| Forsey & Son | | | | | £ 120.00 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | £ 320.00 |
| Less cheques drawn: | | | | | |
| cq number | details | | | | |
| 2146 | K Buckley (salary+ expenses) | | | | 451.94 |
| (HWA £10 insurance £5.50 ink £64.99 post £1.90) | | | | | |
| 2147 | W Lynn | | | | 37.00 |
| 2148 | Pilton Working Mens Club | | | | 17.00 |
| 2149 | K Buckley | | | | 15.50 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | £ 521.44 |
| Balance at 30/11/2019 | | | | | £ 6,342.18 |

- ii Financial News/ Requests for Grants:
- Mendip Community Transport requested a grant. It was decided unanimously not to donate at this time.
 - Improving Lives Grant Scheme – This has been put on hold until January due to the election.
 - Councillors were reminded that the January Parish Council Meeting will be preceded by the Precept Meeting.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i. Clerks report: See Appendix B
- ii. Any correspondence requiring further discussion:
The signs need reinstating at the top of Whitstone Hill pointing towards Burford. The sign at the War Memorial has still not been repaired and also the sign at Cannards Grave has been knocked.

A five week consultation for appeal regarding Mr Eavis' barn has started.

Thanks was given to everyone who took part in the Village Litter Pick. Over 20 helped and the food was lovely.

A email has been received, the Clerk was asked to reply stating that the Parish Council do not own any strips of land in Totterdown,

It was stated that the Festival Run raised £11 500, with £848 from sales of tea and cakes. The money will go to the Avalon School Hydrotherapy Pool and the Somerset & Dorset Air Ambulance.

10. **BURIAL GROUND**

- i Maintenance reports:
Two reports were received, both were fine.
It was reported the disgusting state of a new grave. The Clerk has emailed the Funeral Director. The Clerk was asked to formally write advising the Funeral Director of the unacceptable condition.
Councillor Drew offered to repair the Burial Ground notice board.
Councillor Noble will ask Ron England to clear up the leaves.

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

i. Roundabout report

Happy New Year!

The Parish Council wishes to thank everyone who helped with the Village Litterpick, there was a good turnout of helpers and the food afterwards was delicious!

Please beware in the wintery weather of icy patches around the village,

Residents are asked to keep hedges cut back and tidy to ensure that footpaths and pavements are kept clear.

12. **GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL:**

i. Date of the next GFEL/PPC meeting: Tuesday 11th February 2020

13. **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 8th January 2019 at 7.30pm
Precept meeting will start at 7.00pm

Meeting Closed 9.04pm

APPENDIX A

Outstanding Pilton Parish Defects - November 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 spring. Under investigation
- d) Top Street to Culverwell Cottage, drain is blocked and not taking water. **This has been inspected and a jetting order placed for clearance of the blockage as soon as resources are available ref: 536996**
- e) Westholme House water is coming out of a drain causing flooding outside of the Lodge. **This has been inspected and a jetting order placed for clearance of the blockage as soon as resources are available ref: 536996.**
- f) Near the railway bridge on the B136 the BT cover is overflowing and the water will freeze in winter.

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– 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. Safety defects already repaired no further defects apparent Ref 536441.
- g) Bad potholes in Perridge Hill – Not currently classed as a safety defect. Ref 536438
- h) The road between Burford and West Compton needs attention. No safety defects apparent. Ref: 536440
- i) On the West Compton Road towards Friars Oven the potholes are very bad and there is mud and scalplings on the road. No safety defects apparent Ref 536442
- j) Platterwell Lane before Platterwell Cottage there is bad potholes. **An inspection of the lane has been carried out and no actionable defects could be identified. Ref: 536999**

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. **This has been inspected and a jetting order placed for clearance of the blockage as soon as resources are available. Ref: 536998**
 - y) The sign and wall at the War Memorial have been damaged due to a car crash, the sign needs re-erecting please. **The post has been erected and the repeater speed plate will be fixed as soon as possible.**
 - z) The verges on Top Street near Oathill Cottages are mud 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).
 - ee) The ridge road by Stumps Cross to Canards Grave the condition of the road is very bad, the tarmac is worn away. The road also floods. **An inspection of the lane has been carried out and no actionable defects could be identified. Ref: 536000**

APPENDIX B

Pilton Parish Council

List of Correspondence received November 2019

- i. NHS Somerset CCG – Newsletter, Stay Well Somerset

- ii. SALC Clerks Officers Allotment Training 4/11
- iii. SALC VE Day 75 4/11
- iv. November Parish Bulletin and Climate Change 4/11
- v. James Heapey – Dissolution of Parliament 4/11
- vi. The Rural Bulletin, Rural services Network 5/11
- vii. RSN Rural Funding Digest, Rural Services 6/11
- viii. Engagement Bulletin 6/11
- ix. Truespeed Full Fibre Broadband 10/11
- x. NALC & LGA launch new guide to tackle loneliness 7/11
- xi. SALC Interactive Budget Setting for Beginners 7/11
- xii. Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity 7/11
- xiii. Candice Bahouth Newsletter August 2019 7/11
- xiv. Surviving Winter Appeal to Parish Clerks 2019/20 7/11
- xv. Mendip Parish Precepts 2020-21 7/11
- xvi. Tacking Poverty and Deprivation in Mendip 10/11
- xvii. CSW Reports for October for Avon & Somerset 10/11
- xviii. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network – Election Special 12/11
- xix. January Parish Newsletter 12/11
- xx. Engagement Bulletin 13/11
- xxi. SWP Briefing November 2019 Xmas Collection details 15/11
- xxii. The Rural Bulletin – Rural Services Network 19/11
- xxiii. Engagement Bulletin 20/11
- xxiv. Consultation: Strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments 20/11
- xxv. James Heapey letter 20/11
- xxvi. NALC Smaller Councils Committee 20/11
- xxvii. Bristol Airport – Airspace Change Update 22/11
- xxviii. St Margaret’s Hospice Winter Update 22/11
- xxix. James Heapey A361 Bypass Letter 24/11
- xxx. Dog Poo Bins 25/11
- xxxi. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 26/11
- xxxii. Engagement Bulletin 27/11

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