

Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council held
in the Pilton Village Hall on
Wednesday 6th March 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)
David Drew
Stephen Kearle
Roger Noble
Debbie Smith
Angela Wynn

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

7 members of the public were present, including Councillor Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:** Jean Foley, Joe King and Andrew Shaw

3 **MINUTES:** of the 6th February 2019 to be approved.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillors R Kearle, Wynn and S Kearle (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment). Councillors R Kearle, Wynn and Drew declared a personal interest in 5v. Councillors Drew, Noble and Smith and declared a personal interest (ticket). Councillor Drew "I do not have a declaration of interest in any planning applications but I might do in the future"

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Traffic Matters:

- A361 meeting: As Councillor King was not present, update was given
- Highways: Clerks Report (Appendix 1)
- New Defects:
 - The bank in Totterdown Lane opposite the new build houses has been pushed into the ditch and needs clearing.
 - By Lower Street going into Beales Hill there is running water from a drain or spring.
 - The direction sign at the top of Beards Hill, East Compton towards the A37 has been knocked down.
 - The sign at the Top Street crossroads needs putting back up.
 - The plastic road sign on the verge outside the Manor House has been knocked over and people are driving on the verge.
 - There is still flooding at Pilton House.
 - At the bottom of Watery Lane the drain is silted to the top outside Higher Westholme Farm.

ii Community Speedwatch:

- Update from Joe King:- Councillor King was not present. Councillor Smith. The police have identified, assessed and authorised two new sites. One at the

entrance to the Margaret Bonnfield Close, by the Maggies Farm housing sign, and one a site by the public bridleway halfway between Neat Lane and Cock and Bull Drove. Paperwork is currently in the process and these will be permanent sites, although as this second site is a 60 mph limit, it will only be safe when the lower speed limit is imposed. Due to Data protection legislation information concerning registered keepers may not be shared with GFEL. Therefore Permission is being sought as to whether Steve Russell-Yarde can be present, as a witness, to GFEL drivers. The police are supporting the Speedwatch Team. The police stopped a Co-Op vehicle driving at 50mph, and the highest speed recorded that month for a vehicle was 74mph. The police bike recorded 36 drivers exceeding the speed limit and some were doing over 50mph in an hour. Assumably therefore these will receive points and a fine.

- **Truck Count for December:-**
Councillor Smith advised that the Truck Count for February has increased by 40% on February last year.
The Speedwatch AGM is taking place on the 7th March.
Thanks was given to Councillor Smith and the Speedwatch Team.

- iii The Crown Inn: Assets of Community Value: Councillor King was not present at the meeting so there was no update this month.
- iv Police Report: February Police Report

02/02 – Reported parking issue outside The Crown Inn 20.26. 20.39 Police attended finding no concerns or obstructions.
05/02 – Theft of registration number plate, parked at Village Hall, investigation proved negative.
28/02 – Local PCSO’s had a Speedwatch session at Whitstone Hill, 15.00 – 15.30... No counter for amount of vehicles, 5 vehicles recorded 37 – 46MPH.
- v Proposal for a Co-Op Shop at Pilton Village Hall:
The Co-Op have submitted a planning application. The Chairman advised that no discussion should take place at this meeting as it could be perceived as prejudicial. It is expected that the planning application will be on the agenda for the April Parish Council meeting.
- vi Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper: See Appendix C.

6 **PLANNING:**

i

Application Number	Proposal	Applicant & Location

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number	Proposal	Applicant & Location	Decision

2018/1254/APP	Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (hard & soft landscaping), 9 (schedule of materials & samples), 10 (sample panel and 11(tree protection) in planning consent 2017/2689/FUL	Ms Georgina Drew Top Street, Pilton	Approval
2019/0079/APP	Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (joinery details), on planning consent 20185/2343/HSE	Mr & Mrs V Ives Orchard House, East Compton Road, East Compton	Approval
2018/2963/PAA	Prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development.	Mrs B Garland Barn at Brook House Farm, Compton Lane West Compton	Withdrawn
2018/2478/FUL	Erection of a storey and a half rear extension with dormer window and a single storey side extension with alterations (Resubmission)	Mr Robert Smith Rosse, Pylle Road, Pilton	Approval with Conditions
2018/3139/HSE	Alterations to existing farm house including replacement of porch, demolition and reconstruction of new garden room, replacement of two kitchen beams and some new replacement windows. Alterations to parking area.	Ms Louise Pickering Upper Westholme Farm, Perridge Hill, Pilton	Approval with Conditions
2018/3140/LBC	Alterations to existing farm house including replacement of porch, demolition and reconstruction of new garden room, replacement of two kitchen beams and some new replacement windows. Alterations to parking area.	Ms Louise Pickering Upper Westholme Farm, Perridge Hill, Pilton	Approval w i t h Conditions

iii Enforcement:

- Nigel Hewitt-Cooper advised that Beggars Roost site is still with legal and that the trees that were removed were on private land so Mendip District Council have no powers as they have done nothing illegal.
- There is a caravan off the bridleway in Society Road.

7 **FOOTPATHS:**

i Update:

Councillors R Kearle and R Noble will meet prior to the next Parish Council meeting to access what work need to be done to make safe the drop at Weir Lane.

8 **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:

Balance b/f from 31/01/2019							15,786.82
Plus banked:							
	Bank Interest						£ 7.16
							£ 7.16
Less cheques drawn:							
2090	K Buckley,						£ 308.00
	(£10 home working allowance, £5.50 Insurance)						£ 15.50
2087	W Lynn						£ 36.00
2088	Pilton Working Mens Club						£ 15.00
2089	Somerset Wood (cheque to Somerset County Council)						£ 25.00
							£ 399.50
Balance at 28/02/2019							£ 15,394.48

ii Financial News/ Requests for Grants: There was no requests for grants this month.

9 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

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

10 **BURIAL GROUND**

- i Maintenance reports:

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

- i Roundabout report

Residents are reminded not to park their vehicles at junctions and on blind bends as it is a danger to other road users, especially at night.

A new Speedwatch site has been authorised in Neat Lane, so watch out as they will soon be monitoring traffic.

The Election Notices are now on the Village Hall notice board. Elections will take place on the 2nd May.

The Pilton Annual Parish Meeting is taking place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17th April, the meeting is open to all and refreshments will be available after the meeting.

There have been near misses as vehicles are being parked on the corner going down to the church outside Laurel Cottage. Vehicles are also being parked at night, on the junction at Pylle Road on a blind bend. The Clerk was asked to notify Highways.

12 **GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL:**

- i. Dates of the GFEL/PPC meetings:
 - Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at 6pm
 - Tuesday 4th June 2019 at 6pm

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30pm
Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 17th April at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 8:09pm

Appendix A

Outstanding Pilton Parish Defects - March 2019

Blocked Drains/ Gullies:

- a) Gullies were working at the time of inspection on 22/2/18. Query closed by SCC
- b) The Gully was working when inspected 20/2/18. However after an inspection with Councillor R Kearle programme. Due for clearance later this year as part of the next planned works programme.
- c) 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.
- d) Blocked drain at Parsons Batch. Councillor R Kearle showed the SCC representative the defect as he advised that it was not included as part of the cleaning rota and should be added. Confirmed due for clearance later this year as part of planned maintenance programme.
- e) Lower Street down towards Beales House on the left. Inspection arranged ref 531000.
- f) Westholme opposite the Lodge. Inspection arranged ref 531001
- g) Perridge drain needs sucking Inspection arranged ref 531002
- h) Top Street up to Culverwell House water running along the road. Inspection arranged ref 531005
- i) Outside Burford as turn in on upside as turn in. Inspection arranged ref 531007
- j) Opposite Pilton House there is a blocked Drain. Inspection arranged ref 531008
- k) The drain on the drive of Barrowfields House is full and running down towards the ford. It will be extremely dangerous should it freeze.
- l) Two drains outside The Lodge at Westholme are overflowing and pouring water across the road. Councillor R Kearle showed SCC representative the drain when they reviewed the defects but no action has yet to be taken.
- m) The drain is blocked by the railway bridge going into Shepton Mallet and the water is running across the road.
- n) There is a blocked drain near Lorien Bungalow at Top Street near Culverwell Cottage.

Potholes

- a) There is a large Pothole at the top of Mount Pleasant. Inspection arranged ref 531013

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) Overgrown Vegetation: This has been referred to the 'Traffic Section'
- c) 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.
- d) 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)

- e) Bank channels to ditch need redigging in Neat Lane: Ref 52476 Not a safety defect as on hill and not traffic impeding. Works will be considered for inclusion in programmed works. Works will be considered for inclusion in future works list subject to budget provision.
- f) 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.
- g) 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.
- h) 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
- i) 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.
- j) 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
- k) 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.
- l) Toll Cottage and North Wootton Road. Please provide further information as to the nature of the issue.
- m) 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.
- n) Top Street opposite allotments by side of road sinking away. Inspection arranged ref 531010
- o) Parsons Batch along the Church Wall subsidence. Inspection arranged ref 531012.
- p) There has been flooding in front of Gable House, which has never happened before.
- q) The road markings at Neat Lane, Copse Hill into Lower Street need replacing, the gravel needs removing and a road sign replacing.
- r) The weight limit sign at Barrows Hill needs putting back up.
- s) 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?

Appendix B

List of correspondence received – February 2019

- i. The Rural Bulletin – 29th January 2019
- ii. NALC Press Release and Open Letter 30/1
- iii. Clean Air Strategy – Consultation 30/1
- iv. February Parish Bulletin (MDC) 31/1
- v. Conservation, listed Buildings and Conservation Areas – Training slides
- vi. Official Update from Mendip District Council 1/2
- vii. Urgent update for parishes: missed Friday collections 4/2
- viii. The Rural Bulletin – Rural Services Network 5/2
- ix. Fit for my Future (NHS Somerset CCG)
- x. RSN Rural Funding Digest – February 2019 Bulletin 6/2
- xi. Patient Engagement Bulletin 7/2
- xii. Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper 7/2
- xiii. The Rural Bulletin – Rural Services Network 12/2
- xiv. Parish Map 12/2
- xv. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 13/2
- xvi. Invitation for Parish Council Members re Co-op 12/2
- xvii. Submission of the Mendip Local Plan Part II 14/2
- xviii. Assessing Housing Need: Delivering the Right Homes in the Right Places 14/2
- xix. Auction for Somerset Farmers to bid for flood prevention works 14/2
- xx. Submission of the Mendip Local Plan Part II: Sites and Policies 15/2
- xxi. Somerset County Council Press Release: Budget proposals look to the long term 18/2
- xxii. SALC - Newquay Town Council National Parking Enforcement Survey 18/2
- xxiii. SALC – Consultation on Flood Defences 18/2
- xxiv. MDC – Parish Council and Meeting Training on Planning 14/2
- xxv. Fit for my Future (NHS Somerset CCG) 18/2
- xxvi. The Rural Bulletin – Rural Services Network 19/2
- xxvii. MDC – Death of a Senior Figure 22/2
- xxviii. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 20/2
- xxix. RCNME10741 – Temporary Road Closure – Bowermead Lane
- xxx. SWP Monthly Briefing – Recycle - February 2019
- xxxi. Nigel Hewitt-Cooper – Ofsted finds positive improvement during inspection of Children Services 25/2
- xxxii. St Margaret’s Hospice Newsletter 25/2
- xxxiii. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 26/2

- xxxiv. The Rural Bulletin – Rural Services Network 26/2
- xxxv. How does the future of public sector outsourcing affect you? 28/2
- xxxvi. MDC Parish Forum 28/2
- xxxvii. SALC – Preparing for External Audit Training – Training Seminar 28/2
- xxxviii. Fit for my Future (NHS Somerset CCG) 28/2
- xxxix. NALC Winter 2018 Survey (& Funding opportunities for under 18's) 28/2
- xl. MDC Elections 2nd May 2019 1/3
- xli. Glastonbury Southern Bypass Proposal 2/3

Appendix C

Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper

SCC Finances 2018/19: Current financial year predicted outturn for SCC Finances at Month 10 shows an underspend of £1.385m. This projection is based upon actual spending to the end of January 2019. based on spend to the end of December 2018, was an underspend of £1.067m. The contingency budget has a residual sum of £1.788m uncommitted at this stage and is very likely to This compares with a projected overspend in September last year of around £19m and demonstrates the significant financial turnaround achieved.

SCC Finances 2019/20: Key points of the 2019/20 budget as agreed at Full Council:

- £780m gross spend on services in the county next year
- 2.99 percent increase in the County Council's element of Council Tax plus 1 per cent increase ring-fenced for Adult Social Care
- 91p per week rise in Council Tax for Band D
- General Fund reserves to double to £19m by the end of the next financial year (previously £5.6m)
- Investment strategy agreed for up to £100m of capital borrowing
- Ringfenced £1m to develop preventative work that will reduce demand on services.
- An extra £200,000 made available for winter maintenance in 2019/20.
- Savings proposals on gulley clearing and jetting dropped
- Delay on proposals to make savings in flood water management (£80,000), Dementia support (£100,000) and support to help vulnerable young people in to work (£50,000).
- £224m in capital projects in the County over the next four years

Secondary School Places: 1st March saw year 6 students receiving confirmation of their new secondary school place for September. With just over 4,500 applications received, 94.18% (4,271) of students' first preferences were met. This is a 1% increase on last year and continues to show how Somerset. Primary places for this September will be notified in April.

Hinkley Point C: EDF's new Sedgemoor Campus in Bridgwater opened at the end of February as the second largest hotel in Britain! The Campus boasts 29 quality accommodation units that can house almost 1,000 workers, along with restaurants, bars and leisure facilities. The Campus is already providing hundreds of career opportunities for the communities around it. Many of the jobs have been filled by people who live within walking distance, part of the planto deliver a long-term, positive legacy for the local area.

Somerset Motofest: Somerset Motofest is back for the third year running and is anticipated to be bigger and better than before. Organised by Somerset County Council's road safety team, Motofest takes place on Saturday and Sunday, 22 and 23 June, at the world-famous Fleet Air Arm Museum in Yeovil. The event is for anyone with a passion for motors, be they four-wheeled or two. There will be a host of activities for all the family, as well as priceless information about staying safe on the road including details of all the further training opportunities that are available – and all for free!

M5 J25 Improvement works: Members of the public and local businesses are invited to meet the team behind the M5 Junction 25 improvements and see the plans in more detail at two community drop-in events. These will be held at Ruishton Village Hall between 3pm and 8pm on Thursday 7 March and 14 March.

Children's Services: Ofsted inspectors recently carried out a snap inspection of SCC's early help and social work teams to assess how cases were dealt with in the community. Their conclusion is that vulnerable children in Somerset are receiving an improving service with confident staff making good decisions. No priority areas for improvement were found.

Adult Social Care: On top of last year's £6m increase in fees paid to our care providers this year Somerset will invest another above inflation increase. An additional £2.6m will be used to support and improve the care for our vulnerable adults during 2019/2020.

Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC): In December the Somerset Adult Social Care Team achieved the West authorities, significantly taking the strain off the local NHS during the winter pressure period.

Outdoor learning centres: The last 12 months have seen more than 28,000 bed nights spent in one of SCC's four outdoor learning and residential centres. Half of these nights were enjoyed by young people from across Somerset, coupled with daytime activities to support and expand on their school based learning.

Engagement in the National Citizenship Programme continues to grow and benefits from access to the centres including Kilve Court and Charterhouse. Activities are also available for individuals to book as well as schools and youth groups. For more information visit www.kilvecourt.co.uk

Dillington House: Dillington will be embracing the Spring towards the end of this month as a fantastic venue for Mother's Day, with both cream teas and a carvery option. Visit www.dillington.com or call 01460 258648 for more details or to find out more about April's activities, including the Easter Eggstravaganza on 20th-21st April.

Library services: Taunton Library was named 'Library of the month' for February by the national 'Love Reading' blog <https://www.lovereadng.co.uk/blog/library-of-the-month/lovereadnglibrary-of-the-month-7-taunton-library-814>