

Minutes of the meeting of the  
Pilton Parish Council  
in the Pilton Village Hall on  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)  
Stephen Kearle  
Holly Corfield  
David Drew  
Jean Foley  
Joe King  
Roger Noble  
Debbie Smith  
  
Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

22 Members of the public were present.

1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:**

3 **MINUTES:** of the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 were approved.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Item 12 Festival: Councillors R Kearle, Councillor Corfield and S Kearle (dispensation approved), declared a prejudicial interest (employment). Councillors Drew, Foley, King, Noble and Smith declared a personal interest (ticket). Item 6 Planning, Councillor Smith expressed personal interest in planning applications 2017/1525/FUL and 2017/2198/LBC. 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 Strategy:

- A meeting is being arranged by Nigel Hewitt-Cooper to meet with Councillors and Highways to discuss the Traffic Strategy.

ii Highways: Updates re the following:-

- Culverts: No update this month.
- Blocked Drains: Nigel Hewitt-Cooper regarding report re works carried out so far.
- 20 mph limit between Long House and Cockmill Junction: This is not viable as does not meet the necessary criteria therefore will be removed from the agenda.
- Overflowing drain in East Town Lane: Nigel Hewitt-Copper advised that 86.98 metres of pipe was jetted and camera surveyed on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and 7 catchpits and gullies were cleaned. Councillors advised that the drain is still overflowing and has been for over 3 years now. The Clerk will advise Nigel.
- Speed Humps: A suggestion from resident was to have speed bumps in Shop Lane, the Clerk will advise Nigel Hewitt-Cooper of this suggestion.

- Road Markings on Stoodley Lane and Bowermead Lane: A letter has been received from a resident stating that they felt the road marking were worn and just visible. She is asking for a 'Stop' sign on both relevant sides of the carriageway and a fresh coat of paint on the road markings. The Clerk will email Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.
- Defects:  
There are large potholes outside East Town Farm, East Town Lane. The Clerk will report to MDC.

iii Fords and Bridges:

- Councillor King advised that both Steve Bowler and Councillor King have reviewed the criteria required to apply for a Lottery Grant in order to carry out the repairs to the Cockmill Ford Bridge. Unfortunately the Parish Council would have to own the structure to qualify for funding.
- There has been correspondence between Councillor Kearle and Nigel Hewitt-Cooper regarding options regarding repairing the structure. They are as follows:
  1. Somerset County Council bring the bridge up to full repair/ restoration, with a full detailed plan and time scale.
  2. Allow the Parish Council to repair and give them ownership of the structure.
  3. Allow the Parish Council to carry out the repairs but SCC retain ownership and maintenance responsibility in the future.

Further discussion will take place.

iv Fingerposts:

- The Parish Clerk has not received an update from Steve Bowler regarding the quote from Cerdic Foundries. The Clerk will contact Steve.
- Councillor Noble asked why fingers had been removed in Stricklands for repainting when previously the Parish Council have had to find the funds and carry out the repair work.

v Community Speedwatch: Councillor King advised that the team as working hard and everything is going well although the offer from residents of tea and bacon butties would be appreciated! On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September between 10-11am 954 cars passed through the village, 78 of these were HGV's.

Councillor Smith has provided the Clerk with the Truck Count for August.

vi The Crown Inn:

Assets of Community Value: There has been no further progress this month. Councillor King was asked to take over from Steve Bowler regarding this action. Councillor King and Reg will arrange to meet with Steve to identify what needs to be done to progress this.

vii Police Report:

- August Police Report

**5<sup>th</sup> August** - Report of a serious assault near the festival site - Emergency services attend.

**12<sup>th</sup> August** - Report of a horse loose on Ridge Road, Pilton - Further call saying the horse was collected by the owner.

**14<sup>th</sup> August** - Reporting a theft from a garage.

**17<sup>th</sup> August** - Horse box recovered by Police for obstruction on Ridge Road, Pilton.

**20<sup>th</sup> August** - Police stop a vehicle and make an arrest for drink driving in the village.

**22<sup>nd</sup> August** - Report of a vehicle stopped on the brow of Lamberts Hill, Pilton causing an obstruction - Vehicle moved.

**2<sup>nd</sup> September** - Report of an assault at Pilton Party.

**2<sup>nd</sup> September** - Report of a 2 vehicle accident on Lamberts Hill - Police attend.

- Suspicious male was seen behind the Crown Inn. The Clerk reported this to the PCSO who will patrol this area.

- viii Low Cost Housing: A letter has been received from Hastoes Group to advise that a couple from Shepton Mallet have been allocated the vacant house at John Burns Cottages. Update required from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper.
- viv Laurels at the War Memorial: It was agreed that the works to the laurels at the War Memorial will be carried out at 9am on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. The work will be completed by Councillors R Kearle, S Kearle and King.
- vv Roadside selling in Pilton: Nigel Hewitt-Cooper sent an email confirming that had now ceased. Remove from the agenda.
- vvi Councillor Election: The Clerk advised that she has not yet received confirmation from Mendip District Council that the Parish Council can co-opt. Once received a notice will be posted advising of the closing date for applications and it is hoped that the new Councillor can be elected at the October Parish Council meeting. The Clerk will contact MDC for a response.

## 6 PLANNING

Application Number: 2017/2166/FUL

Proposal: Reinstate of residential use of house involving construction of new roof, conversion of barn to ancillary residential accommodation part re-building of barn to office use, formation of new access and construction of garage/store building.

Location: Barrington Old Wells Road, Shepton Mallet

Applicant: Mrs Hannah Smith

Application Type: Full Application

Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL

The agent spoke on behalf of the applicants.

Councillor Noble proposed acceptance, Councillor King seconded. The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour of acceptance.

Councillor Smith left the meeting.

Application Number: 2017/1525/FUL

Proposal: Proposed erection of a building comprising of 4 holiday lets with layout improvements to car park and retention of beer garden (amended plans received 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017 revising details of the access and parking)

Location: Crown Inn, Whitstone Hill, Pilton

Applicant: Mr Bruce Ashmore, Bramleigh 27 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6, Republic of Ireland.

Application Type: Full Application

Parish Council Recommends: REFUSAL

No one spoke in favour for this proposal.

Pilton Parish Council has received 79 letters of objection to application 2017/1525/FUL and 2017/2198/LBC.

Councillor Noble proposed refusal of the application, Councillor King seconded. The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour of refusal on the following grounds:

Not a suitable site for development, it is outside the development boundary for Pilton  
Access is detrimental to the pub

Reduces parking for the pub

Nothing substantial from the previous application has changed.

There is still a conflict of interest between the pub and holiday lets.

Impact on heritage as this is a listed building.

The village are to make the pub an asset of community value this application would be detrimental.

Application Number: 2017/2198/LBC

Proposal: Alterations to perimeter walling to enable repositioning of access to car park and highway viability improvements as required by the Highway Authority

Location: Crown Inn, Whitstone Hill, Pilton

Applicant: Mr Bruce Ashmore

Application Type: Listed Building Consent

Parish Council Recommends: REFUSAL

Councillor Noble proposed refusal of the application, Councillor King seconded. The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour of refusal on the following grounds:

Not a suitable site for development, it is outside the development boundary for Pilton  
Access is detrimental to the pub

Reduces parking for the pub

Nothing substantial from the previous application has changed.

There is still a conflict of interest between the pub and holiday lets.

Impact on heritage as this is a listed building.

Trying to make the pub an asset of community value this application would be detrimental.

Safety – car park exit directly opposite a residents front door, should there be a break failure or skidding on ice on leaving the car park could result in a serious accident.

Councillor Smith returned to the meeting.

Application Number: 2017/2215/TCA

Proposal: Various works as per schedule

Location: Church of St John the Baptist Cumhill Lane, Pilton

Applicant: Sue Church

Application Type: Works/Felling Trees in a CA

Neither the documents sent to the Parish Clerk nor the information on the Mendip District Council website has a copy of the schedule of works to be carried out. The Parish Council therefore are unable to make a decision without this information.

MDC have advised that the documents will be on the website in due course so if there are any comments these should be sent to MDC by individuals.

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

There were none this month.

iii Enforcement:

- Cock and Bull Drove: The Clerk was asked to contact Nigel Hewitt-Cooper regarding the eviction from Cock and Bull Grove and the following 2 points.
- Friars Oven Farm: Update required from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper
- Tanyards Lane: Update required from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper

- 7 **FOOTPATHS:**  
i Update: There was no update this month.

- 8 **FINANCE:**  
i Financial Statement:

Balance b/f from 31/07/2017						£ 24,528.03
Plus banked:						
						£ -
Less cheques drawn:						
1975	Mrs K Buckley (Clerk) - salary & o/t (6 hours)					£ 250.44
	(£10 home working allowance)					£ 10.00
1976	Mrs W Lynn (Burial Secretary) - salary					£ 35.00
1977	Pilton Working Mens Club					£ 12.00
1978	Mr R England					£ 40.00
						£ 347.44
Balance at 31/08/2017						£ 24,180.59

- ii Financial News:
- Audit Update – The Clekr advised that the paperwork has been received from Grant Thornton the External Auditors and that they confirm that the audit was fine and is now complete.
  - A funding request has been received from Heads Up Somerset. Councillors agreed that this was a good cause. The vote was unanimous to donate £200.

9 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i. Public Sector Executive Online 31/7
- ii. Weekly Email News Digest - Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017
- iii. Rural Opportunities Bulletin 2/8
- iv. Joint Strategy Needs Assessment 2017
- v. Health and Wellbeing in Mendip 2/8
- vi. Public Sector Executive Online 3/8
- vii. Public Sector Executive Online 7/8
- viii. Weekly Email News Digest - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017
- ix. Rural Vulnerability Service, Fuel Poverty August 2017
- x. Somerset Rivers Authority End of Year 2016/17
- xi. Public Sector Executive Online 10/8
- xii. Public Sector Executive Online 14/8
- xiii. Recycle SWP August 17
- xiv. Weekly Email News Direct - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017
- xv. Rural Conference 2017
- xvi. Public Sector Online 15/8
- xvii. Rural Vulnerability Service, Rural Transport Newsletter 16/8
- xviii. Public Sector Executive Online 17/8
- xix. Public Sector Executive Online 21/8
- xx. Weekly Email News Digest Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2017
- xxi. Rural Services Network, Spotlight on Rural Health, 23/8

- xxii. Rural Services Network – Rural Conference 2017
- xxiii. Public Sector Executive Online 24/7
- xxiv. Rural Vulnerability Service, Rural Broadband – August 2017

10 **BURIAL GROUND:**

- i Maintenance reports:  
2 reports were received both were fine. Councillor Drew advised that the grass is growing nicely through the newly laid topsoil,
- ii Cutting of vegetation:  
Councillor agreed that the work to the hedges will take place on the 30<sup>th</sup> September when the Laurels at the War Memorial are cut.

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

i Roundabout report

Councillors will be contacting MP James Heapey about the issues with Broadband in Pilton. If you wish to add your comments please email them to the Parish Clerk.

There have been a lot of thefts in the village recently, with the start of the darker nights please be more vigilant.

The Pilton litter pick will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 9am meeting in the Village Hall car park.

Gardens and hedges that back onto highways are the homeowners responsibility please keep them tidy.

12 **FESTIVAL:**

i Festival General:

- Festival Feedback no further feedback has been received so it was agreed that the Clerk will finalise the Glastonbury Festival Feedback Report and once agreed by Councillors forward it to GFEL, MDC, Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

- ii GFEL/PPC minutes: Dates of next meetings:  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 6pm.

13 **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 8.28pm