

**Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council held  
in the Pilton Village Hall  
on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 7.30pm**

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

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

16 members of the public were present.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Colin Elkin

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillors R Kearle (dispensation approved), L Allen, A Brown and S Kearle, declared a prejudicial interest (employment) GFEL. Councillor R Kearle declared prejudicial interests in the following planning applications 2019/1505/FUL, 2019/1662/TCA, 2019/1547/FUL, 2019/1346/FUL, 2019/1341/HSE. Councillors Allen, Drew, Elkin, King, Noble and Shaw 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"

4. **MINUTES:** of the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019 were approved.

5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Traffic Matters:

- A361 meeting: Glastonbury Town Council have not yet called another meeting. Councillor King will contact Councillor McDougal. The Government are looking into ten proposed schemes with Glastonbury being one. Devon have submitted a scheme and they have more money set aside and are ready to proceed.
- Highways: Clerks Report – Appendix A
- New Defects:  
A 20 metre stretch of road on Perridge Hill by Brown Cow Organics has subsided.  
Outside Walnut House the manholes have sunk and are very noisy when vehicles go over them.  
The Bridge at Stoodley has been repaired after it was driven into on numerous occasions. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways for the availability of a 'narrow bridge', 'weak bridge' or 'weight restriction' sign.

ii Community Speedwatch:

- Update: Councillor King confirmed that everything is going well.

Concerns have been raised regarding the status of the speed limit in Nest Lane/Copse Hill. Speed enforcement advised there is no speed limit recorded except for at Festival time. It was stated that all the lanes that feed into Neat Lane are 30mph, so by default Neat Lane should also be 30mph. Councillor King will draft a letter for the Clerk to send to Highways.

It was confirmed that Avon & Somerset Police will not be using the proposed new system.

- Truck Count – There was no Truck Count this month.

iii Co Op: Planning details – No issues were raised by either Councillors or members of the public.

iv Bus Shelter: It was confirmed that the Parish Council will continue to insure the Bus Shelter. Councillor Noble advised that he has been making enquiries regarding the history of the Bus Shelter. He has been advised that it was built in 1956. Alfie Connock was on the Parish Council and the money was raised to build it by holding a charity football match. The paddock at that time belonged to the late Mr Hiscox who gave the land to the village on condition that it was maintained by the Parish Council. The Clerk will write to Mr & Mrs Pearce for their swift repair to the Bus Shelter the Parish Council are very grateful.

v Police Report: July's Report:-  
Specific reports for Pilton

01/07 – Pylle Lane – Vehicle stopped by Police. One male arrested for drug related incident.

Neat Lane – Broken down vehicle, Police attended, driver arranged recovery, no obstruction to Highway.

09/07 – Pylle Road – Vehicle in ditch, Police enquiries proved registered keeper from out of district, no injuries, and no obstruction. Mendip District Council made aware of possible abandonment.

15/07 – Shop Lane – Theft from vehicle. Property taken from insecure vehicle. No CCTV or scope for CSI. No witnesses of incident.

27/07 – Pylle Hill, Platterwell Lane – Hay bale fire in hedge. Fire engine in attendance road was closed, whilst incident dealt with.

Sheila Thompson and ??? entered the meeting.

vi NASS: Councillor Roberts advised that she has been contacted by several residents as on the Thursday people were taking shortcuts through Neat Lane.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mendip District Council to ask that there is road signage in place as Pylle Road and Copse Lane were gridlocked.

vii Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper: See Appendix C.

Discussion took place regarding the Wells Blue School Bus, Nigel confirmed the decision was due to money and they have reduced the bus sizes as the bigger buses were not full. Nigel will obtain the figures.

Councillor R Kearle asked Nigel why the Council are only repairing some potholes and having to come back and repair the others at the same location. Why is the Council doing temporary repairs to the dropped manholes outside the Crown Inn. Nigel agreed to arrange to drive around the village with Highways, Councillor R Kearle will also go.

Cock and Bull Drove and Beggars Roost sites are being closely monitored by Nigel.

Nigel was not aware of the illegal dumping by Friars Oven, West Compton. A resident advised that 20 plus trailer loads are being dumped a day. They asked whether a licence has been issued. Nigel will investigate.

Councillor R Kearle left the meeting and Councillor Noble took over as Chairman.

6. **PLANNING:**

i

Application Number	Proposal	Applicant & Location
2019/1505/FUL	Partial erection of crane structure for a temporary period until 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2023	Mr Cole, Steabow Farm, Steabow, Pilton
Pilton Parish Council Recommends – APPROVAL Councillor Roberts proposed approval, Councillor Drew seconded. The vote was 3 in favour, 2 abstentions and 1 against.		
2019/1662/TCA	Proposed works to trees within conservation area: T1,T2,T3,T4 – (Poplar) Pollard four Poplar trees in the interest of safety down to approx. 10-15ft. T5 – Dead tree. Removal of dead tree.	Mrs Judi Ball, The Haven, Cunhill Lane, Pilton
Pilton Parish Council Recommends – APPROVAL Councillor Drew proposed approval, Councillor King seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour. Councillor S Kearle stated the facts regarding applications 2019/1346/FUL and 2019/1341/HSE Councillors S Kearle and Brown left the meeting.		
2019/1547/FUL	2 Storey Offices and toilets/showers for Festival staff.	Glastonbury Festivals Ltd, Worthy Farm, Worthy Lane, Pilton
Pilton Parish Council Recommends – APPROVAL Councillor King proposed approval, Councillor Shaw seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour.		
2019/1346/FUL	Barn for storage of hay, farm vehicles and machinery.	Mr & Mrs S Kearle, Two Oaks, Totterdown Lane, Pilton
Pilton Parish Council Recommends – APPROVAL Councillor Drew proposed approval, Councillor Shaw seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour.		
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.

Pilton Parish Council Recommends – APPROVAL Councillor King proposed approval, Councillor Drew seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour. Councillors S Kearle and Brown left the meeting.		
2019/1817/TCA	Proposed felling of T1 Japanese laurel in a Conservation Area	Mr Richard Drabble Monks Mill, Weir Lane, Pilton
Pilton Parish Council Recommends – APPROVAL Councillor King proposed approval, Councillor Brown seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour.		

Councillor R Kearle returned to the meeting.

ii MDC planning decisions and recommendations:

Application Number	Proposal	Location	Decision
2019/1393/NMA	Non material amendment for use of UPVC windows/doors, lightweight slate effect roof tiles, dwarf wall in gable end, external doors relocated to side wall.	Forge House, Conduit Square, Pilton	Grants a non-material amendment
2019/1215/HSE	Erection of a triple garage.	Bridge Cottage, Compton Lane, West Compton	Approval with Conditions
2019/1193/PAA	Notification of prior approval for a proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a ‘larger’ dwelling house (Class C3) and for the associated operational development.	Barn at land North West of Two Elms Bowermead Lane, Pilton	Prior approval is refused
2019/1283/TCA	Proposed work to a tree in a conservation area:- T1 – Bay Tree – Reduction by 1.5m on top and sides reduced to shape.	Barrow House, Ford Lane, Pilton	TPO Not Required (No Objection)

iii Appeal:

Appeal Reference	Appeal Proposal	Appeal Location
A P P / Q 3 3 0 5 / W / 19/3228588	Change of use from agricultural to 3 No. Traveller pitches and associated works including hardstanding	Land at Ridge Lane, West Compton, Shepton Mallet.

- iv Enforcement:
- Update from Simon Snart

7. **FOOTPATHS:**

- i Update: Councillor King advised that everything is running smoothly and that the ASBO’s will be starting their Autumn programme soon.

It was requested that the ASBO's tidy up the area surrounding the new new stile at the end of Bush Lane.

The trees at the Gabriel's Orchard footpath have falling branches. Councillor King will discuss this with the landowner. Thanks was given to Councillor King.

ii Joint ASBO/PPC committee meetings:

8. **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:

Less cheques drawn:						
cq number	details					
2118	K Buckley (salary + expenses)					301.49
(HWA £10, insurance £5.5, ink £21.99)						
2119	R England					115.20
2120	Playing Fields Trust					7,360.00
2121	Viridor Waste Management Ltd					2,640.00
2122	MDC Election Fees					1,162.97
2123	Norton Garden Machinery					25.00
2124	W Lynn					37.00
2125	Pilton Working Mens Club					15.00
						<b>£ 11,656.66</b>
Balance at 30/06/2019						<b>£ 8,742.87</b>

ii Financial News/ Requests for Grants: West Pennard School Bus Request for continued funding. Playing Fields grant. War Memorials Trust.

Discussion took place regarding the West Pennard School Bus and whether the Parish Council can continue to donate £2000 per annum. It was stated that the Pilton Show donates £1000 per annum and that school fundraises the rest. The Parish Council also needs to finance the repairs to Weir Lane.

It was proposed by Councillor Noble that the Parish Council donate £1000 initially and then review the finances in January when a further £1000 may be donated if finances are healthy. The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour.

War Memorial Grant Request: The Parish Council decided that no grant would be given at this time.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

i. Clerks report: Appendix B

ii. Any correspondence requiring further discussion:

Councillor King stated that Shepton Mallet have done a remarkable job in saving the library. It will remain in the current building and receive a reduction in rent. Circa 100 people turned up to a meeting last night. The library will have longer opening hours so it will be more of a community hub. The Somerset County Council needs to agree all the details formally. Well done to all involved.

Route 60+, Councillor Roberts will forward the details to the Happy Circle and WI

There were no councillor volunteers to answer the SALC questionnaire regarding the recent elections.

10. **BURIAL GROUND**

i Maintenance reports: Two reports were received both were fine.

ii Report of sunken graves and holes in grass: Councillor Drew will email the Clerk to ensure the repair works have been completed.

- iii Burial Ground Rules: The Burial Ground rules were reviewed and agreed. The Clerk will rewrite and laminate them to be put up at the Burial Ground. The Clerk will liaise with the Burial Secretary that the rules are given out when a plot is bought.

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

- i Roundabout report  
Residents are reminded that dogs should not be exercised on the Playing Fields. Please ensure your dogs are kept under control at all times within the village and that your dog's mess is picked up and disposed of correctly.

The Burial Ground rules have been reviewed and will be displayed in the Burial Ground shortly.

12. **GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL:**

- i. Dates of the next GFEL/PPC meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (Items for agenda by 7<sup>th</sup> October)
- ii Update: Councillors were asked to bring to the next meeting the items that they wish to be discussed at the GFEL/PPC meeting.

13. **NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.09pm

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## Appendix A

### Outstanding Pilton Parish Defects – July 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 flowing from Lower Street towards Beales House next to Gable House, either the drain is blocked or spring. **Under investigation**
- d) 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 appeared there as it 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 located 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.
- 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 to BT**
- 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,



- 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 mud and it's a mess.
- aa) Where cars pull in by The Manor, the verge is in a dreadful state.

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## **Appendix B**

### **Pilton Parish Council**

#### **List of Correspondence received July 2019**

- i. RCNSS11532-Temporary Road Closure – Cumnock Road & Ansford Hill, Catle Cary 1/7
- ii. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 2/7
- iii. Wessex Resolutions – Parish Magazine Advert & Editorial 1/7
- iv. RSN Rural Funding Digest, Rural Services Network July 19
- v. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin – 3/7
- vi. Proposed Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Changes 12 week consultation 3/7
- vii. Save the Date Community Buildings Annual Workshop 4/7
- viii. SALC – Bridges Guidance 8/7
- ix. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 9/7
- x. Somerset Prepared, Get involved this summer 9/7
- xi. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 10/7
- xii. Chair of Council Civic Service 11/7
- xiii. Rainwater Harvesting – Stormsaver Ltd 11/7
- xiv. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 16/7
- xv. Does your council need to rethink the strategy behind service provision 16/7
- xvi. The Future of Impatient Mental Health Services in Somerset 16/7
- xvii. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 17/7
- xviii. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Bulletin 23/7
- xix. Patient Engagement Weekly Bulletin 24/7
- xx. Trees for Somerset, Reimagining the Levels 24/7
- xxi. The Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network 30/7
- xxii. NAO confirmed – Rethinking Local Government Service Provision 30/7

- xxiii. Patient Engagement Bulletin 31/7
- xxiv. Rural Services Network – Invitation to the Rural Conference 2019
- xxv. Reduction in working days – RCNSS11532 Temporary Road Closure 31/7
- xxvi. August Parish Bulletin 31/7
- xxvii. SALC May 2019 Election Surveys 31/7
- xxviii. Route 60+ 1/8
- xxix. Recycle – SWP Briefing August 2019 – Plastics Q & A Special 1/8
- xxx. FOSML – Message from the chair 4/8
- xxxi. Rural Services Network, The Rural Bulletin 6/8
- xxxii. Update Recycle – SWP Briefing August 2019 – Plastics Q & A Special 6/8
- xxxiii. Trudi Grant, Director of Public Health – Update 6/8

## **Appendix C**

### **County Report August 2019.**

Emotional and Mental Health Support: Somerset has been granted One Million Pounds over the next three years to deliver Emotional and Mental Health Support for Young People utilising trailblazer mental health support teams across the County. This is part of a national drive to improve emotional support in schools and forms part of the Somerset Wellbeing Framework, 'whole school approach' to wellbeing and mental health. Initially 25 schools will receive support teams to work in the schools, there will also be parent educational programmes provided by the voluntary sector.

Winter Gritting: In the middle of a summer heat wave the Highways gritting policy review has been completed and the first deliveries of salt for the forthcoming winter have started arriving at depots. This winter the County Council will be investing an extra £200,000 into the service and has taken on board feedback to reassess all the criteria used to determine which roads will be gritted. This means an increase in the precautionary gritting network from approximately 720 miles to 900 miles of road, which will be treated every time ice or snow is forecast. A map of the routes can be found at <https://somersetnewsroom.files.wordpress.com/2019/07/winter-service-2019-2020.pdf>

County Finances Update: The 2018/19 Statement of Accounts for the County Council and the Somerset Pension Fund (which the County administers on behalf of all employer bodies) have both been given an 'unqualified' opinion (the best we can get) for these accounts. However, before the auditors can conclude their overall opinion, they are planning a little more work looking at the robustness of budgets for the ever-growing adult and children's social care future demand. Regardless

of the outcome of this work however, their feedback fully recognises the considerable progress made during the last 10 months to ensure sustainability in the County Councils finances.

Forecast school places: The new Education Infrastructure Growth Plan is now available at <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/school-place-planning-infrastructure-growth-plan/> This plan outlines the approach to school place planning and expected demand across Somerset, broken down by School Organisation Plan (SOP) areas

Summer Outdoor Activities: Kilve Court and the three other Somerset Support for Education Outdoor Centres have begun delivering an exciting summer programme for young people from across Somerset and beyond, from children's activity days and 5 day residential camps to art, music and science events, there is something available for everyone. Visit [www.sseoutdoors.co.uk](http://www.sseoutdoors.co.uk) for further information.

Reducing Flood Risk: SCC have bid for funding for schemes that will help the county adapt to climate change by reducing flood risk through natural flood management rather than engineering. The resulting 'Co-adapt' project will bring £2.53m from the European Regional Development Fund into Somerset over the next three-and-a-half years for the projects. The Somerset Flood Action Plan, drawn-up in the wake of the 2013/14 winter floods, included a commitment to develop long-term land management actions to reduce flood risk in the face of climate change.

Library Outreach Services: The new Somerset Libraries Outreach vehicle was recently launched. The vehicle presents additional opportunities to showcase the diverse range of Somerset Library services, with targeted activities for hard to reach communities throughout the county.

Higher Education courses: A fantastic new "Study Up" website has been launched to offer a one stop shop for students of all ages to find the right Higher Education course for them right here in Somerset <http://www.studyupsomerset.org.uk>

Local Teacher Training: Somerset School Centered Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) will be moving to Dillington over the summer and from September students will be studying on campus. For more information about the training and apprenticeships on offer visit [www.somersetscitt.co.uk](http://www.somersetscitt.co.uk)

Free Business Training: Social enterprises, charities and co-operatives in Somerset can sign up for free bespoke training – plus a grant of £1,200. Somerset County Council is supporting the free training between September 2019 and January 2020. SCC is providing match funding of £250,000 which will enable draw down of England European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding in recognition of the wider benefits of the programme.