

MINUTES OF PILTON PARISH COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

held at Pilton Village Hall

Wednesday 4 December 2024

Present: Cllrs: N Hall, R Woodhouse, R Noble, O Powell, C Connock, T Moulder, T Hollings, L Roberts.

In Attendance: 11 members of the public, Gill Pettitt (Parish Clerk).

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- A query regarding bonfire regulations.
- Suggestion that the Parish Council fund measures to improve road conditions in icy weather - this will be discussed within the agenda.
- Noted that Christmas lights can be intrusive to neighbours. Advice was given to discuss the situation with the householder.
- Noted that new documents have been placed on Planning Portal regarding the Cockmill Barn application.
- Query regarding a pre-application under discussion that is Notification Only.
- Request for the Parish Council to consider Cllr Hall's representation to Somerset Council Scrutiny - Communities Committee, which he attended as a member of the public. The Code of Conduct could be discussed at the next meeting.

119. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies were received from Cllr Sumner, out of the parish.

RESOLVED: To approve apologies received from Cllr Sumner and reasons given. Proposed Cllr Hollings, 2nd Cllr Moulder. Approved with one abstentions, Cllr Hall.

120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

121. DISPENSATIONS - No dispensations were requested.

122. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. **RESOLVED:** To confirm and sign minutes of the Pilton Parish Council meeting of 6 November 2024 with amendments correcting a typo and item 110c is to discuss potential carpark not to identify a position. Proposed Cllr Moulder, 2nd Cllr Woodhouse. Approved.

123. EXTERNAL REPORTS

- a. Avon and Somerset Police - no report
- b. Somerset Council - Noted. Agreed that the useful information within would be made available to the public.

124. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS - Noted that St Mary's Lane is closed due to an accident causing dangerous cables and masonry. Please do not drive through it. Neat Lane junction has had another accident, please take care here. Please use the grit bins in icy weather make roads safer, and to inform the clerk or councillors if grit bins need refilling.

125. PLANNING

- a. To consider the following Planning Applications and any that arise before the meeting.

[2023/1932/FUL - Conversion of 3no. barns into 4no. 4-bed semi-detached houses and a separate outbuilding.](#) Barns At Wellhayes Farm Lower Westholme Road Pilton. Pilton Parish Council offered no objection to this development, welcoming development on brown field sites.

[2024/2049/TCA - T1 \(Eucalyptus\) reduce height by 3 meters. T2 \(Horse Chestnut\) reduce crown to historic pruning points \(approx 1.5m\). T3 \(Sycamore\) reduce crown to historic pruning points.](#)

07779 228299

[\(approx. 1.5m\). T4 \(Sycamore\) reduce laterals over lane/adjoining property by 2/2.5m. T5 \(Sycamore\) reduce laterals over lane/adjoining property by 2/2.5m.](#) The Haven Cumhill Lane Pilton
Noted

[2024/1977/FUL Construction of purpose-built veterinary practice with associated works including car-parking, cycle parking, landscaping and refuse storage.](#) Land At 362428 141396 East Compton Road East Compton

RESOLVED: Pilton Parish Council supports this application in terms of Material Considerations 3 - the design is good and 12 - the development will bring business and facilities to the community. The council would like to ask that S106 be integral to the development and that the parish council is kept informed of any decisions regarding S106 and to be party to negotiations. Proposed Cllr Hall, 2nd Cllr Woodhouse. Approved with one abstention, Cllr Roberts.

[2024/2030/TCA - T1- Copper Beech, Re reduce canopy by approx 2m in height and 2m laterally to previous reduction points.](#) Noted

[2024/2185/AGB - Application for prior notification of agricultural development for a proposed building.](#) Land At 360007 139729 Pylle Road Pylle

RESOLVED: The Parish Council considers that there are ample buildings for the size of the farm and ask the officer to give careful consideration to the calculations on the new build being commensurate with the small holding in its entirety. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Hall. Approved with three abstentions - Cllrs Moulder, Powell and Roberts.

[2024/2184/PAF - Notification for Prior Approval for a Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Business Use Class B8 Storage & Distribution.](#) Lower Westholme Farm Lower Westholme Road Pilton. Noted.

b. Somerset Council Validation

To consider the Somerset Council Validation Consultation and approve actions arising. The [Consultation](#) will be available until 12 noon 23 December. The key purpose of the document will be to improve the quality / completeness of planning applications made to the Council so that:

- i. The Council spends less time (and resource) validating applications and chasing for missing information etc
- ii. Applicants / developers / investors receive a better service as we start processing their applications sooner
- iii. Stakeholders including parish and town councils get consulted on higher quality / more complete submissions and so the proposals they are being consulted on should be clearer

Once adopted, following this consultation, the Validation List will be in operation for two years before it needs reviewing again. Councillors will email all councillors with their responses. It will also be advertised on the website News and Facebook.

126. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS AND RESOLVE ANY ACTIONS ARISING

a. Burial Ground Working Group

- i. **RESOLVED:** To approve research of costs of keeping a skip for spoil on-site to be collected and replaced with an empty skip periodically. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Powell. Approved.
- ii. **RESOLVED:** To approve using existing waste stone on site for the building of a water station around the tap, including water pipe protection and to obtain quotes for the work. Approved.
- iii. **RESOLVED:** To approve adding an additional charge for double burial plots to cover the costs of disposal of spoil. Proposed Cllr Hollings. Approved.
- iv. **RESOLVED:** To approve appointing Rich England to replace Ron England as the Burial Groundsman and to endorse this through a letter of appointment.

07779 228299

A letter of thanks will be sent to Ron England and the salary will be reviewed. Approved.

- v. **RESOLVED:** To approve investigating the purchase of grave markers to ease the identification of plots for the council, grave diggers and parishioners. Approved.
 - vi. **RESOLVED:** To approve the purchase of unused plots that are no longer needed at a cost of two thirds of the current sale price, on the understanding that there will be further costs involved in administering the transfer of ownership. Approved.
 - vii. Noted that whilst it has already been agreed that plots should only be pre-purchased without allocation to a specific plot, there will be some flexibility when possible, where individuals have expressed a wish to purchase a specific plot.
 - viii. **RESOLVED:** To approve the bulk purchase of seasonal bulbs to improve visual amenity of the burial ground wild areas and borders, quotes to be brought to Full Council. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Hall. Approved.
- b. **Parish Community Review Steering Group**
- i. **RESOLVED:** To receive and adopt the Community Review Report and Comments and to share the report and comments with related groups. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Connock. Approved. Noted that the Executive Summary had not yet been received.
- c. **Traffic Planning Working Group**
- i. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Traffic Planning Working Group to research the feasibility, need and consequences of initiating a new carpark in the parish. Proposed Cllr Hollings, 2nd Cllr Hall. Approved.
 - ii. **RESOLVED:** That the Traffic Planning Working Group consider gateways for each end of the A361 30mph speed limit area and bring costs to Full Council. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Moulder. Approved.
 - iii. **RESOLVED:** That the Traffic Planning Working Group consider the implementation, costs and design of temporary traffic lights at Conduit Square to collect data prior to considering permanent lights. Proposed Cllr Hollings, 2nd Cllr Powell. Approved.
- d. **Flooding Triad** - No one was available from the Flooding Triad. Cllr Hollings noted the damage to a house on St Mary's Lane; Cllrs have been petitioning Somerset Council to repair the culverts at St Mary's Lane / Shutwell Lane and the Whitstone Hill sunken manhole both of which will be attended to in this financial year. Noted that road closed signs need to be placed on the A361 opposite Shotwell Lane stating that St Mary's Lane is closed. Highways to be contacted. Cllr Powell will put a black bag of the Village Hall sign post on the A361.
- e. **Footpaths Working Group** - The new bridleway will provide the only route direct to Glastonury.
RESOLVED: To defer response to the consultation until the January meeting to allow time to research further. Proposed Cllr Hall, 2nd Cllr Powell.
- 127. WAR MEMORIAL**
- a. Noted that the retaining wall at the back of the memorial is cracked.
RESOLVED: Cllr Noble will discuss the cracks with the land owners at the back of the wall. Proposed Cllr Noble, 2nd Cllr Powell.
 - b. **RESOLVED:** To approve the request from Pilton Craft Group to create and place commemorations at the War Memorial. Proposed Cllr Connock, 2nd Cllr Woodhouse.
- 128. BUS ROUTE - GLASTONBURY TO CASTLE CAREY** - The group looking at a Glastonbury / Castle Carey bus route, that could pass through Pilton, is considering a Community Bus that meets London trains and which starts early and ends late daily. Use of

07779 228299

the Pilton Community bus to be discussed at the next meeting. A business plan is to be drawn up. Council approved the continuance of involvement in investigations.

- 129. PARISH COMMUNICATIONS** - Noted that some parishioners are looking into continuing a parish-wide communication, probably starting from February 2025. Other means of communication were discussed such as an information Facebook page for Parish Council communications.

RESOLVED: To discuss communications at the next meeting. Proposed Cllr Hollings. Approved.

- 130. REMEMBRANCE DAY** - Three councillors attended the service. Cllr Woodhouse worked with the people coordinating traffic. There were no traffic issues. The event went very well, the memorial was well attended. Thank you to all who helped find the trumpeter at the last minute because the person expected to do it was unwell.

- 131. OVERGROWTH AND LOWGROWTH** - A lot of cutting back has been done, especially the bad places. Thank you to those who have done this.

- 132. FINANCE**

- a. Noted 24/25 pay award rise to £14.60 per hour.
- b. To note payments - Pilton Duplicating Service £5.13; Pilton Village History Group £500; Salaries £757.70; Working from Home Allowance £26.00, Meeting Hire £40..
- c. To note Bank Reconciliation to September 2024 deferred to next meeting.

- 133. MATTERS OF REPORT** None.

- 134. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: To exclude Press and Public from item 135. Proposed Cllr Hollings, 2nd Cllr Woodhouse.

- a. Staffing Committee
 - i. 3hours Clerk overtime noted. Report will be sent to Staffing Committee.
RESOLVED: To approve 3hrs Clerk overtime. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Hall.

NEXT MEETING: Full Council - 8 January 2025