**Meeting of the Pilton Parish Council**

**in Pilton Village Hall on**

**Wednesday 7th July 2021 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors Robert Kearle (Chairman)

Audrey Brown

David Drew

Colin Elkin

Joe King

Roger Noble

Lynda Roberts

Andrew Shaw

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

4 Members of the public were present via Zoom.

1 **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2 **APOLOGIES:** Steven Kearle

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillor R Kearle declared an interest in the Glastonbury Festival (dispensation granted). Councillors Drew and R Kearle stated that they have no interest currently in any planning application but may do so in the future.

4. **MINUTES:** of the 2nd June 2021 were approved.

5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

i Traffic Matters:

* New Defects:

There are potholes in East Town Lane, from Burford to the top of Stoodley to Totterdown Lane.

Between Stoodley and Perridge Farm the side of the road is breaking up.

The barriers are still situated on Pylle Road beyond Winding Lake and no action has been taken.

The condition of the road is bad at Lower Westholme Road near Herne Farm.

In Lower Street towards Copse Hill you are unable to see the road markings and there has recently been an accident at the location. It was stated that all the road markings within the village need a new coat of paint.

IT was reported that up to 12 cars have been parking in Shop Lane causing traffic problems.

Cockmill Lane – the entrance/exit road surface into/out of the ford is degraded and has a huge hole. From the ford up to the top of Kings Hill there are numerous large potholes and the edges of the road have ruts, also potholes in the direction of Pylle Lane.

If you wish to report a road defect to Somerset County Council please use the link below:

<https://services.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem-on-the-road/?issue=POT&serviceCode=HRI>

* Drains – A letter has been received from MP James Heappey advising that he has written to Somerset County Council’s Chief Executive, Pat Flatherty and David Fothergill asking them to examine what can be done to resolve the problem. The Assistant Area Highway Manager has responded providing details of when the gullies have been cleansed.

ii SIS Proposal TI004358 for the A361

* It has been stated by Somerset County Council that it is the intention to complete all works within this financial year. The scheme excludes the proposed street lighting.

iii Community Speedwatch: Councillor King reported that everything is going well. He reported 98 vehicles were recorded speeding this month with a top speed of 60mph. During a one hour period the average number of vehicles counted were between 500 and 600, on a Friday this can increase to 700 per hour.

iv Police Report:

* Police Reports –The Clerk has received a letter from the Police & Crime Commissioner to say we will no longer be receiving a Police Report for Pilton.
* Councillors stated that there has been theft of cables, suspicious vehicles in the village and also a man with a torch was looking in vehicles in the early hours of the morning. Residents are asked to stay vigilant.

v Local Council Alliance: Councillor Shaw stated that key member of the Alliance has been unwell, so there is nothing to report.

vi Dog Poo Bins: Councillor Noble stated that Chris Strickland has agreed to a poo bin by the gateway to his land. The Clerk will provide a map, so the location can be clearly marked and sent to Mendip District Council for a licence. The Clerk will chase up the licence for the other poo bin.

vii Broadband: There was no further update. Councillor R Kearle advised that he has not been contacted by Tony

viii Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations: It agreed that a notice will be put in the Roundabout Magazine requesting suggestions to celebrate the occasion. A suggestion was planting trees but land would be required. Councillors agreed they would provide the trees and plant then, if a location could be found.

Councillor King agreed to liaise with other village organisations regarding events.

ix Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper: See Appendix A

6. **PLANNING:**

|  |  |  |
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| Application Number | Proposal | Applicant & Location |
| 2021/1412/HSE | Proposed internal alterations, repairs & erection of 1st floor extension (East). | Morton Clarke & Wilson  St Mary’s Cottage,  St Mary’s Lane  Pilton |
| Councillor King proposed approval, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote as unanimously in favour.  Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL | | |
| 2021/1254/LBC | Proposed internal alterations, repairs & erection of 1st floor extension (East). | Morton Clarke & Wilson St Mary’s Cottage,  St Mary’s Lane  Pilton |
| Councillor King proposed approval, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote as unanimously in favour.  Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL | | |
| 2021/1415/LBC | Minor alterations to enable reinstatement to one dwelling | Mr & Mrs P Hiscox  Hazeldene House,  Pylle Road,  Pilton |
| Councillor Elkin proposed approval, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote as unanimously in favour.  Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL | | |
| 2021/1201/LBC | Internal alterations including removal of studwork, brick & stone walls, insertion of steel support beam, creation of door opening between house and garage. | M FitzGerald & S Taylor  Pilton Stores,  Higher Westholme Road,  Pilton |
| Councillor Shaw proposed approval, Councillor Drew seconded. The vote as unanimously in favour.  Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL | | |

**ENFORCEMENT:**

i Update: There was no update this month.

7. **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:



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

8. **BURIAL GROUND**

i Maintenance reports: It was reported that everything looks very tidy.

ii Maintenance work: The fence has not yet been repaired. The Clerk queried an invoice received from Harvey Bailey for zero value. The Clerk will contact Harvey Bailey as work has been untaken, so this is an error.

9. **FOOTPATHS**

i Weir Lane Footpath:

A revised quote has been received but this is £1300 more than the previous quote that was received last year. This does not include the cost of the rails.

Councillor Shaw proposed waiting and getting more quotes in the future, Councillor Drew seconded.

It was voted unanimously to set up a working party to complete as much work as possible Councillor R Kearle would provide the stone.

Councillor Noble confirmed that permission has been given by the landowner to cut back the vegetation.

10. **ITEMS FOR COUNCIL’S INFORMATION:**

i Roundabout report:

Please be vigilant, there have been reports of a man in Top Street with a torch looking in vehicles at around 1am.

If you wish to report a road defect to Somerset County Council please use the link below:

<https://services.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem-on-the-road/?issue=POT&serviceCode=HRI>

The Parish Council are wondering how to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. A suggestion is tree planting however land would be required. If you have any land where you would be happy for trees to planted, please let the Clerk know. Any other suggestion on how to celebrate this occasion would be gratefully received.

The Clerk has received notification from West Pennard Primary School that Mr Tony Wheat has been appointed as Headteacher.

The Clerk stated that permission has been granted for the Remembrance Parade road closure.

11. **GFEL**

There was no discussion relating to Festival events, including Worthy Farm Camping and the Equinox Event, this is due to a pending legal appeal.

**NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 4th August 2021 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 8.13pm

**Appendix 1**

Update from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper

Coronavirus infection rates: As at 25th June the number of confirmed Covid cases in Somerset was 20,982 (up from 20,455 on 28th May) and the number of Covid-attributed deaths 799. The rate per 100,000 stands at 47.1 (5.5) for Somerset with Mendip at 40.7 (5.2), Sedgemoor at 74.7 (8.9), South Somerset 20.8 (3.6) and SW&T at 58.7 (5.2). The number of total deaths across the County is currently 19% below the 5-year average and the latest R-value for Somerset is between 1.0 and 1.5.

Despite significant progress and even for those who have had both jabs it is vitally important to remember, to observe Hands-Face-Space and to Ventilate indoor areas at all times.

Road map out of lockdown: The final stage out of lockdown delayed until July 19th (with a July 5th review) is subject to Government assessment on four key criteria:

• the vaccine deployment programme continues successfully

• evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated

• infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS

• the assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new variants

By this date the Government hopes to be in a position to remove all legal limits on social contact and to reopen remaining premises, including nightclubs. The final easing of restrictions on large events, performances and life events such as weddings will also be subject to the analysis of the outcomes from certain pilot events.

Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline: A single phone number continues to be available for anyone in Somerset who needs Coronavirus-related support. 0300 790 6275, is open seven days a week from 8am to 6pm.

Vaccination programme roll-out: Somerset continues to have one of the highest vaccination rates in the country with the latest figures showing over 700,00 doses (both 1st and 2nd) Take up rates of both doses is very high: 80+ (96%), 75-79 (100%), 70-74 (98.3%), 65-69 (90.4%), 60-64 (95.2%), 55-59 (91.7%) and 50-54 (84.5). First dose rates are currently 45-49 (84.9%), 40-44 (90.4%), 35-39 (81.6%), 30-34 (71.5%) and 25-29 (44.2%).

One Somerset: An announcement on the future of local government in Somerset is expected from the Government before the Parliamentary summer recess on 22nd July. For more information visit: [www.onesomerset.org.uk](http://www.onesomerset.org.uk)

Consultation on A38 Burnham to Bristol airport upgrade: Proposals to make improvements to one of Somerset’s key roads are being shared with the public. Somerset County Council and North Somerset Council are working in partnership on a number of proposed schemes on the A38 Burnham-on-Sea to just outside Bristol. The scheme seeks to improve journey reliability times, road safety and better connect local communities – whether by car, public transport or active travel. The public are invited to comment on these plans using the interactive map on the engagement website, https//:a38mrn-engagement.com The feedback will help inform the A38 Major Business Case that will be submitted to Government for approval later in the year.

Tackling Somerset’s Childminder shortage: The number of registered childminders in the county has decreased by over 31% since September 2015. In response, Somerset County Council has been working hard to boost numbers and is tackling the shortage of childminders across the county. In addition to a ‘Golden Hello’ grant worth £250.00, guidance and training is being offered to newly registered childminders which supports them through Ofsted registration and beyond. Anyone interested in attending an information session on Wednesday 21 July (6.30-7pm) is urged to register through: <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/childminding-in-somerset-virtual-information-session-tickets-157986252133>

Pioneering Climate adaptation website: A new web-based app gives the opportunity to explore the impacts of climate change on the Somerset Levels. The app, created as part of the Adapting the Levels project to help local people turn individual ideas into plans for collective action, focusing particularly on the challenges of flooding and drought. Adapting the Levels has worked with SCC, Somerset Wildlife Trust, Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, Parish and Town councils, businesses and communities to create draft pathways, which are available to explore online. Everyone is invited to view the pathways, comment and add ideas, by visiting [www.adaptingthelevels.co.uk](http://www.adaptingthelevels.co.uk)

Investing in Children and Young people: An ambitious and innovative approach to improve the life chances of Somerset’s highest needs children has given the green light. The ten-year programme will deliver a new way of working which will address the needs of Somerset’s most complex children and young people who are cared for by the Council. The council will be seeking a strategic partner(s) to provide up to 10 new small homes in Somerset, linking these to foster carers and therapeutic education to provide a seamless service that will help children and young people to grow and flourish. Combining foster care and small homes will offer young people the experience of a stable home environment and the opportunity to live with a family when they are ready. Skilled therapists from different agencies and teachers will work together to provide wraparound support designed to meet their individual needs.

Special Educational Needs Survey: Parents, carers, children, young people and practitioners are being asked to complete a short confidential survey to help shape services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Together with NHS Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group and the Somerset Parent Carer Forum, SCC are keen to hear views of children and young people who have SEND, their parents, carers and families, and the practitioners who support them. The short survey will close on Friday 9 July. [www.somerset.gov.uk/360survey](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/360survey)