**Minutes of the meeting of the Pilton Parish Council**

**via Zoom on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at 7.30pm**

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

Audrey Brown

David Drew

Colin Elkin

Joe King

Roger Noble

Lynda Roberts

Karen Buckley (Clerk/RFO)

3 Members of the public were present.

1. **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

i Mobile phones should be switched to silent.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Councillors Drew and R Kearle stated that they do not have an interest at present but may do so in the future. Councillor King expressed a personal interest in planning applications 2020/1497/TCA and 2020/0974/FUL. All other Councillors expressed an interest in applications 2020/1497/TCA and 2020/0974/FUL

3. **APOLOGIES:** Stephen Kearle, Andrew Shaw

4. **MINUTES:** of the 5th August and 10th August 2020 were approved.

5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

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* New Defects
* Deep pothole in Compton Lane, North from East Compton House to Ridge Road.
* Pothole in Top Street
* The potholes in East Town Lane have not yet been dealt with.
* The drain outside John Burns Cottages is running past the Stricklands property. This has been reported to Highways.
* The drain as you head towards Culverwell House is still blocked as the water is running along the road towards Councillor Noble’s house.
* There is standing water opposite and adjacent to The Manor. Residents state that they have never seen the water so deep. There are no channels for the water to run away. Action needs to be taken before winter. Councillor King with speak to the ASBO’s regarding carrying out the work. The Clerk will also report to Highways.
* There is rubbish at the top of Lamberts Hill that is blowing into the road. The clerk will report to MDC

ii Community Speedwatch;

The team are out every week. Councillor King advised that during the morning of the 2nd September they registered 35 cars speeding per hour. The top speed being 60mph in a 30mph zone. Traffic volumes not as high as prior to ‘lockdown’, this included HGV’s.

Thanks was given to the Speedwatch Team

iii Police Report: July and August Police Report

**6th July –** Report of an erratic driver along the A361 Pilton – Police stop vehicle and give words of advice.

**7th July –** Report of an accident along St Mary’s Lane – Emergency services attend.

**11th July –** Report of a mobile home stuck along Copse Lane at the junction with Pylle Lane.

**14th July –** Report of a caravan left in Neat Lane blocking a pathway.

**24th July –** Report of a male seen along Totterdown Lane in a poorly state – Police attend and assist male.

**31st July –** Report of an intoxicated male seen long Lamberts Hill – Emergency services attend.

**10th August –** Report of a cow along Lamberts Hill – Police attend no trace of the cow was found.

**12th August –**Report of damage to a fence along Neat Lane.

**18th August –** Report of an accident at East Compton – Emergency services attend.

**22nd August –** Report of a dead animal found along the road in East Compton

**31st August –** Report of loud music from the area of Lower Westholme.

It was stated that tools were stolen from a property in Beardly Batch. This was not listed on the police report.

iv Website: The Clerk asked Councillors to advise her if they require any changes to the website. The Clerk stated that it is the Parish Council website and will carry out any changes or add any photos they require.

v Draft Cycling and Walking Manifesto: The Clerk advised that she has chased MDC for confirmation that equestrians are included but has not yet received a response.

vi Community Fridge: Its was confirmed that the Community Fridge will be located at The Chapel.

vii Cock and Bull Drove: It was stated that the caravan is still located on the Cock and Bull Drove site. MDC have been informed. The Clerk will chase.

viii Parish Notice Boards: Councillor Drew volunteered to investigate whether the noticeboard has been erected and if not get confirmation where it will be situated.

6. **PLANNING:**

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| Application Number | Proposal | Applicant & Location |
| 2020/1478/FUL | Erection of 1No two bedroom dwelling house following demolition existing barn | Mr J Morriss  Hooting Ash Farm,  Lamberts Hill,  Shepton Mallett |
| Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL  There are letters of support on the website.  Councillor Drew proposed approval, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval. | | |
| 2020/1457/CLE | Application for a certificate of lawful existing development for the erection of biomass boiler units and associated pellet silos. | Mr Christensen  Streanbow Farm  Steanbow  Pilton |
| Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL  Councillor Noble proposed approval, Councillor King seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval. | | |
| 2020/1497/TCA | T1 – Ornamental Cherry – reduce height by 25%.  T2 Beech – Fell.  T3 Laburnum – reduce height by 25%.  T4 Salix – reduce height by 25%.  T5 Mulberry – clear spaces for wires to pass through.  T6 Cedar – reduce height by 25%  T7 Silver Birch – reduce height by 25% - excessively tall.  T8 Whitebeam – reduce height by 25% | Joe and Christine King  Mulberry Cottage,  Bread Street,  Pilton |
| Councillor King left the meeting.  Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL  Councillor Noble proposed approval, Councillor Elkin seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval. | | |
| 2020/1561/LBC | Replace the existing corrugated asbestos roof cladding for reclaimed clay triple Roman tiles on the rear single storey lean-to roof | Mr & Mrs King  Mulberry Cottage  Bread Street  Pilton |
| Pilton Parish Council Recommends: APPROVAL  Councillor Drew proposed approval, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote was unanimously in favour of approval.  Councillor King returned to the meeting. | | |
| 2020/0974/FUL | Erection of 1no two bedroom dwelling house | Mr E Ball  The Haven  Cumhill Lane  Pilton |
| Pilton Parish Council Recommends: REFUSAL.  The reason for refusal are:  The significant visual impact on a conservation area.  Over-development of the sight.  Over use of vehicle access over a public footpath.  Councillor King proposed refusal, Councillor Noble seconded. The vote was 3 in favour favour of refusal, 1 in favour of approval and 2 abstentions. | | |

7. **FINANCE:**

i Financial Statement:



ii Financial News/ Requests for Grants:

* Business rate grant – the Parish Council has received a grant of £10,000 from Mendip District Council.
* A request for a donation has been received from War Memorial Trust. Councillors did not want to put this on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting as it was unanimously agreed that they did not want to donate.

8. **BURIAL GROUND**

i Maintenance reports:

All is good.

The roadside trees will need attention. Councillors R Kearle and Noble will arrange a time to take a take a look.

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

i Roundabout report

Residents are reminded that dogs should be kept on leads. There have been reports of dogs getting into people’s gardens and harassing their pets. This is becoming a major problem within the village. Dogs are not allowed on the Playing Fields.

**Lives are being put at risk** due to inconsiderate parking in Bread Street. You must leave enough space for an emergency vehicle to pass!

Salt bins need to be added to next month’s agenda. The Clerk was asked to email Highways to enquire whether they will be filling the bins.

Councillor Brown will check the bins within the village to identify which need filling.

The sign for Weir Lane has been changed to Weird Lane. It was hoped that this would wash off in bad weather but it has not. Councillor King will see if it washes off.

**NEXT MEETING:** Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 8.23pm

**Appendix A – Briefing from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper**

**BRIEFING SHEET FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS**

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Corona Virus Update:** Whilst every death is undoubtedly an absolute tragedy, the situation in Somerset has been throughout the pandemic relatively quiet compared to the rest of the Country. As at 25th August, the number of confirmed Covid cases in Somerset was 1,373 and the number of Covid-attributed deaths 203. There was one further Care Home death in late July and the current number of total deaths across the County is currently 4% below the 5-year average. The latest R value for Somerset is between 0.8 and 1.1.

**Return to School:** Children of all ages are expected to return to school over the next two weeks with the clear message from Somerset’s head teachers that they are ready and can’t wait to welcome the pupils back. Measures being put in place vary from school to school but include: Year group or class group bubbles; one-way systems; regular hand sanitizing and cleaning of spaces; desks organised in rows all facing the front and spaced out; outside areas divided into ‘zones’, which are allocated to specific groups of children plus staggered start and finish times.

**Return to School and College Transport:** SCC is following current Government guidance in relation to school and college transport. Parents and students are being advised to walk, cycle or be driven to school or college where possible. For those that use school transport Students are advised to sit with their year group and are strongly advised to wear face coverings on the bus. For college transport, routes where additional capacity is needed, SCC are laying on approx. 20 additional buses at peak times. Details are at: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/schooltransport>

**Covid 19 Parish and Towns Forum:** SPARK is hosting a Forum along with SALC on the 15th September aimed at Parish & Town Councils. It will be an opportunity to showcase some of the councils in Somerset who really engaged in the Covid-19 response in their communities, co-ordinating local efforts and experimenting with new ways of working. SPARK and SALC are hoping that this will initiate a conversation about how Parishes can work better with the communities they serve and capitalise on the volunteering legacy from Covid-19. To register go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvdu-qqz4tEtdXYBab_pbWDMGESkYf5Y7I>

**One Somerset:** The business case to move to a Single Unitary authority across Somerset is available on [www.onesomerset.org.uk](http://www.onesomerset.org.uk) and details the reasons for the recommendations and the substantial benefits to the residents of Somerset. The business case was approved by Full Council on the 29th July for submission to the Secretary of State. Engagement and consultation activities on One Somerset will continue through the later summer and autumn.

**Public Health Nursing:** SCC’s Public Health Nursing service has been nationally acclaimed by the Institute for Health Visiting for the innovative online support developed during lockdown – a time when face-to-face appointments were no longer possible. Health Visitors, who as part of their role visit new parents after having a baby, had to adopt big changes to the way they work to enable them to deliver services to new parents to offer much needed support advice and guidance, weigh-ins for new babies, ante-natal, post-natal and infant feeding support and other essential contacts.

**Somerset Youth Music Group:** Thanks to a unique online project, Somerset’s musical groups including students from 32 of the county’s schools and colleges have put together a stunning a recording of Elbow’s One Day Like This. 90 young people, with ages ranging from 8 to 21 took part. Organised by Somerset Music, the video features the Somerset County Youth Choir, Somerset County Youth Orchestra and Somerset County Youth Concert Band. The inspirational video can be found at <https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=SMD>

**Armed Forces Covenant Recognition:** SCC has been awarded the Silver Award in recognition of the Council’s support for the Armed Forces community. The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation to those who serve or have served that we will do all we can to ensure they are treated fairly and not disadvantaged in their day-to-day lives. The Covenant seeks to ensure fair treatment for Regulars, Reservists, Veterans and their immediate families. Silver Award winners must actively demonstrate that servicemen and women, and their families, are not treated unfairly because they are serving in the Forces and must have an internally publicised positive Human Resources policy on employing Reservists. Further information can be found at <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/forcescovenant>

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