

MINUTES OF PILTON PARISH COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING held at Pilton Village Hall Wednesday 15th April 2026

Present: Cllrs: R Noble, C Connock, N Hall, R Woodhouse, K Sumner (Chairman), T Moulder, L Roberts, A Wynn
In Attendance: 5 members of the public present and Cllr C Sully (Somerset) and Mrs H Richardson (Clerk)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME : None

201. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN:** O Powell,

202. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

203. **DISPENSATIONS:** None

204. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Pilton Parish Council meeting of 18th March 2026.

Proposed: Cllr Moulder, 2nd Cllr Woodhouse. Approved

205. EXTERNAL REPORTS

a. Somerset Council -Written Annual report circulated.

Cllr Sully also reported that Citizens Advice, in partnership with Somerset Council, is offering support for residents facing financial hardship and she has published a summary of help which is available. Cllr Sully will publish and the Parish Council would put a link from their website.

She shared details of a consultation on changes due to the Planning Infrastructure Act 2025, which will impact the regulations in which committee referrals are dealt with. It is proposed that the option of referring smaller developments to committee will be removed. The Parish Council are not being consulted at this time, but Claire Sully advised the Parish Council to contact Tessa Munt MP to register their concern prior to the 23rd April.

Cllr Sully reported that she was hoping for a positive outcome following the recent incident of Flytipping mainly due to the exceptionally quick response from residents. She encouraged residents to continue to be vigilant and report immediately, take registrations and photos if it is safe to do so.

Residents should also be reminded of their responsibility, when disposing of waste, to ensure that the company they are using are properly licensed and confirm where the waste is being taken. Commercial waste should also be disposed of by a licensed company and the customer should be provided with a paper trail to prove where the waste ends up.

206. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUCEMENTS

- The Chairman reminded Councillors that they need to watch the videos on Data Protection and Freedom of Information as listed in the Clerks report, in order to be compliant with assertion 10.
- He reported that he would not be standing for Chair at the Annual meeting of the Parish council next month, although he would be continuing as a council member. He thanked the Parish council for their support during his time as Chairman.

207. PLANNING & LICENCING

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

[2026/0514/NMA](#): Land At 362428 141396 East Compton Road, East Compton. Application for a non-material amendment to permission 2024/1977/FUL (Construction of purpose-built veterinary practice with associated works including car-parking, cycle parking, landscaping & refuse storage). Notification Only.

[2026/0570/TCA](#): Orchard Cottage, Weir Lane, Pilton. T1 - Holm Oak - Fell to ground level to allow more light into the garden & create space for surrounding Walnut and Birch trees. Notification Only

[2026/0546/HSE](#): Whitelake Lodge, Lower Street, Pilton. The erection of a single storey, flat roof rear extension and the addition of 2no new roof lights in the rear slope of existing main roof.

Cllr Noble commented that the development is at the back of the bungalow facing North, it's not too big with roof lights to provide natural lights so he could see no issues with the proposals. There are no comments from Neighbours.

RESOLVED: To SUPPORT to the application

Proposed: Cllr Noble, 2nd Cllr Connock. Approved.

208. NOISE DISTURBANCE FROM THE SHOOTING GROUND

Concerns were raised about planning breaches and noise disturbance from the Shooting Ground recently and it was reported that the Shooting Ground were not honouring the agreement to give the Parish Council notice of competitions and should be just 28 days out of the year. There was an established code of practice agreed at the time with Mendip Council Noise enforcement team, and this was not being met.

It was agreed that Cllr Nick Hall would keep a diary of noise coming from the Shooting Ground and the Clerk would contact East Pennard Parish Council, to establish whether they had had any communication with the Shooting Ground, or Somerset Council.

It was noted that their website reports scheduled events for the Friday 24th April, Friday 8th May, Wednesday 20th May (9.30am - 4pm), 29th May.

209. COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME

A report was distributed to Councillors to provide an update on preliminary discussions on the proposal to establish a Community Car Scheme in Pilton, Shepton Area or to join an established scheme the Mid Somerset Car Partnership. The stated aims are to support residents who live in more rural areas (with limited public transport) to access medical appointments, shopping and social activities. The scheme will be more affordable (than a taxi) for low income families and will offer door to door service to support individuals who find public transport challenging. There is potentially grant funding from Somerset Community Foundation (SCF). There is no immediate action for the Parish Council and it is not expected to lead the project but may be asked to support a group of residents keen to push the scheme forward.

210. BLOCKED DRAINS

The Parish Council commissioned a contractor to clear around 80 blocked drains, but more are being reported, so the Parish council will continue to report drains which are blocked and if Somerset do not take action the Parish Council will consider using the contractor again.

Cllr Sully will ask Somerset how the £5 million provided for Highways will be distributed.

Cllr Sumner reported that issues at Shutwell Lane, Foxes Bottom and opposite Elm Farm are on Somerset Schedule of works.

211. HIGHWAYS - The narrowing of Barrow Lane

It was reported that Barrow Lane was narrowing by up to 18 inches from the Methodist Chapel to the Ford on the right hand side. This appears to be due to debris and soil encroaching onto the road. It needs to be dug back to reveal the full width of the road.

It was agreed that a contractor would be asked for a quote.

Cllr Connock asked for a progress report on the proposed new pavement at Neat Lane and it was reported that Somerset had confirmed that they own the land, and approval needs to be formally given by Somerset by completing an application form. The process is outlined in an email from Somerset regarding the Enhanced Highways Scheme and it appears that the permission needs to be obtained via the LCN. This needs clarification and the application may need to go direct to Jeremy Fry at Somerset. Steve Russell-Yarde reported that once the process is established, Glastonbury Festival will install the pavement and when built the pavement needs to be adopted by highways. It was agreed to set up a working group at the next meeting to work through the process.

212. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS/TRIADS AND RESOLVE ANY ACTIONS ARISING

- a. Affordable Housing Triad - No report
- b. Biodiversity Triad- No report
- c. Burial Ground Triad- Brambles need cutting back.

The triad are proposing to create a feature to house watering cans at the top of the burial ground.

It was agreed to order 2 tonnes of Topsoil - Cllr Woodhouse to order and be reimbursed.

- d. Flooding Triad - No report
- e. Footpath Working Group- It was reported that the Ramblers have replaced 7 kissing gates in West Compton, by the Ramblers.
- f. Highways Triad - It was reported that the Wear Lane Footpath needs cutting back and would be referred to the ASBO's
- g. Health & Wellness Triad - Cllr Hall still needs to contact Somerset regarding the potential Grant
- h. LCN update - The next LCN Meeting is on the 27th April.

213. FINANCE

RESOLVED: To note payments & receipts listed.

Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Roberts. Approved

214. CLERKS REPORT- The report was circulated

215. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was agreed that item 216 to be dealt with after the Public and Press have been excluded from meeting within the requirements of the [Public Bodies \(Admission to Meetings\) Act \(as amended\) 1960](#)

216. WASTE CONTRACT AT BURIAL GROUND

The quotes were reviewed for the Waste Contract and a Contractor was approved.

217. MATTERS OF REPORT

Notices for Roundabout: Flytipping

NEXT MEETINGS: Parish Council Meeting 20th May 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.31pm