

MINUTES OF PILTON PARISH COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

held at Pilton Village Hall

Wednesday 6 August 2025

Present: Cllrs: K Sumner, N Hall, R Noble, C Connock, T Moulder, L Roberts, R Woodhouse.

In Attendance: 5 members of the public present, Gill Pettitt (Parish Clerk), Cllr Clair Sully (Somerset Council).

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Representation from the Chair of North Wootton Parish Council regarding flooding in the parish much of which is sourced from Pilton Parish waterways. Request for support in talking with landowners to discuss methods to reduce flooding such as choice of crops close to rivers, (maize and tree cutting is detrimental; modern grasses and herbal leys are effective against flooding). Noted that three large bore holes in West Compton, (a decommissioned source of water for Glastonbury and Pilton), constantly releases 1,000 ltrs water per hour. Cllrs Woodhouse and Sumner will discuss with the North Wootton Chair. Cllr Sully will contact local parishes dealing with similar issues.

Question regarding degraded gravestones - who is responsible and are the stones checked. Grave owners are responsible for their own plots and gravestones, however, Cllr Hall checks the burial grounds two weekly.

62. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

RESOLVED: To accept apologies from Cllr Hollings and reason for absence - out of parish. Proposed Cllr Moulder, 2nd Cllr Roberts. Approved with two abstentions - Cllrs Hall & Noble.

RESOLVED: To accept apologies from Cllr Powell and reason for absence - out of parish. Proposed Cllr Connock, 2nd Cllr Roberts. Approved with two abstentions - Cllrs Hall & Noble.

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hall declared an interest in item 73b.

64. DISPENSATIONS

- a. Noted that Cllr Hall's partial dispensation stands regarding item 73b.

65. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. **RESOLVED:** To confirm and sign minutes of the Pilton Parish Council meeting of 9 July 2025. Proposed Cllr Hall, 2nd Cllr Moulder. Approved with one abstention, Cllr Woodhouse.

66. EXTERNAL REPORTS

- a. Avon and Somerset Police - no report. Agreed to remove this standing item.
- b. Somerset Council - Cllr Sully reported on the NHS cuts of beds and services without consultation. Wells and Street City/Town Councils have written letters of concern. Staff are distressed. Somerset Council were not informed of the business case. Cllr Sully will share letters of concern for the Clerk/Chair to respond.
Various complaints and suggestions were made about the recent A361 roadworks and subsequent traffic disruption. These will be sent to Highways to consider before recommencing the works.
Cllr Sully was asked to report on progress of the Strawberry Line.
Noted that the Boundary Commission is redefining ward boundaries. Pilton will now be with Shepton Mallet, with one ward councillor allocated. The Mendip South ward that Cllr Sully currently covers represents be disbanded.

67. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS - the Chair noted that Cllr Connock has been working on creating a footpath between Maggie's Farm and John Burns cottages. GFEL have agreed to

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do the work with approval from Somerset Council. Support to be noted on next agenda.
 Shutwell Lane works will start soon and should be finished in 5 weeks.

68. PLANNING AND LICENCING

- a. To consider Premises Licence Application WK/202504016
RESOLVED: Council support the licence with the proviso that the licencing authority periodically ensures adherence to the licence and investigates any change in ownership of the business that the licence has been granted to, because of the rural location. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Noble. Approved with one abstention - Cllr Roberts.
- b. To consider the Planning Applications below and any that arise before the meeting.
RESOLVED: To support application 2025/1314 under Material Considerations 3 - no impact to public visual amenity; 4 - reasonable layout; 5 - no effect on listed buildings or conservation area. Proposed Cllr Noble, 2nd Cllr Hall. Approved.

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

- a. Affordable Housing Triad -
RESOLVED: To support the implementation of the Housing Needs Survey supported by Thrive, (formerly the Community Council for Somerset). Proposed Cllr Roberts, 2nd Cllr Sumner. Approved.
- b. Biodiversity Triad - no meeting has been held.
- c. Burial Ground Triad - Awaiting works to the tap surround. Grass cut to be ordered. One tree is to be removed and two require pruning. 2 ton topsoil will be ordered to fill cracks and subsided plots. Bench in carpark area to be refurbished by the owner - Cllr Sumner will contact the owner. Two new benches will be placed once the owners are ready.
- d. Flooding Triad - no report.
- e. Footpaths Working Group - work has been done to FP 51. Next meeting to note areas where vegetation needs cutting back.
- f. Highways Triad - White lines are being reviewed.
RESOLVED: To write to Somerset Council with the concerns regarding A361 works. Proposed Cllr Moulder, 2nd Cllr Hall. Approved.
- g. Parish Plan Steering Group - the group will have a table at the Pilton Show. Wellness meeting to be held 17 September. Stakeholder meeting to be held 8 October.
- h. LCN update - no report

70. CLERK'S REPORT

- a. Noted that further training has identified that Assertion 10 will entail a change to the Council website - i.e. .org is not acceptable; and consolidation of the email addresses. The IT adviser is obtaining costs.
- b. Bespoke Councillor Code of Conduct training will be held 7pm 28 October.

71. FESTIVAL 2025

- a. Noted the date of the GFEL liaison meeting - 29 October 2025

72. SOMERSET SHOOTING GROUND

- a. **RESOLVED:** To support the petition drafted by East Pennard Parish Council regarding the Somerset Shooting Ground and would like to promote it locally once EPPC has finalised it.

73. FINANCE

- a. Feedback on Pilton Playing Fields refurbishment - the works were finished, approved as safe and launch held. However, the following day loose bolts were found - the fields were closed until these had been re-set and a new safety inspection undertaken. The fields are expected to re-open Friday
- b. Terms to the Pilton PC pledge to support Glastonbury TrainLink - Cllr Hall will bring other pledges to the next meeting for Council to consider.

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- c. Payments & receipts listed were noted.
- d. Budget review - much discussion on increased meeting hall fees.
RESOLVED: to increase the budget for meeting hall costs from the current level.
Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Approved with one abstention - Cllr Moulder.
RESOLVED: To discuss options for rooms for council meetings at the next meeting.
Proposed Cllr Hall. Approved.

74. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To agree item 75 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](#)

75. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Staffing Committee
 - i. No overtime figures given.
- b. Quotes
 - i. **RESOLVED:** That Cllr Sumner will inspect the works as they are being done.
Proposed Cllr Sumner, 2nd Cllr Hall. Approved.
RESOLVED: To accept the revised quote from P B Jetting with the above amendment. Proposed Cllr Roberts, 2nd Cllr Hall. Approved.

76. MATTERS OF REPORT

Roundabout - note Pilton Show and Parish Plan Steering group stall and call for volunteers.

NEXT MEETING: Council Meeting - 3 September 2025