

MINUTES OF PILTON PARISH COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

held at Pilton Village Hall

Wednesday 6 December 2023

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

In Attendance: G Pettitt, (Parish Clerk), Cllr C Sully, (Somerset Council), 10 members of the public.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- Request for a grit bin for Pylle Road / Bread Street. Noted that there is less surface water now that drains have been gulped. Cllr Moulder will check suitable siting of a grit bin. Noted also that the Church grit bin needs filling and another new bin is required for West Compton.
- Construction site needs better temporary 'road narrows' signage at bend on Neat Lane. Cllr Powell will discuss with the contractors.
- Noted that GB won gold at the World Litter Picking Championships in Japan. Village participation in next event?

MEETING OPENED 7:15PM

143. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies received from Cllr Roberts - personal reasons.

RESOLVED: To accept Cllr Roberts' apologies and reasons for absence.

144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Noted dispensation applied for all members in relation to item 149a.

145. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. **RESOLVED:** To confirm and sign minutes of the Pilton Parish Council meeting of 1 November 2023. Approved
- b. Note that Cllr Hollings' reasons for absence from the meeting of 4 October were due to rail strike and thus was unable to return to Pilton.

146. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Litter Pick will be held 24 February. Announcement will be in The Roundabout. Noted that the Pilton Playing Fields Trust insurance is now in place.

147. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

- a. Avon & Somerset Police - No Report
- b. Somerset County Council - Cllr Sully reported on the Somerset Council financial emergency. 33 Council leaders had written to Michael Gove MP to highlight the emergency facing many councils. Somerset Council has faced a £70m increase in statutory services. Regarding planning applications, Cllr Sully does not receive automatic notification of objections and suggests she is informed when this occurs. Cllr Noble regrets that parish councils no longer receive paper plans as viewing plans on-screen is not as accessible. Cllr Sully suggested that applications be discussed with her for more thorough investigation.

148. PLANNING

- a. Noted that a recent objection by the Parish Council was not automatically referred to Committee. This procedure is new. Council now realises that Cllr Sully must be involved and that it must make robust comments against Material Considerations.
- b. To consider/note the applications below:

No. & Officer	Detail	Type
2023/2011 Documents (8) Jane Thomas	Installation of shower room in detached garage / workshop building. Sunny Cottage Platterwell Lane Pilton	CLP

	<p>Response Date n/a - contact case officer with any detailed queries Pilton PC Response n/a noted 6 December 2023</p>	
<p>2023/2173 Documents (13) Kirsty Black</p>	<p><u>Erection of domestic outbuildings and creation of new swimming pool and courtyard area, enclosed by new courtyard stone boundary treatments.</u> Winding Lake Farm Pylle Road Pilton Response Date 7 December 2023 Pilton PC Response Objection Material Consideration 3 - Design and appearance, impact on public visual amenity. The application includes installing a 2.3m high wall boundary to a swimming pool which is higher than normal and impacts the view. A low block wall is being demolished to be replaced by a building 30m long. Pilton Parish Council would like a condition that the building is rebuilt in stone to retain consistency of appearance throughout the development. Material Consideration 4 - Layout and density of buildings - a lot of development has taken place on this land. Pilton Parish Council would like a condition placed to ensure any new buildings are not residential. Material Consideration 12 - Other. Generally the application is not fully detailed enough in particular the purpose of the outbuildings is not specified. 6 December 2023</p>	HSE
<p>2023/2156 Documents (2) Bo Walsh</p>	<p><u>T1, Holm Oak, crown reduction of up to 3 meters.</u> The Old Vicarage Park Hill Pilton Response Date n/a - contact case officer with any detailed queries Pilton PC Response n/a noted 6 December 2023</p>	TCA
<p>2023/2115 Documents (7) Charlotte Rogers</p>	<p><u>Split existing dwelling onto 2 dwellings, and alterations to rear dormer.</u> Hearne Farm Lower Westholme Road Pilton Determination Date 29 December 2023 Pilton PC Response Objection Material Consideration 4 - Layout and density of buildings. This application places a development in close proximity to a number of other buildings which impacts privacy for the existing buildings. Material Consideration 8 - Access, highways safety or traffic generation. There is poor access to the road and poor visibility for vehicles entering the highway. 6 December 2023</p>	FUL

149. TRAFFIC AND SECURITY SUGGESTIONS TO GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL (GFEL)

- a. Motion to approve: Pilton Parish Council potential opportunities to Glastonbury Festival Events Ltd - to improve Village Access, Traffic & Parking during Festival Notes from a member of the public were read to council.

Two amendments were proposed to the motion:

RESOLVED:

- a. To significantly reduce the traffic routing through Pilton village, PPC request that the capacity of the Green ("Village") Car Park is substantially reduced from its estimated capacity of 1800 to less than 900.
- b. Building on the existing provision by GFEL of alternative Parishioner car parks, PPC request that GFEL investigate additional car park locations (not necessarily on GFEL controlled land), in order to disperse the load on the Village Car Park.

Cllr Hall proposed, 2nd Cllr Noble. Cllrs Hall and Noble voted for the amendments, all others abstained. [Note: It is apparent that the intention of the Cllrs abstaining was to not support the amendments. This will be addressed at the next meeting.]

Substantive motion:

RESOLVED:

Pilton Parish Council potential opportunities to Glastonbury Festival Events Ltd - to improve Village Access, Traffic & Parking during Festival

Background:

- Traffic movement within Pilton Village continues to be a major issue for many residents.
- Increasing numbers of cars using the Village Car Park (VCP) causes increased volume of traffic in the residential centre of the Village.
- The unauthorised resale of Village Car Park passes has been identified, leading to ineligible vehicles obtaining access to the VCP and therefore increasing traffic volume from vehicles which should not have access to the Village.
- Unauthorised vehicles and their occupants also represent a security risk to the Village, and there have been recurring requests by Villagers to increase security.
- A minority of Villagers seem to be acquiring more Village Car Park Passes than they need, so a new system is required to regulate the allocation of Passes which up till now has been largely self-regulating.
- Based on feedback from Villagers, the Pilton Parish Council (PPC) 'Glastonbury Festival Events Ltd (GFEL) working party' have requested that GFEL look at how different initiatives might be implemented, to regulate use of the VCP and reduce overall traffic movements in the Village during the Festival period.

Objectives and scope of this review:

- a. To maintain the use of the VCP by eligible vehicles, in order to keep the Village roads free from being clogged by parked cars.
- b. Reduce the overall traffic movements in and around the Village.
- c. To stop the unauthorised sale of VCP passes and the use of VCP by ineligible vehicles, thereby increasing Village security.
- d. To consider options for alternative car parking locations by which to distribute demand for parking in the village.
- e. To consider potential changes to Village access points and one-way systems which may help reduce traffic movements in the village.
- f. Increase pedestrian access to the Festival site for Villagers, so they don't need to use their cars in the first place.

1. Solutions & Implementation:

1. Michael Eavis has agreed to the continuing use of his land to site the Village Car Park (VCP). Currently this is the best siting of the VCP based on the findings of a specialist review by Miles White Transport. (Tech Note on Car Park Options 01 February 2023).
2. Based on the responses received from Villagers during the Festival feedback process requesting greater regulation of the VCP, Melvin Benn (GFEL Managing Director) has agreed that GFEL administrates the allocation of parking passes to Villagers.
3. PPC to suggest a range of initiatives for introduction at the 2024 Festival. To be reviewed and improved for the 2025 Festival.
4. To improve safety at the Neat Ln. Junction, and further deter unaccredited vehicles entering the Village, PPC and GFEL to work towards use of the 'layby access' from A361 into the Old Bus Station field as a controlled village checkpoint, ensuring correct vehicle passes for Village access. All other village entrances to be closed to non-commercial and unbranded or oversized commercial vehicles, without Village Access passes. This creates a new controllable entrance to Neat Ln, will allow security to turn away or re-direct ineligible vehicles, as well as improving safety at the Neat Ln. junction.
5. GFEL & PPC to discuss, investigate and report on potential improvements to the traffic routing system for vehicles travelling inbound and outbound to VCP from Neat Ln, with the intention of minimising the volume of vehicle movements through Village centre.
6. In cases where a Village resident calls the Hotline to request a new pass or one-time access for their guests, visitors, taxis or deliveries etc. The 'unaccredited' visitor should be directed to the 'Layby Access' at Neat Ln for initial entry into the village. The Hotline and Village pass allocations team then has a single point of contact with whom to communicate and advise on access and permitting. It could be that, once authorised, a visitor's vehicle could be issued with a Village Access Pass (either 'Full Access' or 'Delivery' valid for the day of issue) by the security checkpoint team at the

Layby Access. The uniquely identifiable Pass would be linked to the householder who requested it. This single point of initial entry could also serve to alleviate miscommunication between the Hotline and multiple Village access points/stewards and remove some of the decision making faced by stewards confronted by ‘unaccredited’ vehicles trying to enter the Village. Just as Red Gate is the initial point of entry and accreditation for Festival traffic, Layby Access/Neat Ln could be the initial point of entry for Village Traffic.

7. Suggest an enforceable ‘No Entry’ at the top of Neat Ln, vehicles would be obliged to pass through the Layby Access.
8. Request GFEL opens up a new Villager Pedestrian entrance to the site for Village Ticket holders via Hitchin Hill, which will encourage walking, reduce traffic movements and will provide an extra benefit to Villagers. The Villager Pedestrian access via Hitchin Hill will be designed in a way to minimise vehicle/pedestrian conflict.
9. In order to improve security in the village, we suggest better regulation of the VCP, to include vehicle registration numbers given at time of application. Every **HOUSEHOLD** in the **PARISH** should be able to apply online for an allocation of Village Car Park Passes, with associated car registrations. Provision will be made if a Parishioner changes their car, after application and prior to festival.
10. PPC will promote the new initiatives to the Village via noticeboards, Facebook, Parish Website and Roundabout.
11. A review of the effectiveness of these new initiatives to occur as part of the GFEL x PPC feedback meeting process. By collecting data of how the VCP is used, we will better understand how to best serve the Village.
12. PPC suggests GFEL provide a clear pedestrian entrance/exit to VCP (original car park access off Pylle Rd.), with a staffed crossing point to and from the walkway leading to Mary’s Gate.
13. GFEL to advise on the implications of locating a vehicle pass monitoring point at the ‘Long House’ junction of Bread St and Pylle Rd.
14. Where initiatives are agreed and passed by PPC, we will further enrol support from the community by promoting the following benefits:
 - i) Reduced traffic movements throughout the village
 - ii) Increased security knowing which cars have access into the Village and VCP
 - iii) Ease of pedestrian access through Hitchin Hill
 Proposed Cllr Sumner, 2nd Cllr Hollings. Approved with two against - Cllrs Hall and Noble.

150. FINANCE

- a. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Grant Application Policy and Application Form. Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Sumner. Approved with one abstention - Cllr Hall.
- b. Implications 24/25 budget re Somerset Council devolution. Parish Council will await further information from Somerset Council.
- c. Budget 24/25 budget. Cllr Sumner asked a number of questions for the clerk to attend to after the meeting.
RESOLVED: To cancel the Zoom contract. Approved. Proposed Cllr Moulder, 2nd Cllr Sumner. Approved.
- d. Payments - **RESOLVED:** To approve payments below.

Narrative	Total	VAT	Total
SLCC membership	91.50		91.50
SALC affiliation	399.62		399.62
Salary Mth 8	709.08		709.08
Hall Hire Oct	15.00	2.50	12.50
Litter pick waste	15.12	2.52	12.60
Remembrance Day Signage	90.00		90.00
CiLCA qualification	225.00		225.00
CiLCA Portfolio training	150.00		150.00

Councillor expenses	20.00	20.00
Election Expenses	2491.96	2491.96
Hall Hire Nov	25.00	25.00

151. WORKING GROUP / COMMITTEE REPORTS - Noted that working groups will be reviewed at the next meeting.

- a. **Burial Ground Working Group (BGWG)** - To note that the gates are now repainted, thank you. Hedge laying quote - see item 155. Quote for fence replacement will be brought to the next meeting.
- b. **Parish Plan Steering Group** - To note that the November meeting was inquorate. Those present will be preparing Community Review branding and tag line options, preparing a timeline of work, asking parishioners for their hot topics and a summary of why the Community Review is taking place. The next meeting will take place in the New Year. The group asks that members put the date of the next meeting in their diary once notified. Cllr Hollings questioned whether the Parish Plan was necessary.
- c. **Traffic Plan Working Group** - No report.
- d. **Flooding Working Group** - Top Street is now clear of water, but one drain is again blocked, it will be investigated. Bad river run-off to Weir Lane. Residents are asked to check drains at their properties and to note where drains have become overgrown with grass. Noted that drain clearance has caused more run-off into the village.
- e. **Footpaths** - Noted low laurel branches on Weir Lane footpath, it has got worse. The ASBOs will look at this.

152. LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK (LCN) OCTOBER MEETING - Noted next Meeting 11 January, Shepton Mallet Council Offices.

153. MATTERS OF REPORT

- a. Items for Roundabout December '23 - litter pick, request for residents to remove their dog's waste, request for residents to identify troublesome drains.

154. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: To exclude Press and Public from item 155. Approved.

155. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Staffing Committee
 - i. **RESOLVED:** To approve staff overtime of 18hrs. Approved.
 - ii. **RESOLVED:** To approve Burial Ground hedge laying quote of £1,000 from Alex Bown. Approved.

NEXT MEETING: Full Council - 10 January 2024.