

# MINUTES OF PILTON PARISH COUNCIL

## FULL COUNCIL MEETING held at Pilton Village Hall Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026

**Present:** Cllrs: R Noble, N Hall, K Sumner, O Powell, T Moulder, L Roberts, R Woodhouse(Chairman).

**In Attendance:**4 members of the public present and Mrs H Richardson (Clerk)

### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

23. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN:** C Connock, A Wynn and Cllr C Sully (Somerset) will be late.
24. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
25. **DISPENSATIONS:** None
26. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
**RESOLVED:** To confirm and sign the minutes of the Pilton Parish Council meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026.  
**Proposed:** Cllr Sumner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Moulder. **Approved**
27. **EXTERNAL REPORTS**
- a. Somerset Council -Written Annual report circulated. The Pothole action list does include some of the potholes reported by the parish council. The Chairman drew attention to the changes to the planning system which limits the remit of the planning committee to large developments of 12+ dwellings, and the development of the local plan and the HELAA sites which have recently been published.
28. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUCEMENTS** - The Chairman extended his thanks to Cllr Kelly Sumner for his time as Chairman over the last three years and noted how much the council had modernised under his guardianship. Cllr Noble also added his thanks for the time Cllr Sumner has put into litter picking and had improved the appearance of the Parish. The Chairman also thanked Angela Wynn for agreeing to take on the role of Vice Chairman. The Chairman noted that the night road closure on the A361 had been brought forward to the 18<sup>th</sup> June and would hopefully be completed by the 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Details of the £50 million for flooding should be looked to see if it can benefit our residents directly or through the Parish Council.
29. **PLANNING & LICENCING**
- a. To consider the Planning Applications below and any that arise before the meeting.
- [2026/0999/OUT Tanglewood, Top Street, Pilton . Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved to replace existing dwelling with two new dwellings.](#)  
**RESOLVED:** To SUPPORT the application because the applicant has improved the Biodiversity net gain which had been lacking in a previous application.  
**Proposed:** Cllr Powell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Roberts. **Approved.**
- [2026/0959/PAA: Lower Westholme Farm, Lower Westholme Road, Pilton. Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to 6no. dwellinghouses \(Class C3\) including associated Operational Works. Notification Only](#)  
The Applicant explained that he is applying for planning permission for the long term viability of the land and confirmed that there is no bridle way across the access.  
The Parish Council agreed that there was no need to comment.
- [2026/0926/PAA: Land At Old Wells Road, West Shepton. Conversion of existing stone-built agricultural barn into 1no.dwelling.](#)  
Notification Only  
Although this application is for Notification only, it was agreed that the officer should be notified that the Parish Council consider the access road dangerous as it has a 60mph speed limit on a small lane. One death has occurred in the vicinity of the access which has considerable traffic and agricultural machinery.

### 30. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS AND RESOLVE ANY ACTIONS ARISING

- a Biodiversity Triad - Nothing to report
- b Burial Ground Triad - The Burial Groundsman will be given instructions on where to distribute the soil this week and stone will be collected from Cllr Sumner.
- c ASBO's/Footpath Working Group - Work is continuing and there is some interest from young people. The Somerset Rights of way officer confirmed that he is happy with the arrangements at SM16/24 as long as the original route is kept open.
- d Highways & Flooding Working Group
  - i) The Parish Council considered a request to limit large vehicles entering Pilton as there has been a number of incidents of large vehicles getting stuck on the narrow lanes.  
Cllr Powell was concerned as there are a number of lorries that need access to the village for deliveries, removals etc.  
Cllr Hall said that there are a range of different signs which could be explored.  
Cllr Sumner said that we could not restrict delivery lorries and thought that the issue was articulated lorries.  
Cllr Hall pointed out that signs have limited effect but can deter through-traffic.  
Resolved: Cllr Sumner would approach Somerset, explain the issues and ask them what signage they would suggest.  
Proposed Cllr Sumner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Powell. Approved
  - ii) To Consider a request for the installation of a Speed Indicator Device to deter speeding traffic.  
The item was deferred to next month as the proposer (Cllr A Wynn) was not present.
  - iii) To consider a request for a speed restriction on Higher Westholme Road.  
A resident asked the Parish Council to support his request to introduce a speed restriction on Higher Westholme Road which is currently National speed limit (60mph). The resident proposed a speed limit of 30mph as you leave the village and 20 mph, from the junction with Hartley Cottages to where it joins the North Wootton Parish Boundary on Pilton Hill Road. This includes the area where three Public footpaths finish onto the road and so people are regularly walking the road. The resident was prepared to cover the costs involved, including application, signage and legal fees, so that the parish did not bear any financial burden.  
**Resolved:** The Parish Council would approach Somerset on behalf of the resident and support his request.  
**Proposed:** Cllr Powell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Noble. **Approved**
- e Health & Wellness Triad - Nothing to report
- f Shepton Housing Working Group - Cllr Hall will make contact with Shepton. The Chairman advised that the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) has been published and that the Parish Council should take part in the consultation which runs until the 24<sup>th</sup> July
- g LCN - Community Cars meeting this week

### 31. APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES(Deferred from Annual Meeting)

- a Gabriel's Orchard - appointment of Managing Trustee.  
RESOLVED: To appoint Joe King as Managing Trustee for Gabriels Orchard.  
Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Noble. Approved

### 32. PILTON PLAYING FIELDS TRUST

To review the terms of the loan agreed to the Pilton Playing Fields Trust to fund play equipment.  
Cllr Powell proposed that the terms of the loan agreed with Pilton Playing Fields Trust (4<sup>th</sup> June 2025 minute 36c) should be reviewed as in his opinion it should have been given as a grant rather than a loan as the project fits all the criteria agreed for the allocation of grants from the funds provided by GFEL.  
Cllr Woodhouse said that size of the application was too large to be granted to one organisation as it would be disproportionate to the number of electors. He said that in the original decision the Parish Council resolved to approve the application which had been submitted to them by the Pilton Playing Fields Trust which was for a loan for £20,000 repaying £5000 over the next 4 years.  
Cllr Powell strongly disagreed and said that the funds should be given as a grant and the Parish Council should not ask for it to be repaid.

Cllr Hall recalled that the Parish Council did not feel able to give such a large proportion of the donation fund to one project.

Cllr Noble agreed that the GFEL fund should be available to a variety of village organisations and a large proportion should not be spent on one project, the loan arrangement allows the fund to continue to benefit many other groups.

Cllr Woodhouse said that the loan arrangement was agreed unanimously by the council and should not be amended. He also said that the Pilton Playing Fields Trust would be permitted to submit a new separate application for grant funding for a smaller amount.

**33. REMEMBRANCE**

The normal bugler is not available and so an alternative bugler is need. The Chairman will give the details of an alternative bugler to the Clerk.

Cllr Sumner has the signage from last year, road closures need to be applied for and the Carnival Club will arrange the railings and the cones. The Clerk will update last years Event management plan

**34. VEGETATION**

The action list will be updated as some residents have cleared some previously identified issues. A letter will be drafted to be agreed at the next meeting, to be sent to landowners asking them to attend to overgrown vegetation.

**35. FINANCE**

- a RESOLVED to accept the Internal Auditors report 2025/26  
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Sumner. Approved
- b RESOLVED to approve the Annual Governance Statements 2025/26 but tick 'No' to Assertion 10 as the arrangements are in place, but more work is needed to comply.  
Proposed: Cllr Moulder, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Noble Approved
- c RESOLVED to approve the Accounting Statements 2025/26  
Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Sumner. Approved
- d RESOLVED to note the variances in the accounting statements.  
Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Hall. Approved
- e RESOLVED to approve the Public Rights and Publication of Annual Governance and Accountability return dates as Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July.  
Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Moulder. Approved
- f RESOLVED: To note payments & receipts listed.  
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Roberts. Approved

**36. CLERKS REPORT-** The report was circulated

**37. MATTERS OF REPORT**

Notices for Roundabout: Vegetation

**38. NEXT MEETINGS:** Parish Council Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026 at 7pm.

RESOLVED to change the date of the next meeting to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July (from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July)

Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Roberts. Approved.

Items to discuss: Parking on Top Street/ Bread street, installation of SID, HELAA & local plan scoping consultation. Community Cars update

The meeting closed at 8.33pm