MINUTES OF PILTON PARISH COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING held at Pilton Village Hall Wednesday 21st October 2026

Present: Cllrs: C Connock, R Noble, T Moulder, O Powell(part), K Sumner, R Woodhouse(Chairman), A Wynn
In Attendance:9 members of the public present and Mrs H Richardson (Clerk) and Cllr C Sully (Somerset)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:
Steve Russell-Yarde reported that the site meeting had taken place regarding Neat Lane Pavement with Somerset Council to review the scheme and agreed that the Parish Council would need to apply through section 171 (works adjacent to the highway). The Parish Council would be sponsoring the scheme.
Last week he met with three council representatives and the contractor to establish the plan.
It was agreed that the contractor will put together the brief and costing. The cost will be checked and approved by Glastonbury Festival to ensure it is within expected cost levels. This will be submitted to the Parish Council who will need to put it into a formal request to the festival for the money. The Parish Council will need to complete the Section 171 which Steve will be happy to assist. The contractor will then deliver the footpath and Somerset will need to accept the standard of work (no need to sign it off as it is already their land)
It was confirmed that there will be no liability for the Parish Council.

Question from resident regarding vandalism of fencing on Cockmill Lane. It was reported that the incident was recorded on CCTV

88. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN: L Roberts.

89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Nick Hall (100: Heritage)

90. DISPENSATIONS: None

91. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
RESOLVED: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Pilton Parish Council meeting of 16th September 2026.
Proposed: Cllr Hall, 2nd Cllr Moulder. Approved

92. GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL:
Parish Councillors accepted an invitation for representatives to attend a meeting with Glastonbury Festival on 11th November.

93. SHOOTING GROUND
A member of East Compton Parish Council attended to ask whether we could collaborate on resolving the noise issues from the Shooting Ground. It was agreed that the Petition would be publicised around Pilton to find out how residents of the Parish were affected by the activities of the Shooting Ground. To be discussed again in December.

94. EXTERNAL REPORTS
a. Somerset Council –Written report circulated. Cllr Sully raised concerns about the impact of the changes to planning delegation and the removal of the Parish Council and Somerset Councillors ability to refer applications to committee. She stressed that it was even more important to submit complete responses to consultations and keep her informed of contentious applications.

95. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUCEMENTS – The Chairman thanked everyone who turned out for the litter pick who collected 23 bags of rubbish. He also thanked Cllr Sumner for the litter picking that takes place between the community litter picks.

96. PLANNING & LICENCING
a. To agree policy for dealing with 'notification only' applications – deferred as proposer was not present.

b. National Scheme of Planning Delegation: Small developments will always now be decided by the planning officer and there is no opportunity to refer to committee unless it is classed as a major housing development (more than 10 houses), listed building consents and retrospective applications. The only opportunity to influence smaller developments is with the initial consultation response and so make sure it is a high quality and detailed response.

Additional changes to NPPF hold more weight than the Local plan and so uncertainty remains over planning in the parish which will need further investigation. Cllr Sully agreed to provide practical guidance to the parish and will send a briefing note this month.

- Cllr Powell Left the meeting.

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

2026/1161/FUL: Cockmill Croft Farm, Cockmill Lane, East Pennard. Ground mounted PV array for 32no panels. It was noted that the applicant had provided good information about the biodiversity net gain. The site is in the curtilage of the applicants garden and not taking up any agricultural land and not visible from the street.
RESOLVED: To SUPPORT the application
Proposed: Cllr Sumner, 2nd Cllr Moulder. Approved

2026/1876/PAA: Barn Coordinates 360435 143571, Old Wells Road. Conversion of existing stone-built agricultural barn into 1no. Dwelling. NOTIFICATION ONLY
Even though this is Notification only the Parish Council agreed to comment to emphasise the same comment as previous application regarding road safety.

2026/1811/PAA: Lower Westholme Farm, Lower Westholme Road, Pilton. Prior approval for a proposed change of us of silage barn to 8no. dwellinghouses (C3) including associated operation works. NOTIFICATION ONLY.

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

a Biodiversity Triad – The screening of the Peoples Emergency Briefing was well attended and Cllr Hall reported to the discussion after the screening that the Parish Council has a Biodiversity Working Group and some attendees wish to get involved with the working group initiatives.

b Burial Ground Triad:

i) The Parish Council discussed three quotes to create a watering can feature.
RESOLVED: To approve expenditure and proceed with the work.
Proposed: Cllr Moulder, 2nd Cllr Sumner. Approved

c ASBO's/Footpath Working Group. Nothing to report.

d Highways & Flooding Working Group:

Cllr Sumner has contacted highways again regarding concerns about HGVs entering the village through the 4 entry points (particularly Neat Lane), but will chase again.

i) Request for signage to say 'unsuitable for large vehicles' and 'road narrows' on Barrowmead Lane following a large vehicle getting stuck. Cllr Sumner will follow up.

ii) To consider request for support from residents of Pylle with regards to highways safety.
Cllr Hall volunteered to have an informal discussion with the residents to share knowledge and previous experience.

e Health & Wellness Triad:

i) To approve donation to Festival Medical in return for Defibrillator Familiarisation Training for Residents.
RESOLVED: To approve donation of £300 plus petrol expenses.
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Moulder. Approved

It was reported that the Health information day would be repeated and a date in January is being considered and the defib familiarisation could take place at the same time. Donation will go towards putting bleed kits into schools. It was agreed that the training should cover, general first aid, and CPR as well if possible.

f Shepton Housing Working Group – No report

g LCN:Report of Heavy Goods vehicle meeting. Claire Sully, Tessa Munt and Anna Sabines Representative attended. The LCN have been working on introducing a 40mph limit to the Beacon Hill Junction as part of their Safer Roads campaign. People have objected and so the process will take a little longer but it is a priority as it is considered as an Accident Cluster Site.
MPS have been asked to lobby the government to reverse the decision to take the heavy vehicle levy away from the local councils. MPS were also asked to lobby the government to make it mandatory for HGVS to use a specific HGV Sat Nav, keeping them away from rural lanes.
Cllr Hall now wants to prioritise the A361.

98. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Road Closure application has been submitted, Carnival Club are putting out scaffolding, Cllr Woodhouse has put up poppies. Cllr Powell, Connock, Woodhouse & Noble volunteered to provide Cars to block roads. Cllr Wynn to put out advance warning signs. The Clerk would write to the Co-op to request that there are no deliveries on Sunday morning. The parish Council are still looking for a Bugler and agreed that additional funds should be authorised to offer to a potential buglar. Recorded music had been organised as a backup plan.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £150 to pay for a buglar.
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Sumner. Approved

99. VEGETATION

The updated list of overgrown vegetation was circulated and councillors were asked to review it.
In addition to the list Lower Street to Mount Pleasant should be cut back and the Landowner would be contacted. Some landowners have been approached and they have not responded very well.
Letters will be delivered to households on the list and if the landowner does not respond they would be referred to Somerset through Claire Sully.

100. HERITAGE:

The Draft Somerset Heritage at Risk Register was reviewed. Cllr Hall presented a draft response to the register and proposed to submit the response on the understanding that this is a draft list which requires further discussion, to decline the invitation to make financial contributions outside out parish until we know the full state o four assets and to continue discussions with Pilton History Group and other local volunteers.

RESOLVED: To approve the draft response.
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Sumner. Approved

101. FINANCE

a RESOLVED: To note payments & receipts listed.
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Woodhouse. Approved
b The Parish Council noted the Conclusion of Audit and accepted the External Auditors Report.
c Councillors were asked to contact the clerk with projects and priorities for the draft budget 2027-28

102. CLERKS REPORT- The report was circulated

103. MATTERS OF REPORT - None

104. NEXT MEETINGS: Parish Council Meeting 18th November 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm