

MINUTES OF PILTON PARISH COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

held at Pilton Village Hall

Wednesday 7 January 2026

Present: Cllrs: R Noble, C Connock, N Hall, R Woodhouse, K Sumner (Chairman), T Moulder, L Roberts, O Powell, A Wynn

In Attendance: 11 members of the public present and Cllr Sully (Somerset Council)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Residents made comments on planning application 2025/1953/FUL, Land at Mount Pleasant.
No questions

138. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

There were no apologies.

139. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

140. DISPENSATIONS

a. No dispensations requested.

141. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

a. **RESOLVED:** To confirm and sign the minutes of the Pilton Parish Council meeting of 3 December 2025.
Approved with amendment to item 118 -No vote

142. EXTERNAL REPORTS

a. Somerset Council - Cllr Sully - Noted

143. Local Government Boundary Commission - Consultation re-opened. Closing 14 January 2026

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/somerset>

a. The Parish Council resolved to submit a response to SUPPORT the proposals which includes Pilton in a division with Shepton Mallet West. Proposed Cllr Hall, 2nd Cllr Sumner. Approved.

144. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was agreed that the date of the Litter pick will be February 28th, this will be publicised in the Roundabout. The old laptop will be returned on Sunday.

Concern was raised about Ash Trees: Cllr Sully confirmed that Somerset has budget to remove dangerous Ash Trees and would contact the tree team to inspect trees in the Parish.

The Chairman litter picked on 2nd December and notified Somerset to pickup waste bags. He has reported it several times since but has not been collected. Cllr Sully will follow this up.

145. PLANNING AND LICENCING

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

a) [2025/2276/HSE](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning/2025/2276/HSE)- Proposed External Alterations and Improvements consisting of replacement doors, windows and rooflights, with the addition of 4no. rooflights and a set of French doors with side lights on the rear facing South Elevation.

RESOLVED: To SUPPORT the application.

Proposed: Cllr Powell, 2nd Cllr Moulder. Approved

b) [2025/2261/CLE](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning/2025/2261/CLE): The application seeks a lawful development certificate to establish a lawful commencement of development before the expiration of three years from the date of approval of application 2022/0654/FUL in accordance with Condition 1.

NOTIFICATION ONLY

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c) 2025/1953/FUL: Demolition of existing coach house & construct a single storey dwelling.
RESOLVED: To OBJECT to 2025/1953/FUL due to;
Overdevelopment of the site- the development negatively impacts neighbours on all sides, and the footprint of the new dwelling is significantly larger than the structure being replaced.
The height of the proposed development overshadows adjacent properties.
The new dwelling would overlook neighbours causing loss of privacy.
The materials to be used increase the impact on the neighbours by using black timber cladding instead of natural stone.
The dwelling will be visible from the nearby public footpath, harming visual amenity.
Even though the development is small, the Parish Council are disappointed that there is not a Biodiversity net gain, despite addressing the loss of a habitat for bats.
Proposed: Cllr Hall, 2nd Cllr Powell: Approved.

d) 2025/2192/TCA: 1 Silver Birch - Reduce overall canopy by approximately 2 meters. T2 - Plum - Reduce overall canopy by approximately 2 meters.
NOTIFICATION ONLY

146. FINANCE

a. Cllr Woodhouse presented the draft budget 2026-27. Changes from the last draft included a 10% increase for the precept (8.56% net) to cover salary, insurance and increase in reserves.
Cllr Noble suggested that a further amendment should be made so that the Parish Council could tidy up the village and cut back overgrown trees and vegetation. A list would be created to identify priority issues to be discussed next meeting. The budget was altered to enable this.
RESOLVED: To accept the budget 2026/27 which allows for a 12.35% Gross, (10.82% Net) increase to the precept.
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Powell. Approved

b. RESOLVED: To set the precept request for 2026/2027 at £36500 and increase of £6.88 per year per Band D property
Proposed: Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Powell. Approved

c. RESOLVED: To note payments & receipts listed. Deferred to 21st January.

147. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: To exclude members of the press and public from items 148.

148. APPOINTMENT OF CLERK

a. RESOLVED: To approve the clerks salary rate (SCP26).
Proposed Cllr Woodhouse, 2nd Cllr Powell, Approved

149. MATTERS OF REPORT

a. It was noted that the abandoned car by the playing fields is fully taxed and so cannot be forcibly moved.
b. Concern was raised about inconsiderate parking on Top Street.
c. The ICCM confirmed that stones removed from newly opened graves in the Cemetery and disposed of as the council sees fit and are not classed as contaminated.
d. Cllr Noble was asked to book the bugler for Remembrance Day as soon as possible.

NEXT MEETINGS: Council Meeting -21 January 2026, 18th February 2026, 18th March 2026

The meeting closed at 8.06pm