

Chairman's Report

Last year when the pandemic spread across the world, we little suspected that twelve months later it would still be affecting us. However, life has to go on. We are told that communities thrive when people get involved, give up their time and come together to take action on the issues that they care about. It is possible to respond to adversity both negatively and positively. We are fortunate that in our community we have many people of the latter category, people who have put themselves out to serve the village. In particular I would wish to mention Ken and Anne Whiteside and the staff at Stakepool Stores. They have performed sterling service by keeping the business open and delivering orders to people unable to leave their homes and we thank them.

In Pilling Parish Council, our relevance as the first tier of local government rests firmly on our supporting and improving our community and being at the heart of local place shaping. We should rightly be ambitious for our people and places and indeed we are. As the first tier of government our uniqueness is the local knowledge of people and places, representing streets, neighbourhoods and the whole village.

As such we are concerned about the development of our village, taking note of plans for new buildings and while we would wish to encourage expansion and the creation of new businesses, we have to take into consideration the effect these may have on existing properties. The development on the former Tayban site on Garstang Road caused a number of problems for nearby residents, but meaningful interventions have brought about a solution to these difficulties. While we work as a team, there are times when it is appropriate for individual councillors to take the lead and I would like to pay tribute to Councillor Phillpotts and Councillor Cookson who have worked tirelessly to bring about this conclusion.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Pilling Arts Hub*
- *Public Footpaths*
- *Flood Risk in Pilling*
- *Pilling Village Hall welcomes visitors*
- *Pilling Pickers*

COVID 19 is still with us

For the sake of everyone you are urged to follow government guidance to stop the spread of the virus.

There are simple things we can all do:

- Wash or sanitise your hands regularly
 - Keep your distance from others
- Wear a face covering where applicable

Stay home and get tested if you have any symptoms

Chairman's Report cont....

New buildings bring new pressures on the infrastructure of the village; this has been shown in the continuation of the difficulties with the sewage pipes on Taylors Lane. While longstanding work has finished, problems are already recurring. The work has not produced a permanent solution. Indeed the sewage system throughout the parish is feeling the effects of expansion and like a lot of work that is needed in the village it suffers from a lack of investment due to a shortage of funds.



The flood action group has continued to develop and to provide vital aid whenever flooding is imminent. In the present economic situation it is vital that landowners play their part by keeping dykes clear.

The Parish Council keeps an eye on a variety of situations within the village from ambulance response times, which have been a cause of concern, to the difficulties brought about by the closure of the two public houses in the parish. To increase the safety of parishioners bollards have been installed in front of the bus shelter on Lancaster Road.

While much of the village life during the past twelve months has of necessity been put on hold, we were at least able to hold the Remembrance Sunday service, so important in the 75th year since VE Day and VJ Day. It is hoped that a suitable commemoration can take place during this year.

During all the upheaval, one thing that has changed is the new village hall which is now complete. It is my hope that it will provide a focus for bringing people together and out of the pandemic, leading the way to a new community spirit and sense of involvement.

Where local councils work well, this is in no small part due to relationships and partnerships; good positive relations both in and out of councils are the key to delivering for our communities. In our parish council we are fortunate in having a group of people who possess the ability to do this and with a common aim in improving the lot of our parishioners. We welcome Alf Whiteside who has recently been co-opted and hope that he will enjoy serving on the council.

The pandemic has created many problems, but to quote the anthropologist Margaret Mead, 'never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.'

We may not seek to change the world, but we do seek to stand up for those who live in Pilling and to improve life for them. In this I am aided by my fellow councillors, our lengthsman Stan and our clerk Gillian, and to them I extend my thanks.

John Savage, Chairman, Pilling Parish Council.

YOUR PILLING PARISH COUNCILLORS



Mr. John C. Savage (Chairman)

Rivendell, Taylors Lane, PR3 6AB Tel. 790707

Mr. Neil Cookson, (Vice-Chairman)

Copper Garth, Smallwood Hey Road. PR3 6HJ
Tel. 790875

Mr. Graham C. Curwen, (Vice-Chairman)

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Tel. 790502

Mr. John Barton,

Bone Hill Farm, Bone Hill Lane, Pilling PR3 0LA Tel; 790657

Mrs. Elizabeth Cookson

Wyndale, Lancaster Road, Pilling PR3 6AU Tel. 790537

Mrs. Judy Judkins,

Rosenda, School Lane, Pilling. PR3 6HB Tel. 790919

Mr. Steve Phillpotts

Willow Tree Cottage, Lancaster Road South PR3 6SQ Tel. 799121

Mr. Paul McWhirter

Arndale, Wheel Lane, Pilling PR3 6HL Tel: 790995

Mr. Edward Moorat

1, Stakepool Drive, Pilling. PR3 6BU Tel: 790464

Mr. Alf Whiteside

1, Warbrick Cottage, Damside, Pilling PR3 6AB Tel: 790700

**WYRE BOROUGH COUNCILLOR FOR PILLING
AND WINMARLEIGH**

Mr. Graham Holden

Hy-Fly Game Hatcheries, Preesall FY6 0HH
Tel: 810307

COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR WYRE RURAL CENTRAL

Matthew Salter,

29, Woburn Way, Claughton-On-Brock, PR3 0QF Tel: 07803 723 958

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR LANCASTER AND FLEETWOOD

Cat Smith,

47 Scotforth Road, Lancaster. LA1 4SA
TEL: 01524 566 551 OR 01253 490 440

**We're on the web
Pillingparish.org.uk**

Pilling Arts HUB

LOOK LEARN PLAY ENJOY LIVE SUCCEED

With Pilling Arts Hub



BE A **PART** OF THE COMMUNITY

Pilling Community Arts project is coming soon to celebrate and engage the creative talents of all our residents.

There will be **FREE** workshops for all ages and for all interests. You can try something new and meet some new friends too.

If there is something you'd like to learn more about or have a skill you'd like to share...we want to hear about it.

If you'd like to join a small working group to develop the project please contact:

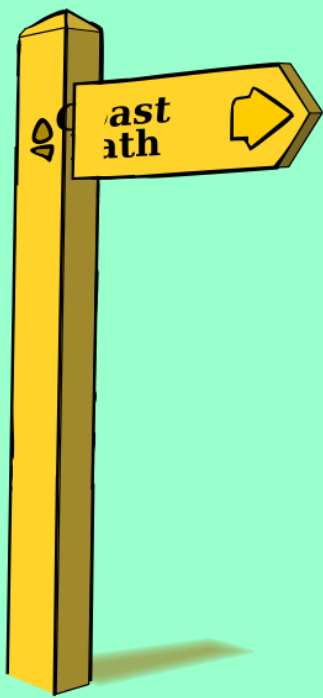
Judy Judkins judyajudkins@gmail.com Tel : 790919

Public Rights of Way in Pilling

Since the start of lockdown many more people have been taking exercise locally and walking the public footpaths in the parish.

One of the results of this surge in foot traffic was members of the public approaching Councillors to highlight various problems, such as poor signage, broken stiles and other such issues. As a result Councillor S. Phillpotts and Councillor N. Cookson have walked all the paths in the

parish, partly for pleasure, but also to ensure that the paths are accessible.



As a result of these jaunts, problems have been identified all around the village. After liaison and support from Lancashire County Council the problems are being rectified by Stan, our Parish Lengthsman. He has installed new kissing gates, repaired others and repaired stiles and new finger posts have arrived and will be installed shortly. Signage has been put up to remind walkers of their responsibility regarding dogs, dog waste and respecting the land and livestock.

We hope to make a number of paths easier for the less agile to negotiate by replacing existing stiles with gates, either kissing or spring closing.

As a council we hope to encourage the wider community to come and visit Pilling, enjoy our paths, use the amenities in the village and support local businesses.

If you have any issues regarding public footpaths please contact any Parish Council lor or the clerk so that the issue can be addressed.

Or directly to Lancashire County Council

<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/fault-search.aspx>

Parish Council Annual Financial Report

Pilling Parish Council 2020—2021

	Brought Forward:	Year end:
Nat West:	£6,643.41	£5,571.46
Furness Building Society:	<u>£52,584.73</u>	<u>£23,781.99</u>
	£59,162.28	£29,353.45

The precept was set £70,000 in 2020 - 2021; raised in line with inflation and to build funds for on-going projects including a water pump for the sea embankment, defibrillator maintenance and reserves. This year saw the impact of Covid 19 with lockdown and the suspension of Parish Council meetings and surgeries.

The Parish Council has always supported Pilling Village Hall and granted a loan of £49,000 to complete construction work. This follows £20,000 donated in 2018. The hall is ready, but Covid restrictions need lifting before opening. The loan impacted on the Parish Council Reserves and will be recouped through the precept over five years.

Pilling in Bloom; despite curtailed residents involvement Stan single handily planted all the floral displays and Broadfleet Sensory Garden and received sponsorship. The Parish Council is rightly proud of his diligence in the parish.

The Parish Council received grants; from the Moons Trust used towards the defibrillator and case at the new Village Hall and Grantscape towards the defibrillator and ANPR on Eagland Hill. A number of private donations have provided public seats.

After tracking down the new owners to Cherry Tree Close; grass cutting contracts have been settled and County doubled its Parish Lengthsman payment. for public footpaths.

Employee costs have increased slightly as the Parish Lengthsman's pay scale increased. The Parish Council purchased a defibrillator and case and five replacement batteries with pads; and the replacement bus shelter at the Elletsons Arms, which with the addition of two bollards, will hopefully not be damaged again!!

Covid has curtailed many of the Council's projects; Senior Citizens' Christmas Party cancelled; no newsletter, VE Day abandoned and no training.

Gillian Benson, Responsible Financial Officer



Flood Risk Management in Pilling

The North-West of England has always been a wet part of the country, with dominant westerly winds bringing damp air from the Irish Sea and the Atlantic Ocean which forms rain as it passes over land rising to the Lakeland and Bowland fells and to the higher Pennine moors. Whilst there will always be a risk of flooding everywhere in Lancashire, Pilling is set right between the sea and the fells so has its own special conditions that need thinking about.

Lancashire County Council works with all affected people and organisations to help manage flood risk around the county. My colleagues and I are working with Pilling Parish Council to:

- reduce the chances of floods happening; and
- reduce the damage that is done if there is a flood.

The responsibilities for different aspects of flood risk management can be difficult to understand, but here are some very simple suggestions to help give you more confidence when you are thinking about how to manage your own flood risk.

All drainage ditches and pipes fall eventually to the sea. As sea levels rise (temporarily with the tides, and more permanently with sea level rises associated with climate change), the 'falls' get less steep and water flows away more slowly. If you have any drainage on your land, consider holding some rainwater back during a storm – for example in water butts or un-used parts of your fields or gardens – to reduce the risks of the water coming out of the ditches and causing flooding to vulnerable property.

Help to keep all pipes and ditches free-flowing by being extremely careful about what you put in them. There should be no litter in ditches, as this can cause blockages. Don't put fats, oils or household waste down kitchen sinks and toilets as this can coagulate and form 'fatbergs' that can only be broken down and removed by specialist teams. Consider instead wiping greasy pans with kitchen paper before washing up.

Could flood water get into your house through air vents or over low doorsteps? There are various products you can buy and either fit permanently or just when needed to provide a water-tight seal. This will help you last out a storm until flood waters start to drop outside.

These and other practical actions can give you more control of your home environment, and more confidence that you and your home will survive well if there were another flood in Pilling. You'll find lots of suggestions for householders and landowners on the North West's Flood Hub website (thefloodhub.co.uk), and your new Flood Action Group will be able to help too.

To help the council investigate flooding incidents thoroughly and find other ways of improving future flood risk, please report your incidents either through your local councillors or directly to Lancashire County Council by ringing us on 0300-123-6780.

With best wishes,

Rachel Crompton, Flood Risk Manager for Lancashire County Council

Pilling Village Hall A lookback at 2020

2020 was imagined to be the year when the most ambitious element of our long planned 2020 project would reach fruition with the building of our new village hall. From buying our 17 acre field in 2014 we had created four football pitches, sports changing facilities, a children's recreation area, picnic area and car parking and laid a 1200metre all weather trim trail and when the turf cutting ceremony marking the start of building took place on January 8th we began to see the climax of our 2020 project becoming reality. The plans to provide Pilling, this isolated rural community, with modern, state of the art, social, leisure and recreational facilities were becoming a reality.

As Spring arrived the contractors were well advanced and we looked forward to a grand opening ceremony. We had raised over £1.5 Million and our local population were benefitting from the extensive facilities we had already provided, able to spend time enjoying our 8 acre country park as many of the 3,500 trees and wild flowers we had planted were growing well.

Covid and lockdowns abruptly slowed building progress but despite these restrictions, by December the new hall

Pilling Village Hall

was virtually complete. However, our 1200m trim trail provided a lifeline for exercise for our residents and we received many very appreciable comments from users who spent many hours and days enjoying the walks around our site, remarking on the variety of birds and wild life that have been attracted to our extensive wild life areas. One resident wrote to the local council commenting on how our facilities had been used daily throughout the year as she was safely able to use our site to assist her after her long hospitalisation having suffered a stroke and brain tumour operations enabling her to make good progress with her recovery.



Covid regulations prevent us from using our new community hall and we are not yet able to provide the café facilities for visitors along with the exciting plans to use our new hall to enrich the lives of residents and help alleviate loneliness and isolation.

Nevertheless, we are greatly encouraged by the popularity of our site which has increased our volunteer force and attracted younger community members to our committee. We look forward to early summer 2021 when perhaps Covid regulations will then be lifted sufficiently to enable us to have a Grand Opening of our new village hall. Pilling residents and visitors will then benefit from our long awaited modern facilities which we hope will significantly enrich the lives of all.

Pilling Village Hall



HIRE CHARGES

These rates apply from 31 March 2021

PLEASE NOTE: All bookings must include set-up and clear-up time.

CHARGE PERIOD	MAIN HALL	MEETING ROOM	COMMENTS
Session Rate	£60	£30	Sessions are morning, afternoon or evening with actual times agreed when a booking is made.
Hour Rate	£20	£10	
Full Day Rate	£150	£75	09.00 & 23.00 but may be modified by arrangement.
Kitchen	Shared use	Shared Use	Use of the Kitchen is subject to agreement and included in the Hire Charge.
Bar	By Arrangement	By Arrangement	

We aim to be as accommodating as possible to provide a great venue for hirers of Pilling Village Hall.

Please contact our contact on 790649 to discuss your requirements, particularly, if you are planning a special event, party or looking for a regular block booking. Alternatively, e-mail KatrinaMBell@hotmail.com outlining details of your event and contact details.

PILLING VILLAGE HALL - Opens its doors

It's been so long since any events have been held in Pilling that we were unsure whether anyone would turn up to the opening of the new Pilling Village Hall, but we couldn't have been more wrong. Over the weekend of 5th and 6th June, more than 600 visitors came through the doors to take their first look at our facilities. There were gasps of amazement and even a few tears as people wandered through the building, looking into the meeting room, the stage, main hall and even taking a peak in the toilets. Many commented on the modern facilities, the much-improved kitchen, spacious main hall and of course, the bar.

In the hall, there were displays asking for comments and suggestions for events and classes which could be held there. People have asked for a wide variety of activities including fitness classes, bingo nights, dominoes and musical events. There were displays from Pilling Drama group and Pilling Dog field, Pilling Band and an enormous "What's On" board with details of local groups and organisations which meet regularly. This was particularly useful for our new residents who have not experienced life in Pilling before Covid.

Refreshments were served in true Pilling style- delicious, generous and with a smile. There were bacon butties in the morning, pork pies for lunch and afternoon teas later in the day. Our thanks go to everyone who provided the wonderful refreshments, including individuals, families and local businesses. We raised valuable funds for the new hall which will be ploughed back into improving facilities.

The whole atmosphere of the weekend was very positive and after the year we have just had, its great to think that we are making the first cautious steps towards resuming village life with our superb new Village Hall at the very centre of recovery.

News from

Pilling Pickers.....The Great British Clean UpBest kept Village Competition

Over the last year outdoor spaces and places have mattered to us more than ever, so Pilling Parish Council will be getting behind this year's Great British Spring Clean, run by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.



We already have an enthusiastic group of **Pilling Pickers** who keep our village looking good. They give a couple of hours a week to do this adding up to an amazing 144 hours over the next 10 weeks !!!!
BUT they could do with your help to make sure our village looks its best.

You can help by:

Keeping your garden looking tidy and cared for.

Picking up litter

Giving a hand to anyone who needs help.

This will encourage us all to take pride in where we live and make life better us all.

The village has also entered **the Best Kept Village Competition**

From June 1st until the end of August judges from the competition will be visiting the village. The judges will be looking at commercial, public and private buildings and awarding points for places that are well kept.

With just a little time this year you can help to make a positive difference in the village

Sewage and drainage Problems

Pilling Councillors remain frustrated at the lack of positive action by United Utilities on the sewage pipes in the village.

Damside

14 months on and **NO FURTHER ON** after wasting thousands of pounds and **18** no digs and some of them **TWICE** and all we are left with is no working sewer and a road surface which is sinking and floods.



We've had road closures, traffic lights and disruption for **10** months and now we have a tanker that draws off the man-hole outside residential properties at least once a day every day sometimes at 7-20 am, some days he draws off **14** loads and if he doesn't show we have sewage running down the road into a grid and then into the main water course polluting the River Broadfleet.

A quip by a United Utilities employee said "well it is diluted". It should have been sorted for Christmas even if United Utilities had to lay a new sewer and if that is the case all the money, materials labour and stress to us has been wasted.

On 8th April, Lancashire County Council filled in a depression at Damside; this put further pressure on the road surface and has since collapsed in to a cavernous hole under the road with a six feet drop. Lancashire County Council is protecting the very dangerous surface hole, but the full extent of the washed out foundations are not known.

SMALLWOOD HEY ROAD

A resident on Smallwood Hey Road reported that when it rains hard his drains back up sewage runs from the manhole on his drive the drains back up so bad he's had to lift the airbricks to stop sewage getting under the floor boards brick up the garage doors to stop the sewage getting in so he can't put his car in, they know when it rains hard that the toilets back up and can't be used. United Utilities has been out a few times and washed the drive down for him, in 2021 this is not fair and needs to be sorted.

PILLING TREATMENT WORKS

The treatment works was out of action recently resulting many of the sewers being pumped out into the fleet of heavily laden tankers using our country roads.

MOSS HOUSE LANE

The tankers used by United Utilities to pump out are too large for Moss House Lane, this is a single track road with no-where to pass or turn at its end, other than in residents drives.

SCHOOL LANE

Whilst residents are more than pleased when United Utilities lined the pipes from the school to the Old Ship; those in front of Pilling Pottery remain a constant problem. The road continues to sink taking the pavement with it and pedestrians get soaked from vehicle spray when it rains. There is a bus stop here, but users can't stand at the bus stop, as it is under water! The Parish Council is aware that Pilling Pottery themselves report problems on a regular basis.

The Parish Council knows United Utilities is aware of the situation in Pilling and are waiting for positive action soon!



Reporting Problems

Reporting problems with Watercourses

Environment Agency hotline: 088 80 70 60 goes to division to act on.

United Utilities Leakline

0800 33 00 33

United Utilities Floodline

When sewers are overtopping

0345 6723 723

Pilling Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Gillian Benson

RESIDENTS SURGERIES IN PILLING
Pilling Village Hall
Monday afternoons and
Wednesday mornings

Reporting potholes, street lighting, gullies etc.

Please use:

<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/fault-search.aspx>

Phone: 01995 600689

E-mail: clerk@pillingparish.org.uk

Report speeding complaints directly to the Police

to www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk where you then simply need to follow directions from the 'Contacts' link.

OUR Lancashire

Our Lancashire is the Lancashire wide initiative to bring groups and communities together to make Lancashire a greater place to live work and play.

Supported by public services and organisations across Lancashire this is the one stop shop for groups and events.

Lancashire Police are using this site to network with groups and communities. This includes promoting our In The Know messaging service.

Please could Councillors explore the site and also spread the word!

More info at www.ourlancashire.org.uk

The link to report CoVID19 Breaches is as follows:

https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/covid19/Create?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=SocialSignIn

Pavements are for PEOPLE



Please park safely and show you care.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown



[This Photo](#) by Un-



*If you do park on the pavement then.....
we can't get by.*

So please think before you park.

Thank you

PILLING VILLAGE HALL

Buy A Brick

A (virtual) brick costs £20 and your name will be included on the "Donor Wall of Thanks." Consider buying bricks for members of your family or with the name of your business on.

Paying for your Brick

You can pay by cheque, made payable to Pilling Memorial Hall. Please return cheques to Katrina Bell, Stonewell, School Lane, Pilling, PR3 6HB

You can make payments through the bank;

Account name Pilling Memorial Hall Sort Code 01 03 33

Account Number 132 78002

Account held at Nat West Garstang. Please use your name/business name as a reference.

You can pay by cash, using the envelope provided. Return to the above addresses.



Brick Details

Make sure you include details you would like on your brick (business name, family name, individuals) We want to get the spellings correct!

I would like to help build a New Community Hall and "Buy A Brick" knowing that my donation will go in full towards the building of the new Community Hall.

Name:

Contact:

I enclose: for brick/s

Please fill in the following form if you are a tax payer

I'm a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid my donation to Pilling Memorial Hall (Registered Charity No. 515897).

Signed:

Address:

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