

Pilling Parish Council

Summer, 2019

From the Chairman

The role of a parish councillor as a representative of parishioners and a developer of facilities for those people is by nature cyclical, the same things keep coming around, sometimes due to the need for refreshment and sometimes because those things have not been done to the required standard in the first place.

The much awaited resurfacing of School Lane and Garstang Road took place during the year and while the work has been appreciated, we are aware that there are other roads in the parish that are in great need of work.



The police presence in the village continues to be low, although the introduction of a second ANPR camera in Eagland Hill, will, we hope, provide a more secure environment.

Water is also an ongoing problem in the village and while there has been some work completed which has created better water flow in some areas, it is still lacking in the detail that we would wish to see. The forming of a Flood Action Group should provide an impetus for action whenever there is a danger of flooding. As in all cases though, prevention is better than cure.

The new community hall development proceeds to take shape, plans have been drawn up and building is expected to start before the end of the year. Even without a hall the field continues to gain support collecting two awards during the year. A celebration evening was held to thank those who had worked so hard to bring about these awards.

It is ironic in that in trying to improve facilities for parishioners, sometimes these are short lived. A bus shelter erected by the Elletson Arms did not last long before it was demolished by an unknown driver. Indeed the council is diligent in examining locations in the village where possible traffic difficulties could arise, particularly those near to new developments. As in many cases local knowledge is of great importance, although sadly this is not always taken note of.



The year has also seen the retirement of our lengthsman Graham and the employment of his successor Stan. We thank Graham for his efforts over the years and wish him well in retirement. Stan has quickly found his feet in the village and in addition to his lengthsman duties has taken on the role of co-ordinator of the Northwest in Bloom project. It is a sad reflection though, that on one day he collected over 30 bags of rubbish from the Garstang Road area, we all have a responsibility to look after our village.



The unique character of Pilling is something that we would wish to continue, the round of activities and celebrations mark the village out as a special place. It is our duty and our desire to maintain this pleasant atmosphere and I am grateful for the support of my fellow councillors, our lengthsman Stan and our clerk Gillian in all of this.

John Savage
Chairman, Pilling Parish Council.

Vacancy in the office of Parish Councillor

Can you make a difference to your community in Pilling?
Pilling Parish Council is seeking residents to become councillors. Councillors are not employees; they are elected or co-opted representatives who volunteer their time for free to work on behalf of their communities. As a Councillor you will engage with the local community and keep up to date with issues of local concern, provide a voice for all section of the community, mediate between individuals and organisations, campaigning on behalf of the Parish Council and residents and manage public funds, whilst seeking best value. There is a legal requirement to attend Parish Council meeting and abide by the Code of Conduct.

If this is you please contact a Parish Councillor or the clerk.

Reporting potholes

Lancashire County Council is to resurface Horse Park Lane, Bone Hill Lane and assess Woods Lane as to its surface, however, the Parish Council is well aware of the state of Smallwood Hey Road and continue to push for re-surfacing.

Should residents see potholes, street lighting or other highway problems please report them at:

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

Pilling's New Community Hall

We have received tenders for the building of our new Community Hall which we hope will begin this summer. Our intention is to meet prospective contractors to seek some pruning of the proposed costings but it likely that the cost will still exceed the funds we have available.

A concentrated appeal for additional funds to bridge that gap is about to be launched so that we can go ahead without delay. We will be inviting all residents, businesses and organisations to help us with this, perhaps by buying a brick, sponsoring, donating, fund raising, volunteering or in any other way.

We have already secured funding of approx. £830,000 via pledges, grants and events and the gap is likely to be less than £100,000 so any contribution from whatever source would be very welcome. Please lookout for opportunities to help and if you are able to contribute in any way now is the time to come forward.

Our hope is that during 2020 we will be opening our new hall along with sports changing rooms and our site will then be superbly equipped to provide social, leisure and recreational facilities for all.

We are well along the way and now need that final spurt to bring all this to fruition. How can you help?

Play Area, School Lane

The Parish Council reported the state of the wet pour surface on the play area in the Village to Wyre Council. There is a gap between the surface and the wooden boards, which was reported two years ago. Wyre Council is working its way through the many play areas in the district where this problem has occurred and Pilling is the next to be rectified.

Bus Shelter on Taylors Lane



The Parish Council was hoping to provide a bus shelter on Taylors Lane at the junction with Memorial Road for the convenience of residents and had received local support, but, on road and pedestrian safety Lancashire County Council was forced to refuse this location. The Council have secured another location on Taylors Lane on the New Community Field and as this will not impinge on the pavement, County has agreed. The Parish Council is liaising with the committee as to the exact location away from any potential ground works when work begins on the new hall.

Financial Matters

The Parish Council is responsible for the proper accounting records, safeguarding the assets and taking steps to prevent fraud and other irregularities. There are accounting policies and procedures in place to mitigate exposure to major risk, which are reviewed annually. The Councillors believe they make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates. The accounts are a matter of public information and can be viewed by residents at any time.

Receipts and Payments Account for Pilling Parish Council Ending 31st March, 2019

Receipts	2018 - 2019		Payments
Wyre Council Precept	56,000.00	42,512.72	Staff Costs
Bank Interest	15.61	14,682.55	Parish Maintenance
Grounds Maintenance	2,672.85	1,345.83	Insurance
VAT Refund	2,624.14	400.00	Audit
Pilling in Bloom	850.00	549.18	Subscriptions
Other Receipts	15.41	3,892.35	Administration
Eagland Hill ANPR	5,914.67	959.16	Pilling in Bloom
Senior Citizens' Christmas Party	633.20	557.96	Senior Citizens' Christmas Party
Clothing Donations	580.00	485.25	Pilling News
Moon's Trust	1,000.00	3,286.17	VAT to reclaim
		115.00	Christmas Tree
		87.00	Training
		20,962.50	Donations
Total Receipts	£70,305.88	89,835.67	Total Payments

Pilling Parish Council will carry forward a balance of £3,643.41 to begin this year. The Audit compliance papers are available to view at www.pillingparish.or.uk

The accounts are scheduled for external auditing in July, 2019

A Year for Wildflowers

Pilling has designated 2019 to be the "Year of the Wildflower" on the New Community Field as part of our commitment to increasing the biodiversity of the area.

Preparations began in late Autumn when 1000 native daffodil bulbs were planted, along with early flowering crocus bulbs which are a source of nectar for bees and other insects. In January and February the call went out asking for wildflower foster parents to grow wildflower seeds as plug plants ready to be transplanted on the field when they were big enough. The seeds have been provided by *Grow Wild*, a national wildflower charity.

The response was very good with many people in Pilling taking on the challenge of growing the seeds. Each had their own preferred method, from small pots on the bedroom windowsill to vast numbers of trays in greenhouses and gardens around Pilling. Some used the finest potting compost, while others chose to make use of poorer quality garden soil. The variety of methods meant that plants were ready at different times. This suited the project and allowed us to plant in different conditions thus allowing the maximum success rate. In all over 50 trays of plug plants were planted on a 30 metre banking which had been chosen because the soil was poor and therefore perfect to establish the wildflower site.

Unfortunately we had a spell of very dry weather just after planting and so we began a period of watering every day until the rain returned. Thanks go to our Parish Lengthsman, Stan, for helping to provide water on the field as it was very difficult to maintain the daily runs by car with watering cans! We are now in June and the wildflowers seem to be establishing well. The Brownies are taking on the challenge of planting yet more flowers and revitalising the nearby bug hotel in order to attract more insects. They are also keen to develop a wayside library near the site to encourage human visitors! We hope to include books about wildlife and flowers in particular.

Thanks go to the many growers of Pilling who have helped and are continuing to do so.

Pilling Parish Council

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month in St. John's Church Hall, School Lane, at 7.00pm and residents are more than welcome to attend. If you wish to raise matters between meetings the clerk holds Residents Surgeries in St. John's Church Hall on Monday afternoons and Wednesday mornings, or you can contact a Pilling Councillor below;

Pilling Parish Councillors

Mr. John C. Savage (Chairman)

Rivendell, Taylors Lane,
Tel. 790707

Mr. John Barton,

Bone Hill Farm, Bone Hill Lane
Tel. 790657

Mrs. Elizabeth Cookson

Wyndale, Lancaster Road
Tel. 790537

Mr. Neil Cookson,

Copper Garth, Smallwood Hey Road
Tel. 790875

Mr. Graham C. Curwen,

Carr Holm, Fluke Hall Lane
Tel. 790502

Mr. Edward Moorat

1, Stakepool Drive
Tel. 790464

Mr. Paul McWhirter

Arndale, Wheel Lane
Tel. 790995

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10th July. Meetings start at 7.00pm in St. John's Church Hall, School Lane and all residents are welcome to attend.

Wyre Borough Councillor for Pilling and Winmarleigh

Mr. Graham Holden

Hy-Fly Game Hatcheries, Pilling Lane, Preesall FY6 0HH

Tel: 810307

County Councillor for Wyre Rural Central

Matthew Salter,

29, Woburn Way, Cloughton-On-Brock, Garstang 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

Pilling in Bloom

Stan, our Parish Lengthsman has put his heart and soul into re-invigorating Pilling's entry to North West in Bloom, 2019.

But he couldn't have done this community task without the invaluable help from local residents and businesses. It has taken many hands to plant up the beds, machinery, displays and barrels which are located around Pilling. Importantly all this hard work takes sponsorship and we are grateful to businesses who have contributed including; Glenfield Caravan Park, Wyresdale Concrete, Fold House Caravan Park, RFM Accountancy, Pilling Pet Shop, C and C Supplies, S J Huck and Son, Pilling Parish Council and Wyre Council.

Plants were purchased from Cleggs Nurseries of Stalmine and are all in place and growing well. If residents notice loose plants or perhaps some on the ground we ask you to replant them and give them a chance to flourish in Pilling

Floral displays have been cleaned, weeded and some include major extensions. The verge near to the Old Ship Inn now has two newly constructed planting beds, a spruced up potato spinner and new bench to sit awhile and enjoy the relative quiet of a rural village. The Lancashire cheese press has two further tubs to increase the planting areas.

Displays include the Sensory Garden on School Lane; the perennials have been added to with wildflower seeds to encourage our native insects and edged with bedding on to the roadside.

Bradshaw Lane corner reflects Pilling Station on the Knott End line with one of the original station trolleys. There is a low trough outside the bungalows on Smallwood Hey and the grounds at St. John's Church are carefully tended. The seed drill and barrels at Bodkin Hall has been sponsored by RFM Accountancy.

Judging will take place this year on Monday 1st July, a little earlier so as to include both our primary schools before their summer holidays. The street sweeper is ordered for the day and residents are asked to pick up any litter together we will show the North West in Bloom judges

Coffee Pilling Feast



**27th July
At 2pm**

Grand parade with Pilling Band

**Morris Dancing Barbeque Games
Disco
Classic Cars Afternoon Tea Bar
Sports**

Please come along and support this wonderful village event on the Community Field, Taylor's Lane

This year there will be no door to door collections around the village.

Instead you can donate towards the event by:

- **Donations through collection boxes in the village shops & pubs**
- **Giving on the day in collecting buckets or the loose change boat**
 - **Online by visiting:**

[Gofundme.com/pillingcoffeefeast](https://www.gofundme.com/pillingcoffeefeast)

We hope to see you all there.