

PILLING ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th APRIL 2015 AT 7.00 PM

AT ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL, FLUKE HALL LANE, PILLING

Present: Councillors; J. Savage, Chairman,
E. Cookson
G. Curwen,
D. Lawrenson,
E. Moorat,
S. Morley,
Mrs. B. Schofield,
W. Whiteside
Gillian Benson, Clerk to the Parish Council
Two residents

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were sent for Cllr. J. Edmondson and Cllr. G. Morris.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting, held on 9th April, 2014, having been circulated were agreed and signed as a true record.

Resolved; The Chairman signed the minutes.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters raised from the minutes.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT APRIL 2015.

With all the different levels of government and the ability of departments to hide behind confusing acronyms it is increasingly necessary that parish and town Councils are **VISIBLE** within their communities.

Voice to represent issues of local concern. Pilling Parish Council holds regular consultations with residents and developers whenever a large scale building plan is lodged to ensure that local views and concerns are able to be expressed and considered. The council has also held a meeting with Regenda (in response to a concern raised by a resident), to clarify their local lettings policy.

Independent and politically neutral. While individual councillors may hold particular political views, these play no part in deliberations and decisions made by the parish council.

Service provider for local people. For a number of years the parish council has employed a lengthsman to enhance the appearance of the village. The results of his work are very pleasing and he is also able to identify any areas of the village that require attention.

Initiator of projects to meet locally identified needs. Pilling is an isolated community and there are times when emergency services are not able to respond as quickly as the occasion demands. The response to the appeal for funds to purchase a defibrillator has been amazing and has meant that four units will be purchased and sited in different areas of the parish. The memorial hall and land has now been sold and a 17 acre field purchased nearby. Funding applications to build a new hall can now proceed in earnest. The new hall and the sporting facilities sited on the field will provide for the needs of many different sections of the community.

Builder of partnerships with other councils, bodies and organisations. The parish council has representation on many different bodies, providing an exchange of ideas and opportunities for working together.

Local network joining people and organisations. Pilling Parish Council is pleased to be involved in so many of the village celebrations from the Coffee Feast to the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights and the organisation and hosting of the Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

Engaging local people to become active in the community. Over the past few years, the parish council has held meeting with arrange of different bodies to discuss problems within the parish (usually related to water). Increasingly there has been involvement from local landowners and residents to provide a solution to any problems. The latest suggestion from our MP (a regular attendee at these meetings), was the re-establishment of an Internal Drainage Board. This board if it comes into being will be a benefit to people from a wide range of inter-connected parishes and will contain members of the local community whose specialised knowledge will be critical to the board. This is some of the work of Pilling Parish Council, a **VISIBLE** council, both within the village and in the wider community outside.

The work that the council does could not be done without the support of our parish clerk, Gillian, our lengthsman, Graham and my fellow councillors to whom I express grateful thanks.

Councillor John Savage (Chairman, Pilling Parish Council).

Resolved: The report was accepted.

5. REPORT FROM THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

Responsible Financial Officer, 2015

Pilling Parish Council started with a balance of £38,573 and has completed this financial year with £46,067.56.

Bank balance of £3,605.56 and

Reserve Account of £42,462.00

This is the first year since the withdrawal of the Rural Grant and to soften the blow the precept was increased over two years not to damage services to the village. The Parish Council investment of the working capital into the Reserve Account saw an interest of £608.62 this year against the pence the bank is paying.

The income of £9,000 is slightly down on last year and reflects the reduction of the Lancashire County Council grass cutting contract and one of the contractors' outstanding invoice, although Catterall Parish Council has engaged our Parish Lengthsman in a number of their schemes and paid costs.

Pilling in Bloom secured increased grants totalling £1,200 through Wyre in Bloom, the Moons Trust and Village donations, carrying out the wonderful planting schemes and thanks should be extended to those who sourced, planted and care for these floral displays. To add to the displays, Pilling in Bloom has received four self watering tubs from the Blue Bell development and £500 towards floral displays for the coming season.

The Senior Citizens' Christmas Party was again entirely supported financially through donations and fundraising events, although this was somewhat down on previous years. However the account carries £460 towards this year's festivities, having settled all outstanding costs.

Donations have included £1,200 towards the provision of defibrillators in the Village and thanks must go to Cllr. Moorat for organising and running with this very worth while project, plus £300 from the Parish Champion for the setting up of a new Web Site for Pilling Parish.

The expenditure on staff costs has slightly increased due to recalculations by the pension provider and correction of the clerk's additional voluntary pension payments. The costs of

equipment and parish maintenance are up slightly as repairs are carried out. Subscriptions costs reduced and include Lancashire Association of Local Councils, Parish Lengthsman workshop, Pilling's Web Site and Broadfleet Sensory Garden. The Parish Lengthsman has received 'Working on the Road' Training this year at Lancashire County Council.

Pilling in Bloom has increased its costs, but well within its account, to produce the many floral displays and the Parish Lengthsman is maintaining the sites and watering through the Summer months with the water barrels and pump recently purchased.

The Parish Council supports the relocation of the Memorial Hall to the new site and gave a grant of £2,000 to assist with legal costs. A community grant of £200 was given to a young resident to assist in her volunteering work abroad and a grant to pay for the two way radios to be used by Pilling Coffee Feast to ensure traffic and crowd safety was made.

Both the Clerk and the Parish Lengthsman have been re-located into St. John's Church Hall and this will incur costs, plus the monthly meetings will now take place in St. John's School
Resolved: The report was accepted.

6. REPORTS

Report of the County Councillor

County Councillors Viv Taylor sent a report; Lancashire County Council has carried out the following works in Pilling during the past 12 months:

In addition to the social health care delivered to a number of Pilling residents, the delivery of young people's activities, full educational support/funding for Pilling Infants Schools.

Lancashire County Council Highways works include:

- Resurfacing of a 500m section of the C436 Garstang Road, from the junction of the A588 at the Elletsons Arms.
- Reduction of the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on Taylors Lane, and following initial consultation with the Parish, it is proposed to advertise a reduction in speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on the A588 through Pilling village.
- All the Traffic Regulation Orders for school "Keep Clears" in Wyre were sealed, which includes Pilling.
- Flood / drainage works throughout Pilling village.

There were also general remedial repairs to pot holes and actionable defects, identified by Lancashire County Council's inspection regime, and/or reported to us by members of the public.

Report of the Wyre Councillor

Cllr. D. Lawrenson reported that he would not be standing again at this election having served on Wyre Council for 26 years.

Resolved: The Councillor was thanked for the report.

Memorial Hall Committee and Pilling 20 20

Pilling Memorial Hall continued to function in March working with the developers to close its doors before 31st March, 2015. This is due to the pressure put on Regenda by the Government funding for affordable housing schemes. MCI will complete the footpath and entrance to the new hall site before the housing development and replicate the play area on the new site. The Memorial Hall is to lay down a car park surface on the new site. All the present users of the hall have found alternatives locally.

The last activity was a nostalgic afternoon with photographs, memorabilia and personal memories. Most of the contents have been sold or moved out and the Pilling 20 20 Committee is looking to source funding. The hall has been surrounded by Heras fencing,

but the demolition has been stopped due to asbestos. The Parish Lengthsman continues to mow the playing field and this is covered by the developers insurance.

Pilling In Bloom

Pilling in Bloom won a silver gilt last year, the finances are in a good condition and tubs are to be purchased with the Moons Trust grant, these will add to the donation of three large tubs by Partners, who built Poppyfield Way. Peter Richardson jr. is to construct frames for the new tubs and an obelisk for the village. Thanks were extended to Margery Melling and Ken Danson for helping

Over Wyre Road Safety Committee

Whilst Karen Cassar, Lancashire County Council, was definitely getting things done, the Committee has just been informed that senior officers will not longer be available for evening meetings and this could mark the end of the committee.

Carters Charity

Money is still invested and could be re-invested shortly to attract better investments, but it can be offered to St. John’s School should they suggest a project.

Wyre Area Road Safety Committee

The representative feared the end to the committee as Lancashire County Council is withdrawing support by not attending the meetings and so Councillors have no direct means to speak to County officers.

Wyre Area Lancashire Association of Local Councils

The area association continues to try and discuss with Garry Payne, Wyre Council to agree on a Parish Charter to assist partnership working. The Police presence in Over Wyre has dwindled to four officers, with back up from either Fleetwood or Lancaster. Lancashire County Council will not be attending future meetings, although the highway programme was discussed at the last meeting.

8. MATTERS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

State of the roads through Pilling

The resident raised the state of the roads in particular Broadfleet Bridge, Smallwood Hey Road and through Eagland Hill. Pilling has raised this problem many times to Lancashire County Council stating public safety and would be pleased to attend a site meeting to work with County to share responsibility. When the potholes on the bridge were last reported they were not deemed deep enough to fill!!

Tayban Site

A resident asked about progress on the planning application on the site, it is known that outline planning permission has been granted, but no further applications have been submitted. Jane Ferguson, Wyre Council, has recommended that 106 monies from the site should be spent on the new community hall site to provide play facilities.

Date of the next meeting.

The next annual meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, 13th April, 2016, in St. John’s School , Fluke Hall Lane, Pilling.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05p.m.

Date

Chairman