

# Pilling Parish Newsletter

AUTUMN 2023

OCTOBER

## From the Chairman.

As this is my first Chairman's Report I'd like to start by acknowledging what a honour it is to have been selected, especially being Pilling born and bred. I will also take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Cllr. John Savage, who was Chairman for the last 18 years. John has stepped down as Chair, but will be present to advise and guide.

I would also like to welcome our two new members Cllr. Mrs. Sarah Collinge and Cllr. Scott Irvine, who have replaced the late John Barton and Eddie Moorat.

The proposed quarry on Bourbles Lane, Preesall is our biggest current issue, we have sent a detailed objection to Lancashire County Council opposing the plan, outlining our reasons and concerns for Pilling residents.

Another large scale development is a solar farm off Skitham Lane, planning is still to be applied for but we have given support for the proposed plan.

We have held meetings with the Deputy Crime Commissioner, Andy Pratt and the local PCSO, Denise Creighton, with a view to addressing residents concerns regarding crime and disorder.

Again this year the work of Stan, our Parish Lengthsman and his local volunteers have been recognised by Wyre Council and North West in Bloom and an award will be presented in October in Bolton.

It has been good to see a number of residents attending our meetings to discuss issues affecting our community and how we can help them or put them in contact with the parties who can.

Various Councillors are liaising on your behalf with United Utilities and the Environment Agency regarding on-going issues with flooding and with Lancashire County Council with the state of our roads.

I would encourage you to contact any Councillor to discuss issues you wish to be raised at our meetings or contact the Parish Clerk, Gillian Benson.

Neil Cookson, Chairman to Pilling Parish Council

## New Bus Service 88 Lancaster–Cockerham–Garstang–Pilling–Knott End

New Service 88 began on 27th August, between Lancaster and Knott End via Garstang, to operate in conjunction with existing Service 89 between Lancaster and Knott End, enhancing the overall service frequency across much of the route. The combined Monday to Saturday service frequency will operate approximately hourly across the end-to-end route, with the unique sections approximately two-hourly. A new Sunday & Bank Holiday two hourly daytime service will also be introduced.

Certain new Service 88 journeys will additionally serve Garstang Academy on schooldays, replacing School Service 813 and partially replacing School Service 509 to improve sustainability by incorporating those duplicated sections of route.

Leaflet available at [www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport/bus-timetables/bus-timetable-service/?service=LAAO088](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/public-transport/bus-timetables/bus-timetable-service/?service=LAAO088)

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Solar Farm in Eagland Hill
- ◆ Lane Ends Amenity Area
- ◆ Pilling Village Hall
- ◆ Pilling Community Action
- ◆ Unadopted roads

## The Role of Pilling Parish Council

There are three tiers of local government with areas of responsibility in Pilling:

- Lancashire County Council
- Wyre Borough Council
- Pilling Parish Council

### What is a Parish or Town Council?

'Parish and town councils are the foundation of local government. They are the level of government closest to the people and have a vital role to play in improving local quality of life. They can influence decisions that affect local people, help bring life to local communities and offer a way of making sure services meet the needs of residents'.  
*Parish and Town Council Charter in November 2008*

Parish councils were formed in 1894 and are the smallest area of civil administration in England. They are the level of local government closest to the people. Councillors serve for a maximum period of four years.

### Parish & Town Councils Role in the Community?

Parish councils have a wide range of duties and powers. A council may resolve to call itself a town council if it so wishes. Councils must be given the power by law before they can act. They are led by the chairman and advised by the clerk. Meetings are open to the public. Time is allowed for residents to give their views and ask questions. Meetings are held mostly in the evening. A good council listens to its electors and represents their views. It also works in partnership with other authorities and various organisations to bring benefit to the parish/town. Councillors must sign a declaration of acceptance of office upon election and must agree to the Code of Conduct before they may act as a councillor. Money for projects is raised from local taxation (precept) and from grants. That money is spent wholly within the parish/town and will add value to the services provided by the principal authorities.

### Pilling Parish Council

Ten local people serve as Councillors on the Parish Council. They are all volunteers and receive no pay for the work they do on behalf of the Parish. Elections to serve as a Parish Councillor are held every four years, unless there is a resignation when the casual vacancy is advertised on the notice boards and the Parish Newsletter.

An important part of the role of the Parish Council is to represent the views of the Parish in response to various public consultations.

## Walking in Pilling



**We are putting together some information about the many walks on Public Right of Ways in the village. Some are well known but others are unknown or used infrequently.**

**If you have a favourite walk and would like to share it with a simple map, please contact any member of the Parish Council or the clerk, Gillian.**

# Dog Attacks in Pilling

A number of dog problems were reported to Pilling Parish Council, the advice is to contact Wyre Council , who has a dedicated dog warden.

“ Any dog straying in Wyre, or any dog on attack in Wyre should be reported to the dog enforcement team contact number 01253 891000. There is also further advice if required on the Wyre Council website.

Any person who feels threatened OR is indeed attacked by a dog should report the matter to the police on either 101 or 999 as appropriate “



## Applying for a donation from Pilling Parish Council

The Parish Council budgets to allow for small donations for events, projects or activities which will benefit Pilling residents. The organisation requesting a donation must be a non-profit making local voluntary organisation where membership is open to all residents. Individuals may apply if the purpose of the request will directly benefit Pilling residents.

The Parish Council may also make a donation to one national organisation each year without the organisation making a request.

All donations will be at the discretion of the Council.

## Criteria

Pilling Parish Council will consider applications for donations in situations:

- \* Where there is no other way of obtaining the relevant funds;
- \* The funds will enable the relevant local group or local organisation to access or “unlock” funds or assistance from third parties; and
- \* Monies have been donated or raised but these are insufficient and funds are needed to bridge the resulting gap.

## Applications

All applications for donations need to be made in writing to the Clerk to the Council who will arrange for those applications which meet the Council's criteria to be considered at the next meeting of the Council. Successful applicants will be notified in writing and asked to provide details to whom payment should be made. Successful applicants will be required to acknowledge receipt of the payment in writing and asked to provide a short written report on their activities to the parish council in cases where there is no parish council representation on the group or organisation.

# PILLING COMMUNITY ACTION



This summer we made a fabulous set of flags to be displayed at this year's Coffee Feast and more events in the future at the Village Hall.

We were inspired to create a **River of Hope**

The flags were created by people in the village, children at St John's school and Guides. They responded to the questions What inspires you? What hopes do you have for the future?

We worked with local artist Lindsay Phoenix Hart using repurposed fabrics, paint and used different sewing techniques. None of us had any experience of making flags but we had loads of enthusiasm!



We've also had an interesting '**Bird Watch**' morning with David Whiteside, a local expert. The Village Hall field is home to many birds and well worth a look. We spotted Dunnocks, Linnets and Wrens to name just a few.

We will be starting our own **Pilling Singing group** from Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 1.30 to 3pm in the Village Hall. It'll be good fun and is open to anyone who wants to sing, and no musical knowledge is needed.

More information on our Facebook page **pilling community action** and in the Village Hall. Or contact Judy 07517396313

# D-Day Afternoon Tea

Next year Pilling Parish Council will be holding a D-Day Afternoon Tea to mark the 80th anniversary of the Normandy landings on Wednesday 5th June

Pilling Parish Council invite all residents who are 60 years old and older to attend our

D-Day Afternoon Tea to be held in

**Pilling Village Hall on Wednesday 5th June 2023**

**starting at 2pm.**

The Red Rosettes will entertain us through the afternoon.

The bar will be open thanks to the Village Hall Committee.

**Celebrate a pleasant afternoon with the Parish Council**

**There are no formal invitations so please treat this announcement as your ticket**

**Cosy Homes in Lancashire**

**HUG & A MUG WARM NATTERS**

**Drop in at Pilling Village Hall on**

**Tuesday 31st October 10am to 1pm**

Cosy Homes in Lancashire is the Affordable Warmth initiative set up by 14 Local Authorities in Lancashire. We have funding to make your home warm and cosy and can offer the following: .. and so much more including small energy saving measures and home energy advice. As this is a Local Authority scheme extra help is available every step of the way to give you that extra bit of peace of mind.

Come along for a natter, cake and a brew and meet our friendly team for a chat and refreshments.

- Solid Wall Insulation
- Loft Insulation
- Room in Roof Insulation
- Underfloor Insulation
- Air Source Heat Pumps
- High Heat Retention Storage Heaters
- Solar PV
- Solar Thermal
- Energy-efficient External Doors
- Single Windows Upgraded to Double Glazed

[www.chil.uk.com](http://www.chil.uk.com)



**D-DAY**  
**1944-2024**

# Lancashire County Council

**Lancashire County Council is responsible for all highway matters in Pilling.**



Please use this QR code to directly report highway faults to Lancashire County Council.

That pothole the car keeps hitting  
The streetlight that's been out or flashing  
Public Rights of Way of which there are many around Pilling.  
Some have footbridges and stiles or way markers

Pilling Parish Council asked which Pilling roads are unadopted. To the best of Lancashire County Council's knowledge the following applies;

- **Pilling Water Close** - The developer has made an initial approach regarding offering the street as highway. At present there is no legal agreement in place however highway adoption is being explored and is currently at the technical approval stage, where design details are examined and confirmed.
- **Gardeners Close** - Private forecourt and parking area unlikely to be constructed to highway specification and serving little in terms of public utility. This road is not suitable for adoption as highway maintainable at public expense.
- **Peahall Lane** - Private access road unlikely to be constructed to highway specification and serving little in terms of public utility. This road is not suitable for adoption as highway maintainable at public expense.
- **Williams Way, off Garstang Road** - the developer made an initial approach to us regarding offering the estate street as highway however, there has been no subsequent progress or information from the developer.
- **Georges Grove** - the developer made an initial approach to us regarding offering the estate street as highway however, there has been no subsequent progress or information from the developer.
- **Field House Lane** - Forms part of public right of way (footpath) listed as 2-21-FP22 and is therefore already highway maintainable at public expense for pedestrian use. The carriageway construction is unlikely to comply with current highway standards and carries little in terms of public utility. This road is not suitable for adoption as a vehicular highway maintainable at public expense.
- **Poppy Field Way** - There is no record of any approach from the developer offering street for adoption.
- **Blue Bell Close** - There is no record of any approach from the developer offering street for adoption.
- **Holme Close, off Smallwood Hey Road** - Private access road not constructed to highway specification and serving little in terms of public utility. This road is not suitable for adoption as highway maintainable at public expense.

# Unadopted Pilling Roads

- **Part of Smallwood Hey Road - (cul de sac).** It is not clear where this is but it could refer to Chapel Close or the stub opposite. The stub between the dwellings of Chequers and Westbury forms part of public right of way (footpath) 2-21-FP1a and is therefore already highway maintainable at public expense for pedestrian use. However for vehicular access both Chapel Close and the stub opposite serve little in terms of public utility and therefore do not comply with the County Council's policy for adoption as highway maintainable at public expense.
- **Glenfield Gardens** - Private access road not constructed to highway specification and serving little in terms of public utility. This road is not suitable for adoption as highway maintainable at public expense.
- **Longwood Lane** - Private access road unlikely to be constructed to highway specification and serving little in terms of public utility. This road is not suitable for adoption as highway maintainable at public expense.

Residents of these unadopted roads who require further support or help with highways may wish contact the District Lead Team at [highwaysdistrictlead@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysdistrictlead@lancashire.gov.uk) This allows us to log and investigate your correspondence, take appropriate action and provide a prompt reply.



## Reminder of Highway Code changes

On 3 August, the government launched a campaign to remind road users about the 2022 Highway Code changes that prioritised vulnerable road users.

This has come at the right time as government data revealed that a total of 35,551 pedestrians and cyclists were either killed or injured on the road in 2022.

The 'travel like you know them' campaign aims to raise awareness of the changes.

Here are the changes at a glance:

- \* Other road users should give priority at junctions to people cycling straight ahead and people who are waiting, or already crossing the road
- \* Pass horses and riders at under 20mph and give at least 2 metres of space. Also other road users should pass people walking on the road slowly.
- \* Leave 1.5 meters when overtaking cyclists at speeds of up to 30mph. You should give more space when you're overtaking at higher speeds.
- \* Cyclists can ride 2 a-breast or in the centre of the lane if it's safe to do this. They can move into single file to allow vehicles to overtake.

Although the campaign focuses on everyone who uses the road, its main emphasis is on people who can cause the most harm. In this case it's drivers.

The campaign gives a glimpse at the lives of other road users, like pedestrians and cyclists, and shows how they use the road.

It puts emphasis on drivers to keep cyclists and pedestrians safe on the road by:

- \* Giving them enough space when they pass.
- \* Giving priority to pedestrians crossing at junction.
- \* Encouraging drivers to respect other vulnerable road users and treat them as if they were a friend or family member.

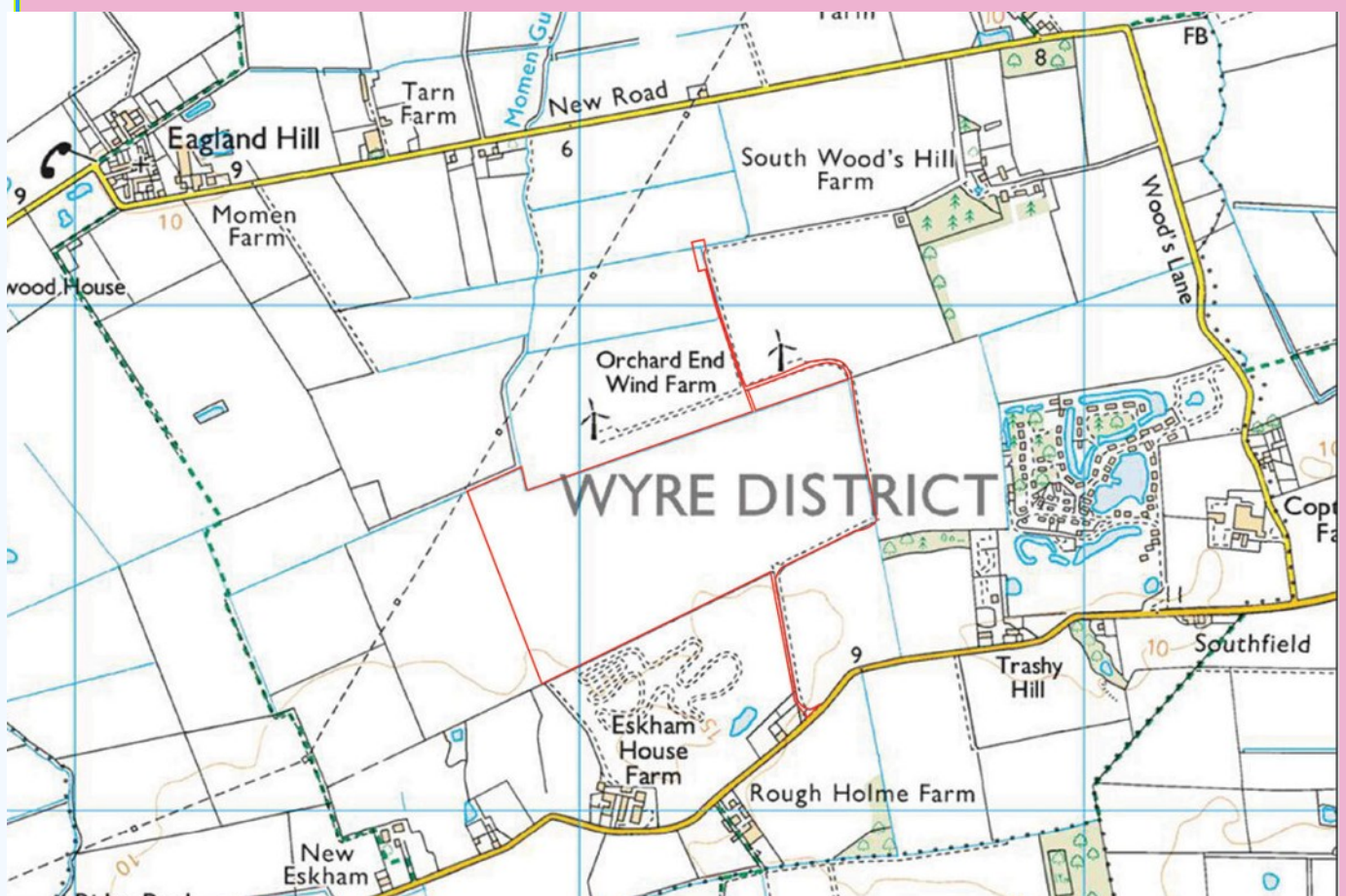
# North Woods Solar Farm, Eagland Hill

## The Proposal

The North Woods Hill Solar Farm will be situated on approximately 26 hectares of agricultural land to the south-east of Eagland Hill, adjacent to the existing Orchard End Wind Farm.

The proposed development will include ground mounted solar panels that are typically up to 3m high, along with associated infrastructure.

The Solar Farm would be in place for a period of 10 years, after which it would be restored back to full agricultural use.



Why has this location been chosen?

- Solar farms need to be close to the existing electricity network in order to supply renewable energy to it. In this case there is an overhead line running close to the site that provides a point of connection.
- We can plant around the site to promote diversity and provide further privacy.
- The site is relatively remote from residential areas and will sit quietly in the landscape.



# Solar and Biodiversity

North Woods Hill Solar Farm would be sensitively designed to work with existing features in the landscape, including the retention of field boundaries and management of the land under the solar panels for biodiversity gains and sheep grazing.

Further information at :  
<https://uk.europeanenergy.com/our-projects/north-woods-hill-solar-farm/>



# Pilling Village Hall

Since opening, in June 2021, Pilling Village Hall has developed into the community hub we hoped it would when we began planning many years ago. We have a core of dedicated trustees and volunteers who continually strive to improve the facilities, extend the range of activities and stage events throughout the year ensuring that the hall is well used. Over the past few months there have been live music events, a very successful fashion show, parties, classes and the Vintage Weekend which attracted people from far afield .

The revenue from these events has been ploughed back into improving facilities including CCTV, car park lighting and kitchen equipment. One particular upgrade has been most welcome.... the new hand driers in the ladies and gents toilets!

The hall is a popular venue for holding fundraising activities including the Macmillan Biggest Coffee Morning in the World and the Christian Aid Big Breakfast. Together they have raised over £1000 to fund their vital work.

The social committee work tirelessly to provide events for all ages including monthly bingo and quiz sessions, a monthly luncheon club, occasional live football screenings, Christmas market and New Years Eve party and many other social events. These are very well supported by our local community and we are gaining a reputation for putting on top quality entertainment. We continue to look to the future and how we can improve. In the coming year we are hoping to further develop the outdoor facilities by making improvements to the playground. In particular, we would like to install a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) so that sport can be played on an all weather pitch throughout the year. We are looking for help with grant applications and fundraising and will be holding a meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm at Pilling Village Hall. If you are interested and want to know more, get in touch with Paul McWhirter (07828236275) or Katrina Bell ( 01253 790649) for more information.

Another area of interest is our local heritage. We would like to form a group of people who are interested in preserving and protecting our local heritage, possibly with a view to making artefacts available to the general public. So if you like local history and want to become involved, please get in touch with Paul McWhirter (07828236275 ) or Katrina Bell (01253 790649). We will hold a meeting on Monday 13th November at Pilling Village Hall at 7pm. Why not come along and see what you can offer. Our Village Hall is a wonderful facility and is run by dedicated volunteers of all ages. There are always opportunities to get involved. Just ask any committee member!

# Pilling Village Hall

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a busy Christmas season of fun and fundraising.

Paul McWhirter, Chairman



## HIRE CHARGES

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 phone 790649 to discuss your requirements, particularly, if your you are planning a special event, party or looking for a regular block booking.  
Alternatively, e-mail [info@pillingvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:info@pillingvillagehall.co.uk) outlining details of your event and contact details

# Pilling in Bloom



This year we have continued to balance the need for attractive and long-lasting displays with a respect for the local environment and to encourage and support wildlife. Our main project has been to repair and replace the raised beds and extend the range of plants in our lovely Sensory Garden on School Lane. This was originally built over the hard surface of the car park to the previous doctor's surgery so a lot of careful planning was needed as the soil is very shallow in some places.

**The Sensory Garden** is a peaceful area to sit and enjoy the view out towards Morecambe Bay. It's also a community area that is well used by everyone. We are very grateful to Stan and Denis who have worked hard to improve this area with new plants, raised beds, clearing and tidying. We've renewed the Herb patch, added edible leaves, fragrant Lavender and added more colourful plants too, there's something to appeal to all the senses.

We aim to make our planting good for nature to thrive and to increase biodiversity. We use peat free compost and followed 'No Mo May' and trimmed roadside verges after May giving early pollinators a food source. We are planting more species that are drought tolerant given the predicted changes to the climate.



We're slowly improving the bank on Back Sands Lane which now has Marsh orchids, Honesty, Californian Poppies, Teasels, Ox Eye daisies, Yellow tansy, pink Campion, Hogweed, Yarrow and different types of grasses. This area is still a work in progress so look out for more wild flowers. The area is cut twice a year, before April and after July, managed this way we hope to increase the variety of plants and support the life cycles of

# Lane Ends Amenity Area

Lane Ends is the responsibility of the Environment Agency. It was taken on as part of the Pilling Embankment Scheme built by the Lancashire River Authority in the 1980's.

The area has recently seen a tidying with much of the overhanging vegetation cut back. The nettles and grasses were proving an unacceptable obstacle putting pedestrian and drivers in conflict when accessing the top car park to enjoy the views over the Lune deeps, the Lakes and Morecambe Bay.

The Environment Agency has allowed a local resident to erect an information plaque telling of the companies, agencies and individuals involved in constructing the Pilling Embankment, greatly needed for protection from rainfall and the tide following the devastating flooding experienced in 1977.

Thanks are extended to Mr. Barton who formally farmed at Sand Villa for gathering the relevant background information for such a detailed and concise board produced by his son -in-law Alan Brown.

The Environment Agency help people and wildlife adapt to climate change and reduce its impacts, including flooding, drought, sea level rise and coastal erosion.

Telephone: 03708 506 506

[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency)



## Floodline:

Telephone (24 hour service)

0345 988 1188

Type talk (for the hard of hearing)

0345 602 6340

0345 602 6340

## Check Broadfleet levels:

<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/5110>



# Reporting Problems

## Dog Fouling

Report directly to Wyre Council

<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/dogs/dog-fouling/1>



Reporting potholes, street lighting, gullies etc.

QR code to download and use on the go.

## 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

## Report speeding complaints directly to the Police

to [www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk](http://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.

More info at [www.ourlancashire.org.uk](http://www.ourlancashire.org.uk)

Pilling Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Gillian Benson

RESIDENTS SURGERIES IN PILLING  
Pilling Village Hall  
All day  
Monday and  
Wednesday

Phone: 07477472526  
E-mail: [clerk@pillingparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@pillingparish.org.uk)

# Christmas Events

## Parish Christmas Tree

Switch-on Monday 4th December at  
7.00pm on the Village Green

Families are invited to take part in this annual occasion when our village tree will be illuminated and sing carols accompanied by Pilling Jubilee Silver Band.

It is always cold at this time of year so wrap up well. Come and celebrate this excellent start to Advent.

There will be a surprise visitor especially for all of us young at heart after the lights switch-On



**St. John the Baptist Church, Pilling**

## Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 25 November, 11.00am to 4.00pm

Sunday 26 November, 12 noon to 4.00pm

Refreshments in the Church Hall each day until 3.00pm

## Christmas Toy Service

Sunday 3rd December 10.30am

All proceeds go to Fylde Coast Women's Aid



Please park safely and show you care.

If you do park on the pavement then pedestrians, those with mobility issues, persons with children, pushchairs or dogs, can't get by.

# Your Pilling Parish Councillors



**Mr. Neil Cookson**, (Chairman)

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

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

Carr Holm, Fluke Hall Lane, PR3 6HA Tel. 790502

**Mrs. Sarah Collinge**,

Bonds Farm, Lancaster Road South.  
PR3 6SQ

Tel. 7916764727

**Mrs. Elizabeth Cookson**

Wyndale, Lancaster Road, PR3 6AU

Tel. 790537

**Mr. Scott Irvine**,

The Oval, School Lane, Pilling. PR3 6AA

Tel. 07542 781208

**Mrs. Judy Judkins**,

Rosenda, School Lane, Pilling. PR3 6HB

Tel. 790919

**Mr. Paul McWhirter**

Arndale, Wheel Lane, Pilling PR3 6HL

Tel: 790995

**Mr. Steve Phillpotts**

Willow Tree Cottage, Lancaster Road South PR3 6SQ

Tel. 799121

**Mr. John C. Savage**

Rivendell, Taylors Lane, PR3 6AB

Tel. 790707

**Mr. Alf Whiteside**,

1, Warbrick Cottage, Damside, Pilling. PR3 6AB

Tel. 790700

**WYRE BOROUGH COUNCILLOR FOR PILLING AND WINMARLEIGH**

**Cllr. Adam Leigh**,

Pool Barn, Ridgy Pool Farm, Skitham Lane Pilling

PR3 6BD Tel: 07475950471

[Adam.Leigh@wyre.gov.uk](mailto:Adam.Leigh@wyre.gov.uk)

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR  
WYRE RURAL CENTRAL**

**Cllr. Matthew Salter**,

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

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR LANCASTER AND FLEETWOOD**

**Cat Smith, MP**

47 Scotforth Road, Lancaster. LA1 4SA

TEL: 0207 219 6001 OR 01253 490 440

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



