

PILLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PILLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY
6th SEPTEMBER 2023 at 7pm**



Present:

Pilling Parish Councillors;

*N. Cookson, Chairman
G. Curwen, Vice Chairman,
Mrs. S. Collinge,
Mrs. E. Cookson,
Mrs. J. Judkins,
P. McWhirter,
S. Phillpotts,
J. Savage
A. Whiteside,
Gillian Benson, Clerk to the Parish Council
Lancashire County Councillor Salter,
Wyre Councillor Leigh
Four residents*

5327. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

5328. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillors asked to declare any interests on agenda matters and reminded that any change in interests must be notified to the clerk within 28 days.

Cllr. G. Curwen, Cllr. P. McWhirter and Cllr. J. Savage declared their interests as members of Pilling Village Hall Committee.

5329. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 9th August 2023 having been circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

5330. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended to allow residents to speak.

Wyre Councillor Adam Leigh

Flooding matters at Eagland Hill are ongoing, Lancashire County Council is aware of the situation. No source of the standing water has been identified and no gullies are blocked.

Lancashire County Councillor Matthew Salter

Cllr. Salter will be lobbying Lancashire County Council as to opinion in surrounding areas of the proposed excavations in Preesall, the quality and quantity of public opinion will inform Lancashire County Councillors decision. He is opposed to the excavation. Cllr. Salter is taking up matters on Eagland Hill with Lancashire County Council, but a long investment is expected. The new bus service 89 started on 27th August, this serves Pilling to Garstang and Skitham Lane.

The speed camera on A588 near to Back Sands Lane are causing drivers to use Pilling village therefore avoiding them but causing problems with residents. Cllr. Salter replied the camera positions have been determined by the Police, he will report back to County.

St. Williams Place

Residents stated on 7th August the drains on site were inspected, but the road surface tarmac was held up due to United Utilities not adopting these drains and until this happens the road will not be adopted. Wyre Councillor Leigh will pursue the matter in Wyre.

Proposed Excavation in Preesall

Residents raised the leafleting of the local area with opposition information. The proposed bunds will direct the winds up and over the surrounding area but will cause more problems in Pilling. Pilling has two primary schools and transports teenage children to St. Aidens. Preesall Action have found a dust emission expert to question submitted proposals and engaged a noise pollution company. A hydrological survey is to be done looking at impact on dykes, plus a traffic survey.

Visit from Dan Whitney from European Energy, for North Woods Solar Farm.

Dan Whitney, plan consultation and Mark Weller, development consultant work for European Energy, who are looking to erect a solar farm off Skitham Lane. Residents within a 2-mile area around the proposed site were leafleted. Sufficient energy will be produced to supply 6,000 homes per year. The site was chosen due to its point of supply connection north running overhead allowing for a large solar farm and flat land makes it suitable. Planning should take about one year with construction being 6 months. Jobs will be created during construction with local sourcing to services. An environment management plan will minimise the impact, there will be no noise, dust or emissions during operation and fortnightly checks will be carried out.

Funding sources include banks and other funders to carryout construction and operation. There is a dual usage causing a 10% increase in biodiversity and grazing, one vehicle will visit per day. Deconstruction after 40 years will return the site to agriculture with recycling of the items used. The energy company will be supporting local projects.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their in-depth presentation.

Resolved: The Parish Council meeting and Standing Orders are resumed.

5331. CLERK'S REPORT

Broadfleet Sensory Garden, update from our solicitors, included a payment for costs to date detailed to the Councillors.

Resolved: To pay costs to date.

Lane Ends Plaque was erected on 9th August and has received lot of attention from visitors.

5332. PILLING PARISH COUNCIL POLICIES

Resolved: Councillors reviewed and accepted; Pilling Parish Council's Health and Safety Policy and Donations Policy.

5333. LANE ENDS AMENITY AREA

Cllr. G. Curwen wishes to raise awareness of the Embankment plaque. The grounds maintenance of Lane Ends is undertaken by Wyre Council, but this year vegetation cutting has been sporadic or missed. Work started on 25th August.

Resolved: Wyre Councillor Leigh will investigate with Wyre Council as to devolving maintenance to Pilling Parish Council.

5334. LANCASTER DISTRICT WAR MEMORIALS APPEAL

Pilling Parish Council was informed they were presented with a Book of Honour including biographies of all those listed on your Parish War Memorial. However, this is not correct, indeed this work was researched by a resident, seemingly Lancaster library holds a copy.
Resolved: Councillors considered the request for a donation but declined.

5335. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**Planning Application Granted:***23/00497/FUL*

Proposal: Proposed first floor rear balcony (re-submission of planning application 23/00099/FUL)

Location: 1 Middle Birks Bradshaw Lane Pilling

23/00580/FUL

Proposal: Proposed concrete yard

Location: Barn Hill Farm, Lancaster Road, Pilling,

Application Refused:*23/00011/FUL*

Proposal: Change of use of land at Summerdale Caravan Park to allow the siting of 6 caravans as holiday accommodation and erection of a site office/club house, access track and parking

Location: Summerdale Head Dyke Lane Pilling

Planning Applications for comment:*23/00669/FUL*

Proposal: Erection of new building for use as private stables and feed storage with associated parking area and alterations to existing vehicular access

Location: Land Off Lancaster Road Pilling

Resolved: Pilling Parish Council has no planning objections to this planning application and seeks neighbourhood notification. There are concerns with the size of this proposed building and lack of long-term security of the land.

23/00749/FUL

Proposal: Replacement domestic outbuilding to provide ancillary annex, domestic storage and private equine facilities (variation of condition 2 on planning permission 20/00857/FUL (to alter the proposed floor layout for domestic storage and equine use only and alter the position of the proposal of the footprint of the existing building to be demolished)

Location: Bonds Farm Lancaster Road Pilling

Cllr. Mrs. S. Collinge declared an interest in this application.

Resolved: Pilling Parish Council has no objections to this planning application and seeks neighbourhood notification.

LCC/2023/0030

Proposal: The extraction and processing of sand and gravel including the construction of new site access roads, landscaping and screening bunds, minerals washing plant and other associated infrastructure with restoration to leisure end-uses, agricultural land and biodiversity enhancement, using imported inert fill.

Location: Land off Bourbles Lane, Preesall

Resolved: *Pilling Parish Council objects to this planning application due to traffic conflict in Pilling, impact on residents with size and frequency of HGV's, air pollution, noise impact, residents and impact on environmentally protected sites.*

Resolved; *Further information was submitted about the Golden Ball application; Councillors did not wish to make further comment.*

Councillors raised concerns at developments on New Hall Farm, Scronkey under 23/00412/AGR.

5336. FINANCE**External Audit 2022 – 2023**

Completion of the limited assurance review by PKF Littlejohn LLP

On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Notices will be posted in the Parish. Noted for next year;

We note that the smaller authority did not comply with Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as it failed to make proper provision during the year 2023/24 for the exercise of public rights, since the approval date was after the start of the period for the exercise of public rights. As a result, the smaller authority must answer 'No' to Assertion 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2023/24 and ensure that it makes proper provision for the exercise of public rights during 2024/25.

Resolved: *To accept this decision and pay audit*

Income:

1. St. John's Church	£ 25.00	Grounds Maintenance
2. Pilling Village Hall	£ 50.00	Jubilee Trees donation

Councillors resolved to pay the following Payments.

Payee		Reason
S. Raby	£242.89	Wages and expenses
G. Benson	£108.28	Expenses
Towers and Gornall	£ 68.40	Accountant Services
Houghtons Filling Station	£130.30	Fuel for July
Society of Local Council Clerks	£177.00	Clerk's Society Membership
C and C Supplies	£ 40.58	PPE – hi-viz shirts
C and C Supplies	£ 65.98	PPE – safety boots
PKF Littlejohn LLP	£378.00	External Audit
	£1,211.43	

Standing Orders/Direct Debits

1. Staff costs for August	£3,236.23
2. Easy-Web-Sites	£ 27.60
3. Pilling Village Hall rental	£100.00

Bank Reconciliation to 30th August 2023

Resolved: Councillors scrutinised and accepted the presented document.

Transfer from Reserve Account

Resolved: Transfer £10,000 from the Reserve Account to Unity Trust.

5337. VERBAL REPORTS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Pilling In Bloom

Cllr. Mrs. J. Judkins reported this year's awards are in Bolton and Pilling in Bloom will be purchasing two tickets.

Report of the representative on Pilling Village Hall

Cllr. P. McWhirter reported that residents have requested a phone mast as the service coverage is notoriously bad in Pilling. Councillors fully support this initiative. The Village Hall committee is considering the Golden Ball siren.

Bad Behaviour by residents

It was raised that anti-social behaviour is escalating in Stakepool.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Chairman

Date