



Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council

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Tel.: **01454 631499** (Jonathan Edwardes - Parish Clerk)

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CASUAL VACANCY

We would like to thank Alex Smith for his time serving as parish councillor on the Severn Beach Ward. Sadly Alex has had to resign so, there is a vacancy on our team. If you would be interested in becoming a parish councillor, especially if you live in Severn Beach, please see the formal notice on the notice boards and get in touch with the Clerk.

ROY EDWARDES WAY – UNVEILING OF THE SIGN

Thank you to all who joined us at Roy Edwardes Way on October the 3rd to remember Roy and everything he has done for our parish. Roy's wife Pat said, "Roy would have been 'chuffed' that his name will be highlighted for posterity". We are very glad that we found a fitting tribute to Roy who served our parish so well over many years.



LOCAL GROUPS

We consider it sad that a number of local groups have ceased their activities during the pandemic, most notably those that provided activities for our senior residents. If anyone would like to restart a club that would help improve life of local residents and would like a "leg-up" from the parish council, please submit your proposal to us. We would consider all – be it a crafting / painting class or dancing / gentle exercise, baking, walking, higher learning, reading and writing, pet therapy – anything that would stimulate our loved ones, who have been deprived of their usual social activities for so long.

PILNING VILLAGE HALL

Pilning Village Hall needs your support with new members for its management committee. Meetings are held on Monday evenings once a month. If you would like to help out contact Sara at pilningvillagehall1@outlook.com

PILNING PLAYING FIELDS

We are very pleased to hear that there are some keen basketball players in our parish! We hope that the work that we are looking to complete shortly – addition of the new basketball hoops and court lines at Pilning Playing Fields – will be appreciated. We always try our best to support those who wish to maintain a sound mind in a sound body!

The parish council also considers installing a bench or two at Pilning Playing fields in response to requests from residents. If you would like to commemorate someone who lived in the parish thus contributing to the cost of the bench, please contact the parish clerk.

AVLON WORKS

Members of the parish council attended a virtual meeting to which we were invited by UK Networks and Gerald Eve LLP, two consultancies that represent the new owners of the former Avlon Works site. As you might have heard on the news, the Vancouver based Epta Development Corporation (EDC) purchased the 100-acre site in December 2020. Once the site has been cleared, EDC will look to create a modern warehousing and logistics park spanning across 180,000 sq.m.

We expressed concerns that the provisional plans showed a big reduction in the green spaces around the site, which will lead to yet another loss of the natural habitat. Sadly, this is the reality of the original 1957 planning permission that allows developers to use the existing space to the maximum. It comes as no surprise that, according to a recent study by scientists at London's Natural History Museum, since industrial revolution, UK has lost more biodiversity than any G7 country and is in the worst global 10%...



Image: LSH Sales Brochure, 2019

We also mentioned the dire situation in our parish with public transport, where most residents and commuters are forced to use private cars to get to and from the area. A lot of commuter traffic already travels through the villages, and another increase in numbers of private cars heading to the new site would make the situation even worse.

Both Gerald Eve and UK Networks acknowledged our concerns and assured us that all will be passed to the developers for their consideration.

SEVERN BEACH 100

June 2022 will be the focus of activities to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Severn Beach village. All residents are encouraged to think about how they or their group will celebrate, whether to have a party or a special event, and we hear that Severn Beach Primary School are making plans. The Chairman is in touch with the Lord Lieutenant of the County about arranging a royal visit and the Parish Council will add a page to the website to provide a calendar of events, which will be printed and published. Several local businesses have already agreed to contribute their time and resources to making this a memorable event. Its success will depend on everyone joining in, so get thinking and talk with your friends about what you could do, and get it booked into the calendar!



PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at Pilning Village Hall on **Monday, November the 1st** starting at 7pm. Please see the parish council website for the agenda and minutes of the past meetings.

Article by Olga Taylor on behalf of the Parish Council