



Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council

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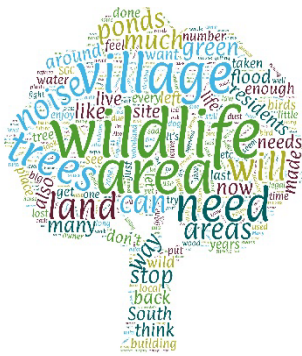
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PILNING AND SEVERN BEACH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

We are starting to make a progress with the Neighbourhood Plan. So far, some high-level proposals have been accepted by the Parish Council, such as a suggestion that our policy would discourage any future planning applications to turn commercial properties into residential dwellings. We are also looking at plans, which were put together previously, as this would revive the debate. The Neighbourhood Plan has been added to our monthly agenda, so progress can be tracked and reported on.

As your elected representatives we would like to make sure that all local opinions have been taken into consideration. We would also very much appreciate it if people with expertise of planning or working with legal documents would step forward – we would love to put together a small team of local volunteers. It does not matter how much (or little) time you could spare on the project. The main objective is to rekindle the community spirit!

ORCHARD POOLS



As you can see from this word map, created from your responses to the Parish Council's Orchard Pools survey, it is obvious that the parishioners are concerned about the encroachment of commercial development into our wildlife. We therefore unanimously voted to join Environmental Law Foundation (ELF), a charity founded in 1992, with an aim to help the voice of communities to be heard on matters affecting the environment in which we live. ELF provides assistance and guidance on environmental issues via their network of specialist environmental lawyers and technical experts.

LOW FREQUENCY NOISE POLLUTION

South Gloucestershire Council Environmental Health Department are working behind the scenes trying to resolve this very complex case. On Friday 9th of October, they served an Abatement Notice under Section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 on Suez Recycling and Recovery UK Ltd. The notice requires Suez to take all necessary measures to abate the noise within 90 days from the service of the notice.

We will continue to inform you as the case progresses.

BMX TRACK

A team of local residents are interested in applying for funding to build a BMX pump track in Severn Beach or Pilning. We would value your feedback to determine whether there would be sufficient support for this project to establish need. This way we would be in a better position to apply for grants and design a track which will best serve the community for many years to come. Our aim is to build a facility that can be used by a wide range of people, from the very young to teenagers and adults who might rediscover a childhood pastime or enjoy something new. The survey can be found on <http://piln.in/bmx2020>

ST THOMAS'S TOWER, NORTHWICK



We would like to assure all the parishioners who are concerned about the future of Northwick Tower, that we have renewed our efforts to find funding for the repairs of the tower. Since the offer to purchase was withdrawn, our clerk has shortlisted ten organisations that might provide a grant, and so far, has made two applications. Getting grants for the full amount will not be possible, as grant giving bodies would only cover the shortfall. Nevertheless, we remain hopeful that when the appropriately socially-distanced Annual Parish Meeting has been arranged, we will be able to give the parishioners the options that will enable us all to make the final decision concerning the tower's future.

PILNING CEMETERY

It was brought to the Parish Council's attention that the railings at Pilning Cemetery were left to the ravages of time for too long. Therefore, an action is required to either replace the fencing through the cemetery, or remove it altogether. We have written to St Peter's School asking for the parents' opinion, since they are the most frequent users of the cemetery path. So far, we had a number of responses suggesting that a few people would like to see some sort of barrier between the path and the cemetery, with the preference for a fence. According to the quotes obtained from the local suppliers, the suggested works will require a significant investment.



When the Parish Council voted on the subject, we were equally divided, with five parish councillors in favour of the removal of the existing metal railings (and potentially replacing them with a hedge or a wooden fence), and five against it. We therefore decided to pass the matter onto you, our Parishioners. Please could you either respond via an online survey (<http://piln.in/cem2020>) or by contacting the Parish Council Clerk?

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

If you would like to find out more about any of the debates we held in the past, please see the minutes of the meetings published on the Parish Council website www.psbpc.co.uk

You are very welcome to join our future online meetings by Zoom (with or without the camera) or over the phone. Public Participation (which usually takes place about 20 minutes after the start of the meeting) is your chance to share your thoughts on the subjects that we discuss, ask us questions, and raise any local issues that you feel that we should be addressing.

Our next meeting is going to be held online on Monday, 2 November 2020, starting at 7pm.

Article by Olga Taylor on behalf of the Parish Council