



Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council

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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at Severn Beach School on **Monday, February the 7th** starting at **7pm**. Please see the parish council website for the agenda and minutes of the past meetings. We hope that the last vacant position on the council will be filled. This is the last call for anyone who wishes to join our team.

CHRISTMAS TREES

We would like to thank Pilning and Severn Beach Gardeners' Club for supplying two beautiful Christmas trees in our Parish for the festive season. The Gardeners' Club have kindly donated trees to us for a number of years; we are now looking to create permanent footings for both trees, to make the Club's job easier when they come to erect them.

PILNING VILLAGE HALL

At our January meeting we were joined by the secretary of the Hall's Management Committee, who extended an invitation to their Annual General Meeting to all members of the parish council as well as all local residents. The AGM will take place at 7:30pm in the Pilning Village Hall on Monday, February the 28th. Everyone is welcome – the Management Committee need you to help make Pilning Village Hall the thriving heart of our community.

FLOOD BOUNDARY MARKERS



We would like to thank the anonymous donor who paid for the plaque explaining the history of the three boundary stones that have been recently put on display in Severn Beach. Although the responsibility of the local landowners for the flood defences goes back to the 14th century, these stones were possibly first used around 1800s to mark the boundaries of the land

holdings along the river. The markers remained in place until 1937, when the South Gloucestershire Internal Drainage Board became responsible. This is a fascinating piece of our local history, and we are indebted to the donor as well as Pilning & Severn Beach History Group for bringing it closer to us.

LITTER PICKING

The parish council are once again looking to help organise litter picking groups in the area. We are very grateful to all the volunteers who give their time and effort to the community – without you our popular walks would have looked very different indeed! If anyone would like to get involved with making Pilning & Severn Beach a tidier place, please contact the Clerk.

PILNING RAILWAY STATION

Passengers at Pilning Railway Station might have noticed a significant reduction in fly-tipping in the station car park. We were told that following our Clerk's tireless efforts in reporting rubbish dumped at the station over the course of the last few months, GWR and Network Rail arranged for the station forecourt to be cleared. It has been noted that the amount of rubbish removed from the station totalled 26 tonnes. We thank all organisations and individuals who keep an eye on the station. We believe that one day the authorities will realise the full potential of Pilning Station and will reinstate it to its former glory!

ANGLERS AT SEVERN BEACH

Following a number of people contacting the parish council with regards to numerous incidents of fishing litter being left behind by anglers, we resolved to investigate the possibility of putting up signs and posters along the sea wall alerting anglers to take their fishing tackle home or dispose of it in a responsible manner.

Severn Beach is a popular spot, which attracts anglers from a wide area. Unfortunately, there have been incidents where fishing litter has been left behind and has caused injuries to wildlife and people's pets.

Sadly, this is a countrywide problem, not unique to our area. Angling organisations and the Environment Agency have produced codes of practice to encourage responsible behaviour. RSPCA have also joined forces with the Angling Trust, the Environment Agency and the National Swan Convention to tackle the problem.

For further information and advice on what to do if you see injured birds, please also see the RSPCA website - <https://www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/litter/fishing>

RELOCATION OF THE EMERGENCY SEVERNSIDE SIREN

The parish council are in support of the planning application to relocate an emergency siren from the former Avlon Works site to a plot near Govier Way roundabout. We thank Victoria Bywater for having sorted out this relocation and getting the plans organised.

Full application may be found on the South Gloucestershire Council website (<https://developments.southglos.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=R4KSQBOKIQ100>).

We believe that the new location will improve the range of the emergency notification system, to the benefit of our community. We hope, given the serious need for this, that the planning application will be dealt with swiftly by South Gloucester Council.



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Article by Olga Taylor on behalf of the Parish Council