



## PILNING AND SEVERN BEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Web: [www.psbpc.co.uk](http://www.psbpc.co.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PilningSevernParishCouncil>

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

Note the new email address: [clerkpsbpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkpsbpc@gmail.com)

### THE PARISH COUNCIL RECONVENE ONLINE

Following the advice received from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), Pilning and Severn Beach Parish Council successfully held two online meetings via Zoom, with an option to phone-in. Members of public were invited to participate, which they did enthusiastically. We would love to see more of you joining us at our next meeting **at 19:00 on 7 September 2020!** Please see the joining details on the Parish Council website and the notice boards.

### THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting, which was due to take place in May 2020, has been postponed, in line with advice given to the Parish Council by NALC. At the time of writing this article, the new date has not yet been confirmed. Please continue to check the Parish Council's website and the notice boards - an announcement will be made at a later date.

### RESIGNATION OF THE CHAIRMAN

In June 2020 the Parish Council received and accepted our Charman's resignation. Sue Binns had led the Parish Council since May 2018, and put a lot of hard work into the local community. Her expertise knowledge and advice has been invaluable to many councillors. We will miss Sue at the front of the room, but we look forward to seeing her at meetings.

### ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Alderman Peter Tyzack was elected as Chair at the July meeting. The position of vice-chair that Peter left, remains vacant. We hope to fill it at the next Parish Council meeting on 7 September.

### CASUAL VACANCY

Notice was previously given that by reason of resignation a vacancy had occurred among the members of the Parish Council. The vacancy remains. Any person willing to fill this vacancy should apply to the Clerk in writing before Monday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. Please see the Parish Council website for contact details, or email the Clerk using the email address above.

### MEETING WITH JACK LOPRESTI OVER NOISE FROM AN INDUSTRIAL SITE



Image courtesy of Twitter @JackLopresti

Following a number of complaints concerning a resonating low frequency humming noise from a Severnside facility in Avonmouth / Hallen area, Mike Pruet met Jack Lopresti MP to raise concerns. Jack promised to escalate the issue and report back to the Parish Council. If anyone feels affected by out-of-hours noise in the area, please pass your complaint to the Environmental Health department of South Gloucestershire Council by filling an online form found at the South Gloucestershire Council website

(<https://www.southglos.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/pollution/pollution-control-noise/noise-complaints-out-of-hours/>).

## SEVERN BEACH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

At the time of writing this article, Severn Beach Community Library (SBCL) remains shut, awaiting the South Gloucestershire Library Service to sanction reopening. The library volunteers are very keen to resume the service, and we all look forward to getting the go-ahead. In the meantime, if anyone would like to set up and manage a new SBCL Facebook page advertising opening times, special events, etc., please get in touch with Heather Rickards on the library email address – [sb.communitylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:sb.communitylibrary@gmail.com)

## PLAY EQUIPMENT AT PILNING AND SEVERN BEACH RECREATION GROUNDS

Both facilities are now open, but please respect the fact that it is your responsibility to clean the play equipment before and after you or your family use it. Please also remember that the Government guidelines on social distancing are still in force until further notice, and follow the instructions provided by the Parish Council in the form of notices displayed at the playgrounds.

## NORTHWICK TOWER UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts on the future of Northwick Tower. We hear your concerns about the plans to sell it privately. From the feedback that we received we concluded that the local community would prefer if the tower stayed in public ownership. Everyone understands that money is tight at the moment, and that it won't be easy to find funding for the preservation of this historic monument. Nevertheless, the Parish Council are still pursuing various avenues in search of funding, to make sure that we fulfil our duty of representing view of the local people. We will provide interim updates, but the final decision will have to be made at the next Annual Parish Meeting.

## ROAD LAYOUT IMPROVEMENTS IN CHURCH LANE



As you can see from these two images, the path into the bridge between Pilning and Severn Beach (Church Lane) has been improved after an unfortunate accident that involved a motorised scooter. We are grateful to South Gloucestershire Council for finally fixing the problem, and we hope that in future the Council will be more proactive in their response to the Parish Council's requests, thus avoiding unnecessary incidents. An improvement was also made to the Church Lane where it joins the A403, to serve the development site. The fly in the ointment is that we were under impression that the gate was going to be moved forward, so that stopping vehicles would stay in full view. As this has not happened, there are some concerns that the new layout might encourage fly-tipping. Let us remain vigilant!



## PILNING RAILWAY STATION

In June an application was made for the Restoring Your Railway 'Ideas Fund', which was set up by the Department for Transport (DfT) with a view to hear ideas for reopening lines and stations closed in the past. The DfT acknowledged acceptance of the Pilning application, which was supported by Jack Lopresti MP, and confirmed that their decision will be announced at the end of the summer. The DfT received 50 applications in the current round, and 10 of them are expected to be successful. The full document can be viewed on <http://piln.in/RYR2020>

*Article by Olga Taylor on behalf of the Parish Council*