



Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council

Web: www.psbpc.co.uk

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

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

Email: clerk@pilningsevernbeach-pc.gov.uk

THE PASSING OF PRINCE PHILIP

This is the message that we sent to the CEO of South Gloucestershire Council and the Lord Lieutenant of the County.



*Rev Philip Rowe & Alderman Peter Tyzack
Photo: J Edwardes*

“The Parish Council, on behalf of the community of Pilning & Severn Beach, wish to express, to Her Majesty the Queen, our sincerest condolences on the passing of Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. We pay tribute to his work across the country and the wider world and, in particular, to his fostering of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, which has done so much good for so many, and will be his lasting legacy.”

NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION

On March the 23rd, as church bells rang out across the country, our chairman visited St Peter's Church to observe a minute's silence, thinking of all those who have been lost over the past year, since the start of the first lockdown.

PILNING AND NORTHWICK CEMETERIES

We thank those of you who have removed the Christmas Decorations and the Cemetery Committee will have removed the remainder by the end of April. In May we will be removing glass objects such as glass vases and bottles as they get broken and are a danger to visitors and cemetery staff. Please remove any that you have an attachment to as we do not wish to upset anyone whilst making the cemetery safe. We thank you for your understanding.

PLANNING MATTERS

Following a relatively quiet period, new planning applications in our parish have started to come in at an accelerated pace. There are a number of large developments proposed in and around Western Approach Distribution Park, which concern us greatly. In fact, there was so much to discuss at our April meeting, on top of our usual business, the debate lasted 3½ hours all told! We think it is important to respond on your behalf to every application, it's our job, but the bigger ones require much discussion to agree our response to South Gloucestershire Council. One observation made was that some developments seem to be getting unequivocal support from SGC, even though they are not all within the 1957 blanket planning permission. We are concerned at the growing pressure to encroach on land that we think should be green belt. So please support us, if you are able, and keep an eye on local planning applications. Do go online and express your concerns to the local authority planners.

You don't have to “Know About Planning” to know how you feel, so please let them know. To search the latest applications, go to - <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/planning-and-development/planning-applications/>

ST THOMAS'S TOWER

We were very pleased to be joined at the Annual Parish Meeting by the parishioners who were concerned about the future of St Thomas's Tower at Northwick Cemetery. This remains to be a very difficult subject, as the urgency for renovation works keeps growing. The Parish Council Clerk continues to meticulously work through the list of organisations who might be able to help cover restoration costs – ideally, we would like to avoid losing the ownership of the tower altogether.

REPAIRS TO THE TEEN HUT

We were saddened to observe that the teen hut at Pilning Playing Fields has been subjected to vandalism. We are currently getting quotes for having it fixed, although we would have preferred that the provided equipment was respected and we could spend the allocated money on improvements rather than repairs. It was decided that if the hut gets damaged again, we will have to look into taking it down.

PILNING CEMETERY FENCE

Thank you to the parishioners who told us of their preferences for the fence around Pilning Cemetery. As you have probably noticed, the repairs are ongoing, with sections of new fence being currently erected.

VISITOR CAR PARKING

There are further calls to the Parish Council to “do something” and try to curb the issues with car parking around Beach Road and New Passage. It is becoming more and more difficult for residents without an allocated parking slot to find a space if they return at certain parts of the day. People frequently find their vehicles and drives blocked in by double-parking, with a usual response given that the offending vehicle is “only there for 5 minutes”.

Sadly, this is not something that the Parish Council could easily resolve. We are working with South Gloucestershire Council, suggesting how these issues could be addressed, to the benefit of the residents, businesses and our visitors, without causing much damage to our local green spaces. Please continue to record evidence that would bolster the case for additional car parking.

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – EVERYONE WELCOME

*Pilning & Severn Beach Annual
Parish Council meeting will take
place on May the 4th by Zoom,
starting at 7pm and followed by a
Full Council meeting.*

SEVERN BEACH 100 – V.I.P. VISIT

As the ideas on who should be invited to mark the village celebrations started to pour in, we set up a brief survey. Please go to www.piln.in/svb100 and tell us what you think! We cannot guarantee that the persons of everyone's choice will be available, but we'll try our best to make sure that everyone has a good time!



Article by Olga Taylor on behalf of the Parish Council