



Pilning & Severn Beach Parish Council

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SEVERN BEACH CRAFT FAYRE AND FAMILY DAY

We would like to thank the organisers of the Craft Fayre and Family Day for the fantastic day they created for the community. After a year full of loneliness and isolation, this was a great event to go to entertain the kids, chat with the neighbours, stock up on hand-made merchandise and discover the emerging talent. We can't wait till the next big event in the village, which will be the centenary celebrations, culminating at the Severn Vale Festival on the 9th of July 2022!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at Severn Beach School on **Monday, October the 4th** starting at 7pm. Members of public are cordially invited. There is no requirement to wear a mask, although we ensure good ventilation and space the seats out.

ROY EDWARDES WAY – UNVEILING OF THE SIGN

Unveiling of the new sign will take place at 11am on Sunday the 3rd of October, following the Sunday service at St Peter's Church. We are hoping that many of the parishioners will join us to commemorate Roy's life and many good deeds that he performed in our parish.

PILNING AND SEVERN BEACH PLAYING FIELDS

It was brought to our attention that some play equipment at Pilning had suffered a lot of damage, and had to be replaced. The parish council are currently in the process of obtaining quotations for the repair or replacement of the equipment as necessary.



Photo by Jean-Daniel Francoeur from Pexels

As the basketballs hoops are going to be renewed, we would like to appeal to the community asking if anyone would be interested to step up and run a club for those who would like to make a good use of this provision. We know that some people prefer shooting shots by themselves. However, **we are looking for someone who would have the time and the energy to show our younger parishioners how to play the game filled with fun and laughter and that no-pressure competition can be enjoyed with friends.** Who

knows, maybe Britain's next sporting phenomenon following in the steps of Emma Raducanu lives in our parish, and only needs a nudge in the right direction to become a shining star... **Can you help? Call the Clerk!**

And while we are on the subject of the playing fields, we were sad to hear that adults are frequently seen using play equipment designed for children. Whilst we appreciate that adults want to have their share of fun, it is unfair to do so at the expense of younger people in our community. If you think that the parish council should provide equipment for adult exercise, please contact the Clerk with your suggestions.

PILNING CEMETERY

We very much appreciate people regularly coming to help tidy up Pilning cemetery. But on the downside, we were disheartened to hear that some irresponsible dog owners use our community cemetery to exercise their dogs. What is even more upsetting is that they let their dog foul in the cemetery grounds and do not clean up afterwards.

Can we please continue to keep our cemetery clean as a sign of respect for the people who lived here before us and their families? On a lighter note, we do not want to follow the Israeli City Council of Tel Aviv-Yafo in their stride registering every dog's DNA and matching it to the faeces found in the area, for the purpose of prosecuting the offending owners!

BAD SMELL AT NORTHWICK CEMETERY

There is an open enquiry with South Gloucestershire Council concerning a bad smell coming from the ditch on the South-East side of the cemetery. This was first reported to Environmental Health department in July this year. In their latest response the Council confirmed that Building Control was investigating the discharge from the waste pipes at the new traveller pitch that is awaiting planning decision for the siting of a motor home, a touring caravan, an ancillary dayroom portacabin and the extension to existing hardstanding. The details of the application may be found on the Council's website under reference number P21/00264/F.

UPDATE ON ST THOMAS'S TOWER

Showing another possible contractor around St Thomas's Tower at the end of August, the parish clerk was alarmed at the sudden deterioration of the nave wall window jamb. Brambles had really taken off behind the stonework and it looked ready to come out very soon.



The parish council's position on this historic monument is that it is our responsibility to maintain it, although when we received its ownership, it did not come with a pot of money for its maintenance. We believe that it is our duty to resolve this situation and ensure that future parishioners will have enjoyment of this historical structure, which originally dated to the Saxon times. But for now, we will have to finance these additional repairs and continue our endeavors to create a sustainable funding solution that can be used for ongoing restorations.

PILNING RAILWAY STATION

The good news about Pilning station is that there has been an increase in passenger numbers since the start of the summer, as more and more families and circles of friends discover the travel opportunities that the station offers on Saturdays. The recent cancellations caused by GWR staff shortages due to Covid-19 were very unfortunate, especially as some passengers sadly missed on their day trips to Cardiff and beyond.

We also notice a rise in fly-tipping in the station's car park, ironically, right beside South Gloucestershire's sign warning of a maximum of £50,000 fine for fly-tipping. We duly alerted the authorities and we are hoping that the matter will be resolved very soon. If you spot any fly-tipping at the station or anywhere else in the parish, please remember to notify the Council via their ['Report-It' web page](#).



Article by Olga Taylor on behalf of the Parish Council