

PILL & EASTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Christ Church, Pill on Monday 24th August 2026 at 7pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillors J Saunders (Chair), B Buck, W Davey, W Marcombe, N Martin, S Iles-Ryan, K Al-Hassan and J Ryan

Apologies: Councillor H Derrett, R Faulkner, K Kirkby, J Parkhouse and K Raines,

Parish Clerk: Lisa Gillespie

Public Participation:

There were no public present at the meeting.

Prior to the meeting commencing a presentation was given by Lucy Frampton to council in relation to Youth Justice and Prevention Service.

150/26 To note the absence of councillors at the meeting.

The absence of Cllr Councillor K Kirkby and J Parkhouse and K Raines and R Faulkner was noted.

151/26 To accept declarations of interest in accordance with the Adopted Code of Conduct September 2024.

There were no declarations of interest

152/26 To approve the minutes of the council meeting held on Monday 27th July 2026.

It was resolved to approve the minutes.

Signed

Chair
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Date

- 153/26 To approve the payment of non-statutory invoices received since the last Parish Council meeting. All statutory payments will be made under the authority given in agenda item 7/26 (January 2026).

Invoice date	Supplier	Description	Amount £	VAT £	Total £
Aug 26	Nic Rice	Expenses - August	16.95	0	16.95
Aug 26	Lisa Gillespie	Expenses – August	120.67	0	120.67
Aug 26	CHRGs Ltd	Recruitment	1,591.30	318.26	1,909.56
Aug 26	ALCA	Training	94.00	0	94.00
Aug 26	David Smith	Grass cut and removal	200.00	40.00	240.00
Aug 26	Greenways	Path clearing contract	298.00	59.60	357.60
Aug 26	K&M Maintenance	Bins	745.00	0	745.00
Aug 26	Parish & Town Auditing Services	Internal Audit	300.00	0	300.00
Aug 26	SALC	Advertisement	50.00	0	50.00

It was resolved to approve the non-statutory payments.

- 155/26 To receive councillor questions on reports previously circulated by the leaders of the following council working groups:

i. Community Fridge –

There was nothing to report

ii. Finance –

There was nothing to report

iii. Open Spaces –

The working group reviewed the annual safety reports for the three play areas and had the following questions and recommendations.

Hardwick Road - The vegetation growth needs to be added to Glendale to cutting schedule.

The goal posts need to be dismantled and checked along with a possible painting exercise. There are a set of goals up at Macrae Road which could be used as replacements if required.

Signed

Chair
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Date

Brookside -

The key items here are the resistance testing of the wood in the Cableway and the Climbing Frame. For the cableway there is a recommendation to inspect the cable and the chain covers. GB Sport replaced some bolts in the Cableway last year and may have dismantled this partially and inspected this.

Macrae Road -

A number of the items associated with the site will be addressed as part of the pavilion refurbishment. The main item is a missing latch for the electrical box that needs replacing.

Volunteer mowing with St Georges Flower Bank -

Councillor Buck noted that there are a number of Parish Council green spaces where the meadows will be mowed and hay collected by St Georges Flower Bank volunteers. These include Hardwick Road on the 28 July, Macrae Road (the Chestnuts) on 16 August and Pill Paddock on the 19 August.

Management plans for the Chestnuts (Macrae Road Playing Fields) -

No formal agreement has been put together, the idea that the cricket club may have free access to the space could have come from a handshake agreement when the land was purchased.

Councillor Parkhouse has offered to manage the bookings like he has done historically.

The following new charges were proposed for the use of the pitch - the Pavilion charges are unchanged until it is refurbished. These charges are based looking at similar fields and what they are charging.

Cricket Match	£50
Adult Football (per pitch)	£30
Children's Football (per pitch)	£20
Training	£10

Jenny's Meadow - Metrowest and Port -

Councillors Buck and Saunders met with Natalie Gale-Sides (Senior Project manager, North Somerset Council) to understand the plans to divert the cycle path through Jenny's Meadow. The diversion, if required, will be carried out in conjunction with the replacement of the Avon Road railway bridge which is being upgraded from a single track to a double track. The works for this are scheduled for not earlier than May 2027. The diversion, if required, will come in through the Avon Road gate, turn left, run along the property boundary until it hits the fence and then run along the fence boundary to re-join the existing cycle path. Further planning is required by Metrowest to determine if these will be required.

Separately the port has replaced the fence on the south side of Jenny's Meadow and cleared the encampment on the cycle path west of the railway.

A follow up meeting is required with the port to get progress on the lease and other wider efforts on the Foreshore.

Replacement Play Equipment -

Previous Parish Clerk, Tony Jay had followed up with a company offering to write grants for play equipment for Parish Councils in return for a fee for doing so. Members of the working group were encouraged to review the offering and think about how we would approach this.

Litter Bins -

Councillor Buck has worked with Kevin Weekes to replace the Cross Lanes bin. we have one more bin that can be used to replace one of the other locations.

Community Payback -

Community Payback came back to the parish in July and worked on Star Lane, Back Lane and Newport Road to Mariners Way. This completes the initial list of paths (except Westward Drive to Brookside). The team are due back on 12th September, but this is Repair Café in the Community Centre.

Village Orderly -

Greenways continue to work on the roads they are still completing work in area 1 as of the meeting (there are 8 areas in total and there have been 3 visits so far).

iv. Pavillion –

There was no report for this item. Cllr Saunders informed the meeting that following the post on Facebook asking for local suppliers to express interest in tendering for the working, the names received were passed on to the project management consultants 3Sixty for consideration.

v. Policies -

There was nothing to report. The review of some council policies will be an agenda item for the next council meeting.

vi. Transport and Highways –

The working part met and council were updated with the following:

- Kerbstones at Precinct car park have now been repaired.
- Traffic lights at the memorial are being monitored on Station Road. Traffic cones remain in place and residents are parking there, but no issues raised so far.

vii. Website

It was noted this item should be called the Website and Communications Working Group going forward.

Discussions have taken place regarding the installation of CCTV at Baltic Place. Sadik Al Hassan MP has been involved in these discussions. No decisions have yet to be reached.

Future funding request to Pill in Bloom but no response been given to date. Suggestion to contact North Somerset Council if pursued.

156/26 To receive the North Somerset Councillor report.

There was nothing to report

157/26 To receive a report on recent crime statistics in the parish.

The latest available crime statistics are for June 2026.

	May	June
Criminal damage / arson	5	4
Violence / sexual offences	17	20
Possess offensive weapon	0	0
Public Order	5	0
Drugs	1	0
Burglary	2	2
Anti-social behaviour	8	5
Vehicle crime	2	0
Bicycle theft	0	0
Other theft	9	0
Other crime	5	6

The crime figures were noted. Members would like the crime statistics to reflect a true picture and there was a suggestion to examine the figures further where comparable stats were capita compared to Portishead Cllr W Davey agreed to look further at this with the figures being presented possibly in a graph format. Cllr Davey will report back at the next parish meeting.

Signed

Chair
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Date

158/26 To receive the Chair's report.

The chair raised the Pill Community Market event stall, being held on Saturday 19th September 2026. Cllr Buck has organised this event and councillor support is needed on the day, be present for residents' questions when meeting the parish councillors. A face to a name, promoting the mailing list etc.

The Communications WG to meet to discuss further.

The chair raised the issue of Smiley Sid (Speed Indicator Device) querying if it remains a good idea given the lack of response from the police to the findings from earlier in the year.

Discussion followed and Cllr Iles-Ryan agreed to speak to the police regarding assessment figures to support this.

159/26 To receive the Clerk's report.

The new Parish Clerk is required to start studying for the CiLCA qualification as soon as possible. Unfortunately, there is no new course available until December. Unless this qualification is gained by the clerk prior to May 2027, which is unlikely, the Parish Council will lose the General Power of Competence following the end of the four-year council term. This power would be regained when the clerk achieves the qualification. Without this power, some potential new projects may not be possible however all ongoing projects such as the renovation of the Pavilion will be able to continue.

New Clerk training via SLCC has been booked in the meantime on 29th September-and 19th October 2026.

The Clerk informed members on applications that have been received for the Assistant Clerk post, with a reminder that the closing date for applications is Friday 28th August 2026.

The Staffing Committee will meet on 7th September 2026 to review applications received and decide which candidates will be interviewed and set an interview date.

The Grant Application season is now open with a closing date of 15th October 2026.

Signed

Chair
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Date

Some councillors have yet to submit their profile picture to be included on the councillor page of the website, they were requested to do this as soon as possible.

The Clerk is on Annual Leave from 1st – 4th September 2026 and in the absence of an Assistant Clerk the previous Parish Clerk has agreed to monitor council emails received during this period without charge to the council.

The Clerk thanked members for the support and welcome received since starting in post.

160/26 To receive Councillor reports.

There was nothing to report

161/26 To consider items for the next meeting agenda.

To consider the Tree Report

To consider Resistance testing of the wood at the Cableway

Update on Pill Community Market

To add Cllr W Davey as a Bank Signatory

To review some Council Policies

To consider quotations re: Open spaces ('The Spout' electric work)

162/26 Date of next council meeting – 28th September 2026.

The meeting concluded at 20.07 pm.

End of minutes.

Signed

Chair
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Date