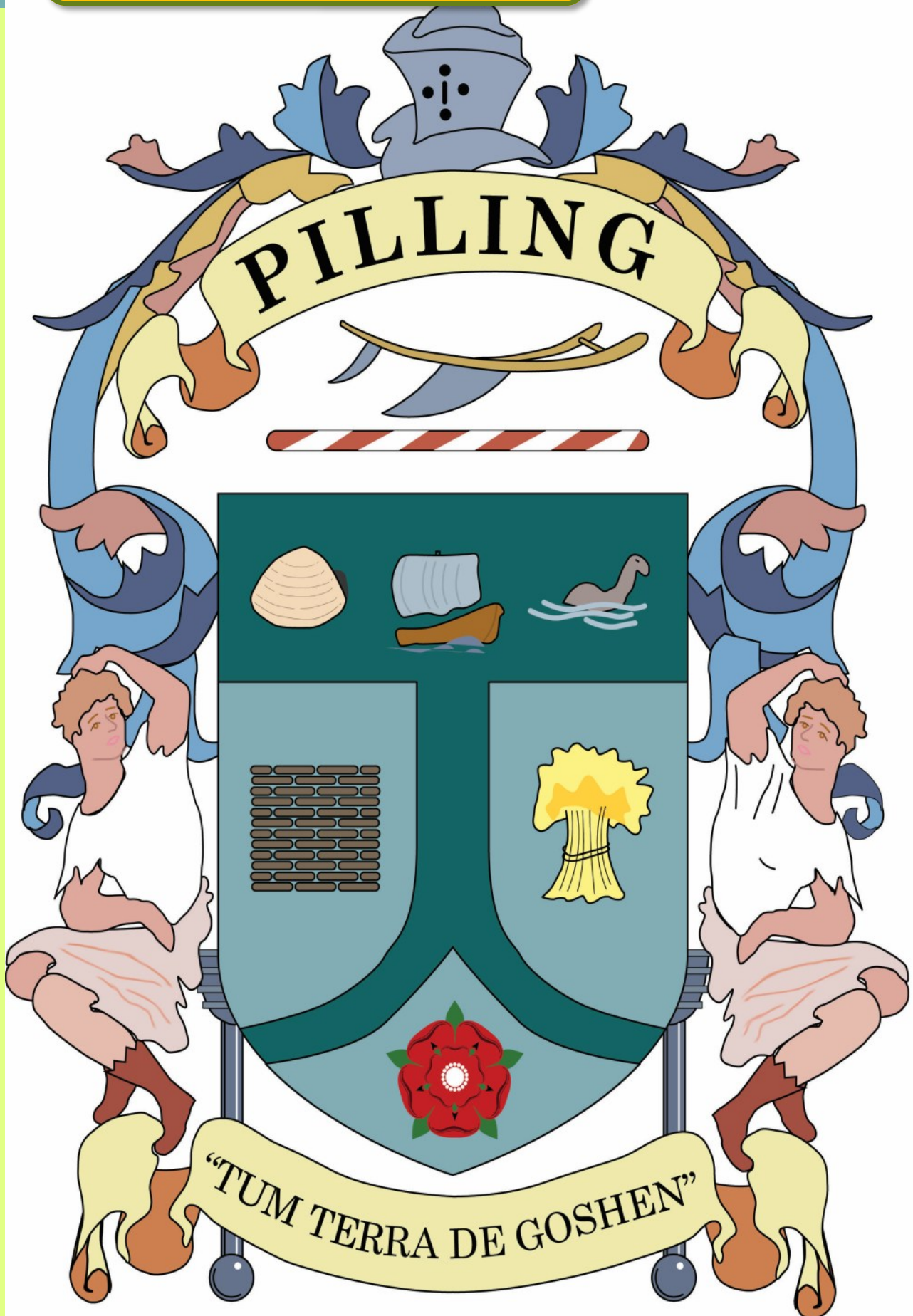


# Pilling Parish Newsletter

AUTUMN 2024

NOVEMBER



## Report from the Chair of Pilling Paris Council

Since the last newsletter, Gillian Benson has retired from the role of Clerk to the Parish Council after 35 years loyal service. As a retirement gift the Council presented her with a specially commissioned large vase manufactured locally by Adrian Cross of Pilling Pottery.

Gillian's replacement, Julia Brewer, has now taken over and is settling into her role and familiarising herself with the village and its inhabitants.



Scott Irvine has also resigned from the Parish Council, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Scott for his service. I can also report that after the vacancy was advertised there were no applicants for the position and so Mr Dave Ponton volunteered and was formally co-opted to the Council after a short interview process at the Parish Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

As ever the floral displays around the village have been eye catching, and all credit to both Stan, our Parish Lengthsman and his helpers, together with Cllr Judy Judkins who co-ordinates the Pilling in Bloom campaign.

Their efforts were justly rewarded at the North West Britain in Bloom awards on 31<sup>st</sup> October with Pilling winning a Gold Award, and was also recognised with an award for work in the field of Gardening for Wildlife (Biodiversity).

We have maintained close links with Lancashire Council Council through our County Council Councillor, Matthew Salter, and likewise with Wyre through our local Wyre Councillor, Adam Leigh. We have particularly highlighted issues with regard to planning.

We have also re-established links with the Police through the new neighbourhood policing team under the supervision of Sgt Elliot Jones. Cllr Alf Whiteside and Cllr Steve Phillpotts have continued to drive forward the flood and drainage issues in Pilling (see separate report). They have also been working with Create Homes to resolve issues on St William's Gate, along with Cllr Dave Ponton.

I look forward to seeing residents at the Christmas Light Switch-On on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, and I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Successful New Year!



Cllr. Neil Cookson  
Chair, Pilling Parish Council

# Pilling Flooding & Drainage

## Local Flooding and Drainage Issues



A meeting was held on Wednesday 6 November between farmers and representatives from Our Future Coast, the Environment Agency, Lancashire County Council, Natural England and the NFU, together with representatives from the Parish Council, regarding the issues of flooding in Pilling with view to setting up an Internal Drainage Board for the future management of the water courses in Pilling.

Further information will follow regarding developments but in the meantime if anyone has any comments or would like more information please contact Cllr A Whiteside and Cllr S Phillpott directly.

**The Flood Hub has issued information on your responsibilities if you have a watercourse crossing your land.**

**Further information available at:**

**<https://thefloodhub.co.uk/landowner/#section-1>**

**Flood Hub website**

**<https://thefloodhub.co.uk/>**

There is information on protecting your property against flooding.

You can check the latest height of the Broadfleet at:

**<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/5110>**

The telemetry station is at Mill Bridge and shows height in metres over the past 5 days. Looking further on the site other levels can be viewed.

### St Williamsgate Development (Georges Grove/Williams Way)

The last houses were completed in late 2022/early 2023 and since then there has been an ongoing saga with discussions, letters, missed calls and a general lack of information from the developers leaving the site with unfinished roads, raised ironworks, Heras fencing round the attenuation 'pond' and unfinished areas of the site. The safety of site for residents, pedestrians & motorists has been a continuing concern.

In early 2023 a resident issued a planning enforcement notice against Create Homes to complete the remaining works required to allow the development to be adopted by Wyre Council, United Utilities and handed to a residents' management committee. After this notice was issued street lighting was installed along with wooden rails round the attenuation drain. The roads remained unfinished.

In Sept 2023 Wyre Council informed the resident that any enforcement of the notice issued would be a civil matter between the residents and Create. Create have since sent correspondence to residents with time frames of completion which, for reasons not explained afterwards, were not adhered to.

It transpired that the road was not completed as United Utilities would not sign off on the groundworks until some remedial works had been completed. There was also an issue between the developer and the groundworks contractor regarding payment and monies owed.

The local Councillor, Adam Leigh, along with the Parish Council have continued to engage with Create to resolve this matter leading to a recent meeting with Create and the groundworks team on . This was a productive discussion with options discussed for a resolution of outstanding matters.

It was agreed for Create to devise a letter explaining the current situation and giving options for the prompt completion of works. Some matters relating to planning were raised which have been a stumbling block so options were to be outlined in the correspondence and the feedback will go to assist in the formulation of how the works are progressed. This letter was delivered to residents on 1<sup>st</sup> November with contact details detailing how to record their preferences. David Ponton, a resident on the estate & Parish Councillor, is collating the responses & at the time of writing this update had received responses from a third of the estate within 48hrs.

These responses will help formulate the response to both Create and, in turn, Wyre Council Planning Dept to help progress this matter in a timely manner.

Cllr Dave Ponton

# PILLING COMMUNITY ACTION



More information on our Facebook page [pilling community action](#) and in the Village Hall. Or contact Judy 07517396313

## Pilling Community Action

How well do you know Pilling?

Did you know there are many Public Rights of Way in this area?

Over the past few months **Pilling Walking Group** has been exploring these paths with wildlife guide, David Whiteside. The walks have been about 5 miles in length and fairly easy for most people. We've seen and heard birds, identified plants and flowers, rambled over stiles and sometimes got very muddy. The walks have been quite leisurely and completed in 1-2 hours.

We hope to continue these walks in the new year, and everyone is welcome to join us. Information will be posted in the village and on [pillingcommunityaction](#) Facebook page.

We'll also be developing guides for the walks and hope to publish these soon.

Joining the walks is free and is sponsored by Pilling Parish Council



# Pilling in Bloom

## Pilling in Bloom (PiB) and our Green spaces



We have a small but hardworking 'In Bloom' group in the village who support our amazing lengthsman, Stan in his work.

We take an holistic approach to planting and maintaining our growing areas because we want everything we do to have a positive effect on biodiversity and look attractive for as long as possible.

We also held an event at the Village Hall with free plant spotter sheets from <https://www.plantlife.org.uk> and gave away wild-flower seeds.

We have recruited an additional 5 litter pickers and some very enthusiastic young people to help with new planting on School Lane and Back Sands Lane. Our local Squirrels and Cubs groups have also helped and had fun Litter picking and making Bee art. The Squirrels group planted some bright annuals in the Sensory Garden.



If you have walked on Back Sands Lane, you will have spotted a beautiful display of Orchids on the roadside verge. And for the first time a lovely Bee Orchid also grew in this area.

**STOP PRESS!! At the time of going to press we have just been notified that Pilling have been awarded a Gold in the Large Village category in addition to an NWIB award for Gardening for Wildlife!!**

Contact Judy on 01253 790919 for more information

# Pilling Village Hall



It's been a busy few months at the Village Hall. The hall continues to be booked for a wide variety of events including parties, dance and fitness classes for all ages, and sports and social events. We are always looking for new attractions and recently we hosted a theatre group from Wyre Borough council who put on free performances for children throughout the day. The children loved the story of "The Dinosaur and the Witch" and all performances were fully booked. And in November we will be hosting our first Murder mystery night in conjunction with Pilling Drama Group. Come along on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and see if you can work out whodunnit!

The café is busier than ever and is a great place to meet up with friends. We are open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from ten am until two pm and serve a variety of snacks, meals and delicious cakes. If you haven't tried it yet, why not come along.

The Meet and Eat Lunch club meets on the last Wednesday of each month and serves a delicious two course lunch for just £8.50. We now have over fifty regular clients. Booking is required. Just ring Julia on 07881 6722180

We continue to host Friday night social events including bingo, quiz and now dominoes evenings.

Our volunteers are a vital part of the running of the hall and if you feel that you would like to get involved, just speak to a committee member. We need people with a wide variety of skills. There are roles for anyone who wants to get involved. It's a great way to meet people and give back to our community.

All the profits from village hall events goes towards improving our facilities and we are hoping to add solar panels to reduce our energy costs and also extend the children's playground in the coming months. We look forward to seeing the hall continue to grow and be a central part of village life.

*Katrina Bell*  
*Pilling Village Hall*

# Pilling Wyre Councillor Adam Leigh

**I'm Adam Leigh and I've been your ward councillor since May 2023.**



It has been another busy year working closely with the parish and issues that matter to the residents. Here is a summary below.

The local plan is due for release early next year which details sites earmarked for development up to 2040. There will be significant changes in Wyre due to the mandatory targets of 637 houses per year put in place by the new Labour government. It is likely the main development over Wyre will be around the A6 corridor, but it will ultimately put pressure on all areas.

Create - talks have been ongoing with Create Homes to finish the works to the highways on St William's Gate which have been productive. I am hopeful for a resolution soon and a letter is due to go out to residents informing them of the latest developments.

Wheel Lane flooding - the dyke at the end of Wheel Lane has been cleared out and the pipe underneath the road has now been jetted by LCC which will stop it filling with silt and should alleviate the flooding issues.

Speed enforcement checks have been carried out in the local area particularly around Smallwood Hey Road and School Lane. Please let me know of any hotspot areas.

If there's anything you would like to bring to my attention, please don't hesitate to get in contact on the details below.

**07475950471**

**Adam.Leigh@wyre.gov.uk**



# Defibrillators in Pilling



Pilling Parish Council have been successful in gaining another grant from Grantscape to replace the defibrillator at England Hill.

Defibrillators are devices that apply an electric charge or current to the heart to restore a normal heartbeat. If the heart rhythm stops due to cardiac arrest, also known as sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), a defibrillator may help it start beating again.

**If you suspect someone is having a heart attack  
RING 999 AND GET THE AMBULANCE ON THE ROAD**

**When you give your location the North West Ambulance Service will tell you if a defibrillator is available and the cabinet number.**



Pilling has 10 defibrillators which are located in the following areas:

- ⇒ Pilling Nursing Home, Smallwood Hey Road, PR3 6HJ
- ⇒ Pilling Methodist Church, Smallwood Hey, PR3 6HJ
- ⇒ Glenfield, Smallwood Hey, PR3 6HE
- ⇒ Northern Kilns, School Lane, PR3 6HB
- ⇒ Pilling Reading Room, School Lane, PR3 6HB
- ⇒ St John's School, Fluke Hall Lane, PR3 6HA
- ⇒ Village Hall, Taylor's Lane, PR3 6AB
- ⇒ Rivington, Garstang Road, PR3 6AQ
- ⇒ Stakepool Stores, Lancaster Road, PR3 6AH
- ⇒ England Hill School, New Lane, PR3 6BA

# Dates for your Diary

## Over 60's VE Day Lunch

Councillors invite all residents who are 60 years old or older to attend our VE-Day Lunch to be held in

**Pilling Village Hall on 9th May 2025  
Arrival at 12.30pm for  
Lunch at 1.00pm  
With Entertainment**

**Xmas Tree Light Switch-On  
Monday 2nd December at 7.00pm  
On the Village Green, School Lane**



**The lights will be turned on by 2024 Coffee Feast Queen and pupils from St Williams RC Primary and St John's will lead the Carols.**

## Dates for your Diary

**Do you want to know how to use or get more out of your laptop/tablet/ipad/mobile phone?**

**Come along to a drop in session at the Village hall**

**Thursday 5th Dec 10.30 to 12.30**

**We can arrange a session to suit you to**

- Learn some new digital skills**
- Fill in online forms**
- Use email**
- Follow your hobbies**
- Keep yourself safe online**
- Choose a device to suit you**

**There'll be information, hot drinks and mince pies**

**For more info call Judy 01253 790919**

**07517396313**



# Your Pilling Parish Councillors

**Councillor Neil Cookson**, (Chair)

Copper Garth, Smallwood Hey Road. PR3 6HJ

Tel. 790875

**Councillor Graham C. Curwen**, (Vice Chairman)

Carr Holm, Fluke Hall Lane, PR3 6HA

Tel. 790502

**Councillor Mrs. Sarah Collinge**,

Bonds Farm, Lancaster Road PR3 6SQ

Tel. 07816764727

**Councillor Mrs. Elizabeth Cookson**

Wyndale, Lancaster Road, PR3 6AU

Tel. 790537

**Councillor Mrs. Judy Judkins**,

Rosenda, School Lane, Pilling. PR3 6HB

Tel. 790919

**Councillor Paul McWhirter**

Arndale, Wheel Lane, Pilling PR3 6HL

Tel: 790995

**Councillor Steve Phillpotts**

Willow Tree Cottage, Lancaster Road South PR3 6SQ

Tel. 799121

**Councillors John C. Savage**

Rivendell, Taylors Lane, PR3 6AB

Tel. 790707

**Councillor Alf Whiteside**,

1, Warbrick Cottage, Damside, Pilling. PR3 6AB

Tel. 790700

**Councillor Dave Ponton**

7 Williams Way, Pilling, PR3 6DG

Tel: 07786 373273

## **WYRE COUNCILLOR FOR PILLING AND WINMARLEIGH**

**Cllr. Adam Leigh**, [Adam.Leigh@wyre.gov.uk](mailto:Adam.Leigh@wyre.gov.uk)

Pool Barn, Ridgy Pool Farm, Skitham Lane Pilling

PR3 6BD Tel: 07475950471

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR**

### **WYRE RURAL CENTRAL**

**Cllr. Matthew Salter**, [matthew.salter@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.salter@lancashire.gov.uk)

29, Woburn Way, Cloughton-On-Brock, PR3 0QFTel: 07803 723 958

## **MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR LANCASTER AND WYRE**

**Cat Smith, MP** [cat.smith.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:cat.smith.mp@parliament.uk)

47 Scotforth Road, Lancaster. LA1 4SA

TEL: 0207 219 6001 OR 01253 490 440

# Your Parish Council Office

## Parish Council Office

Your Parish Council Office is located in the Village Hall on Taylor's Lane and is open to the public on Monday and Wednesday, from 9.30am to 3.00pm

The main telephone number for the Parish Council has changed to 07496 726282. The clerk can also be contacted via email [clerk@pillingparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@pillingparish.org.uk) or by using the contact enquiry form on the website.

## Website

The Parish Council has a website where copies of all agenda and minutes plus other news is accessible. [www.pillingparish.org.uk](http://www.pillingparish.org.uk)



Facebook

The Parish Council is now also on Facebook

**Please give the page a follow.**

If you have any problems out of hours you can report problems directly using the information provided on the following pages.

# Reporting Problems

**Reporting potholes, street lighting, gullies etc.**



QR code to download and use on the go.

## **Reporting problems with Watercourses**

Environment Agency hotline: 088 80 70 60 goes to division to act on.

## **United Utilities Leakline**

0800 33 00 33

## **United Utilities Floodline**

When sewers are overtopping 0345 6723 723

## **Report speeding complaints directly to the Police**

[www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk](http://www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk) where you then simply need to follow directions from the 'Contacts' link.

## **OUR Lancashire**

Our Lancashire is the Lancashire wide initiative to bring groups and communities together to make Lancashire a greater place to live work and play.

Supported by public services and organisations across Lancashire this is the one stop shop for groups and events.

Lancashire Police are using this site to network with groups and communities. This includes promoting our In The Know messaging service.

More info at [www.ourlancashire.org.uk](http://www.ourlancashire.org.uk)

# Reporting Problems

## PLEASE BAG IT AND BIN IT OR TAKE IT HOME



Dog fouling is not only deeply unpleasant, it is dangerous. Whilst rare, contact with dog excrement can cause toxocarasis – a nasty infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea, asthma and even blindness or seizures. There are estimated to be more than 8 million dogs producing more than 1,000 tonnes of mess every day in the UK alone.

While most dog owners are caring, responsible individuals, there are still some people who do not clean up after their pets. Anyone who fails to clear up after their dog can be issued with a Fixed

Penalty Notice of up to £100. If the case goes to court this could cost the owner or person in charge of the animal up to £1,000.

**The law states that being unaware a dog has fouled or not having a suitable bag is not a reasonable excuse.**

If someone does fail to clean up after their pet, it falls to Wyre Council to get rid of it as they have dog wardens. Report online.

### **Dog Fouling**

Report directly to Wyre Council

<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/dogs/dog-fouling/1>



## **Please park safely and show you care.**

If you do park on the pavement then pedestrians, those with mobility issues, persons with children, pushchairs or dogs, can't get by.

Already an offence in Scotland, the Government are looking at implementing the same offence in England and Wales.