

Community Working Group – Minutes

Working Group: Community Working Group

Date: Friday 19th June 2026

Time: 19:00 – 20:30 hrs

Venue: Mafeking Hall

Chair: Steph Rutterford

1. Welcome

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies Received From:

None

3. Community Working Group Membership

Discussion:

- Invitation for attendees to become permanent members.
- Membership expectations discussed:
 - o Attendance at meetings where possible
 - o Supporting community actions
 - o Voluntary participation in agreed actions

New Members / Volunteers:

- Tim & Aly Dark

No actions/ resolutions

4. Allotments

To incorporate allotment matters as a standing item for each Community Working Group meeting, allowing for expanded discussion beyond Parish Council reporting.

Agreements / Decisions:

- Appointment of respective allotment points of contact (POCs) for Pilning Allotment: Mel Bevan, and Severn Beach Allotment: Kevin Weeks.
- Query regarding what is happening to the Willow trees at Pilning- they are now becoming so large that they will need to be excavated out before the plot can be re-let.

Actions:

Action	Responsible	Deadline
Find out what is happening with the plot- ND previously advised he could help by digging the trees out.	SR	None

5. Sports & Recreation

5.1 Pilning Playing Field – Goalpost and basketball backboard Replacement

Discussion:

- It was generally held that the goalposts should not be moved closer to the basketball court/ play area due to the propensity for the ball to go into/over the hedges and the possibility of it hitting children using the play equipment.
- Acknowledgement that the one remaining goal has now been deemed unsafe by an inspector, so it will be removed ASAP.
- Replacement goals and backboards (hopefully) to be in before the start of the school holidays.

5.2 Pilning Playing Field – Future Recreation Improvements

Attendees were asked to consider the inclusion/ installation of:

- Ziplines
- Trampolines
- Larger climbing frames for wider age ranges
- Balancing equipment (e.g. ropes and wooden platforms)
- Outdoor gym equipment for adults
- Basketball court enclosure
- Tennis court repairs
- Other facilities

Actions:

Action	Responsible	Deadline
Begin compiling a list of survey questions for introduction at the next meeting before dissemination to the wider community for their consideration.	SR & VB	By next meeting
Action SR & VB to meet with the Head of St. Peter's primary school to gauge interest and to ask for pupils' input to current and future facilities.	SR & VB	None
Action Attendees to consider the future facilities they may like to see on the Playing Field, and to bring ideas to the next meeting	Everyone	By next meeting

6. Severn Beach Sensory Garden

- Update on the Severn Beach Sensory Garden project by SR. Volunteers still required. Next Working Group date TBC.
- Gill Cox is preparing a Grant application for funds to go partly toward the Sensory Garden project.

No actions/ resolutions

7. Maintenance & Facilities

7.1 Pilning Playing Field – Bins & Benches

Discussion:

- Consideration of current locations and need. No issues raised.

No actions/ resolutions

7.2 Parish Facilities Review

- Consideration of whether additional facilities are required elsewhere within the Parish. No issues raised.

No actions/ resolutions

8. Recommendations to Parish Council

To agree recommendations and actions to be referred to the Parish Council for approval.

9. Any Other Business

- SR explained that she had attended a virtual meeting with Kelly Bray and Alex Norrs of Avon Wildlife Trust to get ideas for ecology enhancement and opportunities for a nature reserve area at Pilning Playing Field. SR invited attendees to meet with AWT when they attend the site.
- Various ideas were raised about Pilning Village and how its visual attraction could be enhanced. The potential of approaching Pilning Garage to help plant-up their flowerbeds to help with village aesthetic was raised. SR and Tim D resolved to speak to the owners to gauge their interest.

Action	Responsible	Deadline
Meet with AWT at Pilning Playing Field	SR, TimD, MelB and SueB	TBC
Action		
Speak with Pilning Garage about flowerbed frontage	SR & Tim D	By next meeting

10. Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the date, time, and venue of the next meeting.

SR to check with Pilning Village Hall for next meeting availability.

- Issues arising from recent installations.

11. Spend Request Recommendations to Parish Council

Item No.	Issue	Recommendation
1	Willow trees	Seek quotes for removal of willow trees at Pilning allotment so that plot can be re-let.

Additional Recommendations:

- None

Attendance Record

Councillors Present	Members of the Public
• Victoria Bywater	• Gill C • Bob L • Lindsey L • Jayne C • Kerry • Tessa C • Pauline W • Kevin W • Tim D • Aly D • Mel B • Sue B