

Bathampton Parish Council Newsletter May 2017

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place in the Village Hall on Monday 15 May at 7.30pm. As ever everyone is welcome to come along to hear what has been happening in Bathampton in the past year and to join us for a drink afterwards. This year we have invited the Bathampton Meadows Alliance (BMA) to give us an update on the campaign to protect the meadows from becoming a Park and Ride. Please come along and join in the discussion about the future of the meadows. It is important that your councillors know the views of villagers on this issue. At our April meeting we agreed to give £1000 from our reserves to support the campaign to protect the meadows which BMA are leading. We know that any challenge to BANES plans is likely to be expensive, so we need to know that you are happy for us to continue to support the campaign. Any financial support will be from our reserves, which are there for situations like this, and we have no intention of increasing the amount the parish raises as part of council tax to support the campaign.

We have a vacancy for a parish councillor – so if you are interested please talk to any of the councillors at the Annual Meeting or come to one of our regular meetings (7.30 on the third Thursday of every month except August).

There are also a lot of celebrations coming up. On 13 May the Playgroup is celebrating its 50th year. There will be lots of child friendly events between 11am and 3pm in the Village Hall.

We are also celebrating 120 years since the invention of Plasticine, with a day of fun in the Village Hall. More information is provided with this newsletter and you can read about the history in the May copy of Local Look. Come along during the day for Plasticine workshops, come for tea and cake in the afternoon, or enjoy a hot dog and a drink from the bar from 6pm along with a showing of movies from Aardman with Plasticine in the starring role.

Finally, Jane Riley has once again painted some wonderful scenes of Bathampton Meadows through the seasons. These will be on view 15 and 16 June in the room above Green Park Brasserie and will be auctioned on 16 June with proceeds to the campaign to save the meadows.

Moira Brennan

The Parish Council on line

Liam McMurray

Follow @bathamptonpc on Twitter at www.twitter.com/bathamptonpc to get updates on events and issues affecting the village, as well as information and discussion of news from Bath and the surrounding Parishes. We currently have almost 250 followers, from local business such as The Bathampton Mill, and Mulberry Kidz - to community groups such as The local Scout group and the Dry Arch growers.

For more detailed information on events and current affairs, check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bathampton. We post the information you need about local events happening in the village - from Summer Fêtes to 5k runs across the meadow. It's also a great place for local businesses and organisations to post information to a wider audience.

For official announcements, updates on important issues such as the Park and Ride, and the minutes from our regular Parish Council meetings you can visit www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk

You'll also find the agenda for the next Council meeting there, as well as all the documentation that we are required by law to publish. If you have any questions for the Parish Council - there is a contact form, or you can find contact details for each individual councillor.

All of this is in addition to our traditional forms of communication. We will continue to deliver a newsletter to every house in the village 4 times a year and post information on the noticeboards.

Highways Group

Stuart Andrews and Jacqueline Bird

Increased and more effective signage and speed-monitoring is planned for Bathampton Lane, Mill Road and the Warminster Road and we hope that this will lead to more courteous and considerate driving. Community Speedwatch has been working hard with the police and council to support safe driving throughout the village and the parish council thanks all the volunteers for their hard work. More volunteers are needed – details of how to get involved are on our noticeboards.

Road surfaces are poor after the winter and representation has been made to BANES to do something about this ongoing situation as well as to ensure the street cleaning programme operates effectively.

The canal path seems to be being well-used but there are still some reports of inconsiderate behaviour by a few! The surface is holding up well, signage encourages sharing of the path and this bodes well for the busy summer months ahead.

Leisure and Amenities

Jan Helps

Allotments

There has been quite a changeover of plots this year. All allotments have been taken and there is currently no waiting list. However, if anyone wishes to add their name to the waiting list, please contact Don Smith, the parish clerk, or me.

Playground

Here we are, three months later and the fence to the playground has still not appeared. I have been told that the fence is made and that installation is imminent. However, as is frequently the case, I will believe it when I see it. I am assured by the company installing that it will be happening soon. If they inform us before they start, we will let you know on Twitter. However, you may just find that the fence installation has begun. I do hope I am not repeating this notice in July.

Grass cutting has begun throughout the village. More cuts have been ordered this year. The first cut always generates a lot of clippings. I hope the cuts will be satisfactory this year.

Footpaths

David Mayo

With the summer months approaching, we will be undertaking another round of cutting back surface vegetation on the footpaths. If you are interested in giving something back to the community and getting in a bit of gentle exercise with a small but keen group of volunteers, please contact Cllr Mayo. No experience necessary! You should wear comfortable shoes and clothes that will keep out the nettles. We can provide gloves and equipment. For dates and meeting places contact Cllr Mayo

Batheaston/Bathamton Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridge and track.

Friends of Bathampton Meadows Riverside (FOBMR) are now open for donations. Spring work has commenced and first cut has been made of the grass either side of the track. The signage on the roads has been installed by BANES. The finalisation of the management plan for the 11 distinct areas should be available soon and will enable us to plan out the projects for the coming years. Details are on notice boards at either end of the track.

Land between Miller Walk and Simons Close / 'Leylandii Field'

We understand that the CPS is currently reviewing its decision not to proceed against Mrs Vivien for further acts regarding the access track after it was returned to its original state after being 'vandalised'. The decision on the BANES Placemaking Plan, which attempts to ensure that the field and track form part of the 'open green space' visible from Bathampton Lane, should be made in the spring.

Five Valleys, Warminster Road

The application to demolish the existing house and replace it with a new 5-bed house has been permitted, subject to arboricultural & ecological conditions.

Woodside, Warminster Road

Still no decision on the application to build two new houses either side of the existing house, together with garages and parking areas.

57 Warminster Rd

An application has been received for the addition of a first floor and raising of the roof to create a two-storey dwelling, two storey side and rear-infill extension, erection of front porch and erection of triple garage with terrace above. We had no objection in principle but felt the front elevation and roof were out of keeping with streetscape. However the changes were permitted.

University Car Park

This was refused in May 2015. The university appealed against the refusal but the appeal has now been dismissed.

Tree Works

There have been the usual Springtime requests for cutting back and removing trees in the conservation area, most of which have been agreed. Where possible we would appreciate that any trees removed are replaced by similar trees to preserve the lovely aspect of the village.

This quarter the Parish Council has also received other applications; details of all planning matters, including our comments and others', can be found at <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk> .

The George

After having been quiet since it was raised last year, The George announced in February that they were going to install Pay & Display meters in the car park, which they duly did. The only ticket is for 3 hours and costs £2, refundable if drinks are bought at the bar. Many groups within the village were affected, and a meeting was held to determine what we were going to do. Some issues were quickly resolved; the residents of Canal Terrace have been given permits to continue to park in the car park, and Greene King (GK) have said that the parking inspector will not check the car park during agreed times for dropping off and picking-up of schoolchildren. Two groups of people are more severely affected, the volunteers who help in the church and staff and visitors at the school; permits are being sought for them but at the time of writing GK are asking £1 per day for the permits, and the annual cost of 6 permits for the church and 20 for the school is unaffordable. GK say they are keen to help so we have explained this and we are hoping for a better offer. We have been unable to arrange a solution for any other people using the car park.

The High Street and other roads in Bathampton are now being used for parking. As a result of this it has become obvious that unless GK change their mind, we do have a parking problem in the village. We are working with BANES and other interested parties to see if we can find another suitable place in Bathampton for parking cars.

Harbutt's Day June 17

The Museum of Bath at Work in collaboration with local residents and organisations in Bathampton has organised a programme of events. At 10.30 Doc Watson, Bath's very own William Harbutt impersonator will be leading a workshop on the how, what, where and when of Plasticine and describing its use and history – all ages are welcome! If you are interested in taking part in the Plasticine workshop turn up at 10.30. If you are inspired to make a sculpture during the workshop you might like to enter it for the competition being judged at 12.30. There are three classes of entry for Pre-school Children, School Children and Grown Ups! Prizes which will be awarded by Jess McKillop of Aardman Animation at 1.15 p.m.

If cake making is more your line you are invited to submit a cake for judging at the same time. The three classes of entry are Most tasty, Most looking like Plasticine (but not tasting of it) and Generally the Best Looking. There are prizes for this too!

There will be refreshments throughout the day and in the evening as a special treat three Aardman Animation films: The Wrong Trousers, A Grand Day Out and A Close Shave will be shown from 6.00 p.m. You will need a (free) ticket so pick one up when you arrive during the day and hand it over when you arrive in the evening.

Full details of the programme will be available on the Museum of Bath at Work website www.bath-at-work.org.uk and the Bathampton Community Facebook Page www.facebook.com/bathampton.

Swifts need your help

Penny Ladd

Swifts will be arriving here to breed in May after over-wintering in Africa but unfortunately the numbers returning are dwindling and those that do return are finding it more and more difficult to find suitable nesting sites. They need our help. The Bath & District RSPB has formed a sub-group, aptly named the Bath Swift Group, with a view to identifying, protecting and increasing nesting sites within a 3 mile radius of Bath city centre. As swifts return to the same nesting sites year after year, an obvious first step is to identify existing nest sites and we are asking anyone who is lucky enough to have swifts nesting on their property, or anyone who is aware of a nest site in the village, to let us know, either by email at pennyladd46@gmail.com or by phone on 01225 462346. Many thanks for your help.

Village News and Events

Please let Jan Helps know if you would like anything included in this section, including any changes to the What's on section.

Village Hall

The village hall is a great venue for one off events and is very reasonably priced. You can book the hall by emailing on bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com or contact the booking secretary on 01225 444752 or 07800 898101.

Village show events

3 June is the plant sale and 10 June is the Village Show Quiz night.

Pilates is an excellent functional exercise keeping you both strong and flexible. Classes are run as courses by Lesley, an experienced and highly qualified instructor.

Zumba Dance drop-in classes for all is a great way to burn off calories and lift your mood. Lesley and the group invite you to join the party!

Contact details: Email lesleyeileen.batten@btopenworld.com. Phone 07960 888557 or 01225 421206. Web www.lesleybatten.webs.com

Singing

All are welcome to come and join the Goldies 'sing and smile' fun and friendly sing alongs held at Bathampton Methodist Church (Holcombe Lane) with Jackie Smith on the second Tuesday of each month from 11.00am until 12.00noon

Please come along and join Jackie for an hour of fun and laughter.

We ask you to make a donation of £2 for each session towards the work of the Goldies Charity.

Jackie looks forward to welcoming you.

Dry Arch Growers

Find us at the end of Holcombe Lane. We have set up a community allotment. It is ideal for people who want to grow their own veg but don't want to have their own allotment. Share the sowing, growing and harvesting! To find out more, why not call in on Sundays or call Alex on 07793056448 or Jan on 01225 336656

If you would like to publicise any activities or events of interest to Bathampton Residents please contact any of the Parish Councillors who will be happy to pass them on for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Contact details:

Stuart Andrews	425637
George Ardrey	424270
Jacqueline Bird	312621
Moira Brennan	313503
Jan Helps	336656
Lin King	460998
David Mayo	466875
Liam McMurray	312412
Don Smith secretary	744472

www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk

Village Hall Bookings

Maya on 07800 898101 or 01225 444752

bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com

Newsletter Editor

Jan Helps can be contacted on

Telephone: 01225 336656

E.mail: j.s.helps@btinternet.com

Please let Jan Helps know if there are changes to any of the information in "What's on in Bathampton"

What's On in Bathampton May 2017

Organisation	Meets	Organiser	Contact
Art Groups	Monday 1.30pm Monday 6.30pm Thursday 9am	Judy King	311046
Bathampton Village Show		Judith Book	465781
Beavers	Wednesday 6.15 - 7.15pm	Louise Madden	427682
Bell ringers	Monday 7.45pm & Sundays 10.00am	Candy McCabe	465564
Bridge Club	Monday 1.30 – 4.30 pm Tuesday 1.30 – 4.30pm	Ken Jeffries	460800
Brownies	Wednesday 6.30 - 8.00 pm	Christine Vine	834700
Crickets Club	Tuesday & Sunday	Stephen Dalley Smith	460395
Cubs	Tuesday 6.30 – 8pm	Louise Madden	427682
Dance, Ballet and Modern Curtis school of Dance	Friday pm	Deborah Curtis	01761 437004
Dry Arch Growers. Bathampton community co- operative	Thursday mid morning and pm (while light) Sundays 11 - 3	Alex Robertson	07793056448
Goldies Singing session	Tuesday St Nicholas Court 10.30-11.30	Luciano Pinto	366332
Guides	Thursday 7.00-8.30pm	Christine Vine	834700
Cool to knit – crochet, sewing, spinning, cake!	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday each month. Community room, St Nicholas court 2 to 4pm	Wendy Freebourne	444979
Chair Keep Fit Body workout	Tuesdays 6 pm (30 mins) Chair exercises Tuesday 6.40 to 7.40pm Wednesday 1-2pm	Jackie Brangwyn	840850
Mini Club	Wednesday 9.00 to 11.30 term time	Hannah Findlay	07910 841785
Maxi Club lunch for retired people	Last Thursday in Month 12 – 1.30 Miller Room	Sara Fudge	460196
Pilates Miller Room village Hall Zumba Dance village hall	Tues 10.15 to 11.15 6 to 7pm 7 to 8pm Thurs 6pm to 7pm Thurs 7.05pm – 7.55pm	Lesley Batten	421206
Playgroup bathamptonplaygroup@ yahoo.co.uk	Mon, Tues, Wed, Friday	Lisa Nash	07716 600269
Scouts	Friday 7.30 to 9.30pm	Simon Crowden	07968 484766
Scottish Country Dance	Thursday 1.30 to 4.30pm	Jane Hammond	833411
Senior Table Tennis	Tues mornings 10.00-12.00 Scout HQ	David Plumbridge George Malcolm	429979 07789 961848
Table Tennis	Every Saturday in Autumn and Spring 6 – 8pm Scout HQ.	Ray Bennett	866880
Tai Chi	Scout hall Monday 8 - 9pm Thursday 10 – 11am	Simon Darnton	07970022627 simondarnton.com
Yoga Village hall	Friday 12. – 13.30	Suzy Lovegrove	07980008672 suzy.lovegrove@lovegrove.com