

# Bathampton Parish Council Newsletter November 2016

## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Well done to the organisers of this year's village show – the day was a great success and it is great to see the show evolving.

There is still no news on the Park and Ride. Many thanks to Bathampton Meadows Alliance, the National Trust and Bath Preservation Trust, who all spoke out against the Park and Ride plans at the inspector's hearings on the Placemaking Plan. BANES have suggested they might make an announcement in November – but they also said that about May, July and October. You can follow what is going on and see the Ghost Town video at [bathamptonmeadowsalliance.org.uk](http://bathamptonmeadowsalliance.org.uk) or on Save Bathampton Meadows facebook page.

The issue of the link road is still with us. Despite what people would like us to think, until there is a firm proposal and modelling of that proposal it is impossible to know the impact of a link road on traffic in and around Bath. Without doubt any scheme will reduce traffic through the village – but it is also almost certain to increase HGV traffic on the Warminster Road – particularly if it is combined with restrictions on Cleveland Bridge. We also know it will be very visible and very noisy. The Avon Valley Action Group have set up a website at [A36A46linkroadfacts.org.uk](http://A36A46linkroadfacts.org.uk). Whether you support a link road or think it will be an environmental disaster it may help to understand some of the history and the policy arguments.

Can I also thank Julie Reed who has taken over the role of organising the delivery of this newsletter from Christine McCann. And of course, thanks to Christine for all those years of getting the newsletter to us.

We would like to say farewell, thank you and good luck to Rose Stanton who has worked in the village post office for many years. We wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

Finally, we now have a date for the celebration of the 120th anniversary of the invention of plasticine in Bathampton. On the 17th June 2017 expect to see all sorts of plasticine related fun. If anyone with event management experience would like to get involved in planning the day please get in touch.

**Moira Brennan**

### **The Parish Council on line**

**Liam McMurray**

Please visit the website (<http://bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk>) for details of news and events affecting the community - such as the new Digital access to ancestral records in Bath and North East Somerset, as well as the agenda and minutes for the Parish Council meetings.

Our presence on Twitter is growing steadily with over 150 people now following the account (<https://twitter.com/bathamptonpc>).

Finally our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/bathampton/>) is proving useful as a way for the community to interact with each other and share information.

## Highways Group

## Stuart Andrews and Jacqueline Bird

### Canal

The tow path seems to be a success but there have been issues regarding the co-existence of cyclists and other users. The CRT will soon upgrade its temporary signage to permanent signs reiterating that care and consideration are prerequisites for this shared space.

The CRT is also acting regarding unauthorised camping along the towpath at the western end of the village.

### Roads

- The Community Speedwatch is slowly progressing; thanks to this group of volunteers.

A handful of people have now been approved and trained to participate in the speedwatch scheme. Sarah Tovey has worked very hard to coordinate a timetable and locations have been approved on Bathampton Lane (driveways of Braeside, Greenhills and The Heathers), and Warminster Road, at the bus stop outside the Scout hut opposite the top of Down Lane.

Sarah is in the process of obtaining approval from Avon & Somerset police for at least one more site on the Warminster Road. There is a 3 month schedule in place to carry out weekly monitoring, starting at the end of October. The registrations of all speeding vehicles will be sent to Avon & Somerset police and drivers will receive a letter directly from the police. Repeat offenders will have their vehicle details added to the police database.

If anyone is interested in taking part in the speedwatch scheme (about 1 hr per month) it's not too late, please email Sarah Tovey on Bathamptonspeedwatch@icloud.com .

- Pothole maintenance is ongoing.
- Speed humps are an issue. There are either too many of them, or too few, or they are poorly sited. Conversations with BANES are on going in an attempt to come to a happy compromise.

### The George

There is no update regarding the pub's proposal to make their carpark Pay and Display. The impact on church, school, local residents and users of the canal path would be significant and it is hoped that consideration of the local community will be play a major part in any decision.

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## Leisure and Amenities

## Jan Helps

### Playground

The playground working party now consists of just three people. We have started looking at designs and trying to prioritise the various options being considered. We will be consulting with interested parties when we have made some decisions. There will be a need to fundraise and we would appreciate help from anyone who has experience of grant applications or enjoys organising fundraising events.

### New bus arrangements

A number of people have contacted parish councillors regarding the new bus tservice. All concerns have been passed on to Anthony Clarke who is the BANES councillor responsible for transport. I have contacted individuals with his response to timings for school students. BANES have little control over the decisions made by the bus companies at the moment but the "Bus services bill", which is currently going through parliament, may be a game changer. The West of England transport study is also currently looking at smart ticketing which is expected to be rolled out in the next 18 months. This should give more choice over buses and better pricing structures.....watch this space. In the mean time, if you have any concerns or observations, then please keep informing BANES transport department. The parish council will also continue to monitor any issues and pass on to BANES.

Batheaston/Bathampton Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridge and track.

Peter Fear continues to do a sterling job on the day-to-day management of the track and the surrounding area for Bathampton and Batheaston. The volunteer group has worked hard over the summer to keep the ground clear. The small wooden bridge across the ditch is in place and proving very useful. The grass either side of the path is being cut by Steve Horler and paid for by Bathampton PC. The next steps are to finalise the management plan for the 11 distinct areas and to establish a formal constitution for the Volunteer group. Anyone who wishes to join the Volunteer group should email Bathampton and Batheaston River and Footpath Friends at [babraffs@gmail.com](mailto:babraffs@gmail.com)

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

The Planning Inspector dismissed the appeal against the refusal of the application for 4 self-build houses on the 'leylandii field'. Subsequently Mrs Vivien has made a statutory challenge against this. She also is awaiting a hearing about her rights over the 'access track'.

Where this track was vandalised and an illegal gravel track laid on land belonging jointly to the residents of Miller Walk, BANES investigated and made an enforcement order to return the track and footpath to their prior state. This has now been done by the Miller Walk residents.

There is no response yet to the PC proposal in the BANES Placemaking Plan that the field and track form part of the 'open green space' visible from Bathampton Lane.

Whilst all this has been going on, there has been no further progress regarding the leylandii trees.

### **Down House**

The appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a new house in the garden of Down House was dismissed.

### **Woodside, Warminster Road**

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

### **Rail Electrification/Sub-station**

Network Rail were proposing to pull together all the various documents, plans and methodologies required to enable them to submit a new planning application to move the proposed substation site away from the school at the end of October, but this has not yet been received.

### **Jewson's Yard (The Old Timber Yard) 15 New Houses (including 5 affordable houses)**

Work has started again on this project.

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>.

## Village News and Events

Please let Jan Helps know if you would like anything included in this section

### Village Hall

The village hall is a great venue for one off events and is very reasonably priced. If you would like to use the hall please contact the booking secretary on 01225 466875.

### Village Hall - events

**The Art show** takes place on 19 November. This is a very popular event with the opportunity to see some of the amazing variety of artwork produced by our three art groups. You can buy a piece of original art or enjoy a chat over a cup of tea and some cake.

**There is also a Christmas Fair on 26 November from 10am to 2pm.** More information is included in the Village Show newsletter.

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

#### Contact details:

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Village Hall Bookings  
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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 November 2016

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
Helping Hands Neighbourly Support Group	Call if you want to help or need help	Katie Spinks	460797
Cool to knit – crochet, sewing, spinning, cake!	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month. Community room, St Nicholas court 2 to 4pm	Wendy Freebourne	444979
Chair Keep Fit  Aerobics	Tuesdays 6.20 pm (30 mins) Chair exercises Tuesday 7 – 8pm Wednesday 12.45 to 1.45pm	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  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	Mon, Tues, Wed.	Lisa Nash	07868848560
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 10.30-1.00 Scout HQ	Ron Adams	425745
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 <a href="mailto:simondarnton.com">simondarnton.com</a>
Try Your Hand Craft Sessions	Wednesday afternoons	Shirley Steadman	428035
Yoga Village hall	Friday 12.15 – 13.30	Suzy Lovegrove	07980008672 <a href="mailto:suzy.lovegrove@lovegrove.com">suzy.lovegrove@lovegrove.com</a> .