

# Bathampton Parish Council

## Newsletter October 2015

### CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

It was great to see so many of you come out to have your say at the Park and Ride consultation event on 19 September. I believe around 170 people attended the event. Bathampton and Batheaston submitted a joint response to the consultation opposing all three sites and rejecting the validity of the consultation process. It is good that we are also seeing other bodies rejecting all three sites, including the National Trust, Bath Preservation Trust and the Campaign to Protect Rural England. The decision regarding the Park and Ride will be made at the B&NES cabinet meeting 4-6pm on 4 November at the Guildhall. The public can attend the meeting. There will also be a protest outside the Guildhall during the meeting. Information on the plans for the day will be available on Save Bathampton Meadows on Facebook.

The next great debate will be the renewed calls for a link road across the valley. As a council we are keen to find out what your views are on this subject. It is without doubt that a link road would reduce the traffic that comes across the tollbridge and passes through our village. However a link road will attract more traffic onto the A36 and A46. The only data available to us, from a 2002 study of a link road from the Batheaston bypass to Dry Arch, suggests that it could add 3,500 vehicles per day to the A36, including doubling the number of HGVs and add 2000 vehicles a day to the A46. The data suggests that a link road will attract up to 16,500 vehicles per day - so it will be a major structure in the Avon Valley with all the environmental impacts that will bring. We are keen to hear your views. Parish Councillors will be at the Give and Take event on 31 October - so please come along and tell us what you think.

Finally, can I say a big thank you to Tony and Christine McCann and their team of newsletter deliverers for their continued support in getting this newsletter to you. Tony continues to give me much needed advice and support for which I am constantly grateful !!

#### **Village Hall**

Remember the Give and Take event in the Village Hall on Saturday 31 October. You can drop stuff off from 9am and the event takes place from 10-12 noon. Even if you don't have anything to give or take come and have a cup of tea and a slice of cake and support our Playgroup. Parish Councillors will also be available on the day to have a chat. We will also be selling artistic and interesting village maps to raise funds to upgrade our playground and recreational areas.

We are very sad to say that our lovely booking secretary, Mary, is moving out of the village and we need someone to take her place. If you want to be the next Bathampton Party (Booking) Queen or King please contact us by email at [bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com). It is a great way to get to know people in the village; all you need are basic computer knowledge and good organisational skills.

#### **New Councillors**

We have two vacancies for councillors. If you would like to support your local community, if you have strong views on some of the issues facing our village or if you just want to meet some new people then please call Moira on 01225 313503.

#### **Moira Brennan**

## Highways Group

## David Mayo and Stuart Andrews

There has been little action over the summer.

### **The A36 improvements and resurfacing**

These were satisfactorily completed on time, as were the road works involved with the electrification of the railway.

### **Vehicle Activated Signs**

The two signs along the Warminster Road are working; the other sign in the village has not been repaired

### **Speed bumps**

There is concern regarding the ineffectiveness of some of the speed bumps down Bathampton Lane. BANES is aware of this but it, along with the non-working VAS, are not currently at the top of their priority list.

Some years ago the council supported a Community Speedwatch scheme in the village. This has lapsed but there is some enthusiasm for starting it again, although the process, through Avon and Somerset Police, is not straightforward. If you think that you would like to be involved in a resurrected scheme, please contact: [highways@bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:highways@bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk)

### **Crossing at Down lane**

The improvements to the crossing at the Down Lane/Bathampton Lane/High Street junction were due to have started earlier in early October but, as we approach the end of the month, there is no sign of action yet.

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## Leisure and Amenities

## Jan Helps

### **Allotments**

We have recently measured the allotments in an attempt to join the twenty first century and use metres. Sorry to those of you who like "lugs" but you can always refer to lugs for personal use if you prefer. There have been a number of changes over the years with allotments being divided and we wanted to establish a clearer picture of the size and layout of the plots. It may have passed some people by but there is a request in the allotment agreement that plots have markers at the 4 corners and the plot is clearly labelled with the number. The lack of corner markers did make measuring a challenge at times so please will allotment owners ensure that they mark their plots clearly over the coming weeks. Many thanks in anticipation of your help in this matter.

### **Playground and Playing field**

The seesaw seats in the playground have been replaced.

The playground group have met to continue exploring the development and funding of new facilities. Unfortunately, some members have had to resign from the group and we find ourselves short of people to help. We are particularly keen to find someone who has experience of fund raising. So if you think you would be interested or could help, please contact either Liam McMurray or Jan Helps. Contact details at the end of the newsletter.

We have been grateful to those parents and children who have completed a questionnaire but we would appreciate more views from a greater number of the village. Accompanying this newsletter is a questionnaire. If you would like to complete it, you can leave the completed form at the village hall or the school.



# **Planning and Conservation Report    Lin King and George Ardrey, and Susanne Wing (co-opted)**

## **Rail Electrification**

Phase 1 was completed on time, and although there was much disruption Network Rail did their best to minimize this and to alert us to any exceptional events. The paperwork for a planning application to move the proposed substation site away from the school is being prepared.

Later phases of the electrification project will involve safety work on bridges.

## **Batheaston/Bathampton Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridge and track.**

Bathampton and Batheaston are now finalising discussions with B&NES on the proposal and management plan for the site, hopefully with a grant towards the work. It is planned to form a volunteer group for ongoing maintenance work, look out for more details soon.

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

Two applications have been received to upgrade the track and add a service channel, and are being considered by B&NES, along with an application for 4 self-build houses on the 'leylandii field'. The PC continues to object to any such development and in the B&NES Placemaking Plan currently under consultation has proposed that the field forms part of the 'open green space' visible from Bathampton Lane.

**Previous M.O.D. Site, Warminster Road** – 201 Dwellings (including affordable housing) - now 206 dwellings

This application was permitted but still nothing seems to be happening on the site.

## **Jewson's Yard (The Old Timber Yard) 15 New Houses**

Final details of layout/design of houses have been received and are very similar to the original plans. There will be three 3-bed and two 2-bed units for 'affordable housing'. We are still concerned that a development away from the village centre is not ideal, but happy with the overall design. Formal approval is awaited.

## **CRT clean up**

We are still awaiting the promised CRT 'clean up' which we are assured will address the issue of overspill of canal users goods from boats on to the canal path and banks.

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 Parish Council on line**

**Liam McMurray**

The Parish Council now has a page on Facebook which you can view either by searching for the village or just by going to [www.facebook.com/bathampton](http://www.facebook.com/bathampton).

We'll be using this page as a place to let you all know about events and news affecting the village and the immediate area, as well as a location for members of the community to post their own messages and reach a wider audience.

We have also set up a twitter account - follow us @bathamptonpc - which aims to keep you informed of discussions involving our village, plus provide up-to-date information about important topics such as the proposed Park and Ride.

Finally, visitors to our website will notice a little change to the way it looks - it now is a lot simpler and cleaner and has been designed to work on your tablet and smartphone as well as desktop - give us a visit and see for yourselves. If there's anything you'd like to see from these services just drop us a line on Twitter, or visit our Facebook page and leave a message. We look forward to hearing from you!

## 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 425085.

### Dry Arch Growers

If you don't have an allotment and want to "grow your own", why not come along and visit on Thursdays or Sundays. You don't have to be an expert and there is something for everyone. Come and meet other people in the village who like growing and eating local produce. See our blog on <https://bathamptoncsa.wordpress.com> or find us on Facebook

<p>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.</p> <p>Contact details:</p> <table><tr><td>Stuart Andrews</td><td>425637</td></tr><tr><td>George Ardrey</td><td>424270</td></tr><tr><td>Moira Brennan</td><td>313503</td></tr><tr><td>Jan Helps</td><td>336656</td></tr><tr><td>Lin King</td><td>460998</td></tr><tr><td>David Mayo</td><td>466875</td></tr><tr><td>Liam McMurray</td><td>312412</td></tr><tr><td>Don Smith secretary</td><td>332497</td></tr></table> <p><a href="http://www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk">www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk</a></p>	Stuart Andrews	425637	George Ardrey	424270	Moira Brennan	313503	Jan Helps	336656	Lin King	460998	David Mayo	466875	Liam McMurray	312412	Don Smith secretary	332497	<p>Village Hall Bookings Mary Feddery Tel: 425085 <a href="mailto:bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com">bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com</a></p> <p>Newsletter Editor Jan Helps can be contacted on</p> <p>Telephone: 01225 336656 E.mail: <a href="mailto:j.s.helps@talk21.com">j.s.helps@talk21.com</a></p> <p>Please let Jan Helps know if there are changes to any of the information in "What's on in Bathampton"</p>
Stuart Andrews	425637																
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## Bathampton Playground Survey

If you haven't done so already, you can complete this survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9L7Z NKH>

Please drop off all completed surveys to the collection box in the foyer of the Bathampton Village Hall, thank you.

1. How often do you visit the playground in Bathampton?

More than once a day	Daily	Several times a week	Weekly	Several times a month	Once a month or less
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2. At what time of day do you normally visit? (Check all that apply)

Weekday, early morning	Weekday, mid-morning	Weekday, afternoon	Weekday, evening
Weekend, early morning	Weekend, mid-morning	Weekend, afternoon	Weekend, evening

3. What age are your children? (Check all that apply)

I don't have children	Under 2 years	2-5 years	5-8 years	9-12 years	13+ years
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4. Are you satisfied with the playground in Bathampton, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with it, or dissatisfied with it?

Extremely satisfied	Moderately satisfied	Slightly satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Moderately dissatisfied	Extremely dissatisfied
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5. Please describe something you particularly like about the park

6. Is there anything you dislike about it?

7. How often do you and/our child use the equipment?

	Very often	Quite often	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Large slide					
Roundabout					
Bouncy seat					
Seesaw					
Balance beam					
Climbing posts					
Cradle swings					
Seat swings					
Hopscotch					
Tyre aerial runway					
Football goals					
Climbing wall					
Parallel bars					
Chin-up bar					

8. If the following were installed, please indicate how often you would use them.

	Very often	Quite often	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Basketball area					
Basket swing					
Fitness equipment					
Netball area					
Themed play (e.g. pirate ship, castle)					
Pétanque/boules piste					
Activity net					
Level football pitch					
Table tennis					
Inclusive play and sensory area					
Seating area with picnic tables					

9. Given the available space we have, do you agree or disagree with the following statements; "There should be more equipment for..."

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
children with disabilities					
pre-schoolers					
primary schoolers					
secondary schoolers					
adults					
the retired					

10. What suggestions do you have for improving the playground?