

## **Bathampton Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st.,September, 2017**

### **in the Village Hall, Bathampton**

Present: Cllrs. M.Brennan,S.Andrews,G.Ardrey, J.Bird, J. Helps and L. King

- 1. Apologies:** These were received from Cllrs. D. Mayo.  
and L. McMurray.

- 2. Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

**3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup>.,July, 2017 had been circulated.  
Cllr. King seconded by the Cllr. Bird, proposed that the Minutes, be accepted.  
Carried unanimously.

**4. Matters Arising**

Cllr. McMurray is to be reminded he is writing a guide to Twitter.

**L.M**

The Clerk will email B.& N.E.S. Council again concerning the changeover of our street lights to L.E.D.'s. He will also contact Neighbourhood Watch again obtain a list of the Schemes in Bathampton.

**CLERK  
L.K.**

Cllr. King has yet to visit "The George" and talk to the new Manageress.

Cllr. Ardrey reported that the future of the village shop was uncertain. He said that Dr. Brunskill is in charge of it and that a decision is not likely until December.

There has been no response from Kelvin Packer (Highways Dept., B.& N.E.S.) regarding traffic problems in the parish.

**5. Finance**

**a) Approval of the Financial Report for July & August, 2017**

The report had been circulated. It was then proposed for approval by the Cllr. Ardrey and seconded by Cllr. King. Carried unanimously.

**b) Approval of Expenditure for September,2017**

The Clerk reported that nine invoices had been received this month as follows:-

N.A.L.C.	Subscription to LCR Magazine	£ 17.00
B.& N.E.S.Council	Printing Newsletter	£ 116.00
Canal & River Trust	Annual Rent _ Jubilee Gardens	£ 73.04(+VAT)
B.& N.E.S.Council	Play Area Inspections 2017-18	£ 229.50(+VAT)
E.D.F.Energy	Electricity (Qtr. End. 31/3/17)	£ 95.85(+VAT)
E.D.F.Energy	Electricity (Qtr. End. 30/6/17)	£ 96.09(+VAT)
E.D.F.Energy	Electricity (Mnth. End. 31/7/17)	£ 32.20(+VAT)
Grant Thornton U.K. Ltd.	Audit Fee 2016-17	£ 200.00(+VAT)
Idverde Ltd.	Play Area Fencing	£ 6649.93(+VAT)

The Clerk pointed out that E.D.F. Energy are due to collect their three payments by Direct Debit at the end of the month. Cllr. Helps, seconded by Cllr. Ardrey, proposed that the other six invoices be paid. Carried unanimously.

**CLERK**

**5. Finance(Cont'd.)****c) Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Local Government Boundary Commission about a forthcoming review which can recommend changes to the number, names and boundaries of parish wards and the number of parish councillors for each parish ward. Some discussion then took place. It was agreed that we would not like to see a new boundary drawn between us and Batheaston and Bathford. The Clerk was asked to draft a letter to the Commission making this point.

**CLERK**

B.& N.E.S. Council has written asking for nominations for its Community Awards. The Clerk was asked to download two copies of the Nomination Forms.

**CLERK**

Grant Thornton UK Ltd., our auditors, have written to say that they have completed the audit. There were no queries and the Clerk has posted the notice advertising the completion.

S.L.C.C. are holding a Regional Training Seminar in Bristol on 22<sup>nd</sup>., November. The Clerk will be attending.

**CLERK****6. Ongoing Items****a) The George Car Park**

This item has already been covered in "Matters Arising"

**b) Placemaking Plan**

Having been adopted, this will now be incorporated in the new Local Plan.

**c) Neighbourhood Plan**

Following our application to B.& N.E.S. Council for designation, last month, the Chairman asked the Councillors for their opinions as to whether we should proceed. Cllr. Helps was of the opinion that to go for a Neighbourhood Plan would involve a lot of work for very little increased protection. She felt that it was not worth it. Cllr. King said that she agreed. It was said that Bathampton is classed as an R.1 Village and there would be no threat of further housing as the Jewson Yard development would have used up our quota.

No decision was reached but the Clerk was asked to contact the Clerk of Batheaston P.C. and ask about the time limits and restrictions involved in making a Neighbourhood Plan.

**CLERK****d) Village Shop**

This item has already been covered in "Matters Arising".

**e) Community Empowerment Fund**

Discussion took place on how we would spend the grant of £810 which is available. It was suggested that a handrail is required alongside the steps leading from the Warminster Road to The Chestertons. Another suggestion was a mirror at the end of Holcombe Lane to aid drivers turning out of Holcombe Lane in seeing the traffic approaching the junction especially from the right. It was agreed after discussion with the Ward Councillor that B.& N.E.S. Council were unlikely to allow a mirror.

**7. Group Reports****a) Planning & Conservation Group.**

The report had been circulated.

Concerning the Planning Application for an extension at 3 Devonshire Road which had been permitted in error, our Ward Councillor, Alison Millar is to talk to the Planning Officer. Cllr. King reported that at Meadow Farm, the owner wishes to replace an old garage and hut with new ones and an application will be coming through.

Concerning the Meadows Area, Cllr. King said that the group wish to install a Rescue Cabinet along the bank of the river.. She proposed that we give approval. This was seconded by the Chairman and carried unanimously. Cllr. King reported that the group are to improve dog access, fishermen's access and will be planting wild flowers. B.& N.E.S.Council will be cutting back the crack willows.

**b) Highways Group**

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Andrews said that a world shortage of tarmac had been given as a reason for work not being done on repairing road surfaces, in particular those marked areas at the top end of Bathampton Lane. He will be contacting B.& N.E.S.Council with a view to getting information about road sweeping schedules in Bathampton.

**S.A.**

**c) Footpaths** In the absence of Cllr. Mayo, there was no report.

**d) Leisure & Amenities Group**

Cllr. Helps reported that a playground inspection had been done and several items of equipment needed attention. A cradle swing needs a new seat and new chains. A flat swing needs worn top links replaced and the zip wire has several worn parts which need to be replaced. Altogether, she thought that the cost of the work would be around £500. She proposed that we sanction the work. This was seconded by the Chairman and carried unanimously.

**CLERK**

There was also discussion about the possibility of grants being available from the Local Councillors Initiative. (Cllrs. A. Millar and M.Veal) for playground equipment.

**e) Communications & Website**

In the absence of Cllr. McMurray, there was no report.

**e) Policy & Finance**

The Chairman had circulated the report.

She had attended a Bath Transport Commission meeting in Bath. She had not gleaned any useful information from it.

B.& N.E.S.Council is undertaking two consultations.. One is on Parking Strategy and the other on Air Quality.

There had been a request for an Enterprise Car Club parking space to be allocated in Holcombe Lane outside the shops.This was discussed but it was decided that we need more information before a decision can be made.

An order has been issued for introducing a speed limit of 30 mph in Mill Lane. It was agreed that we would prefer it to be 20 mph and the Clerk was asked to respond accordingly.

**CLERK**

Cont'd.....

**8.. Open Forum**

Cllr. King said that she was concerned about the temporary site occupied by Network Rail on the field adjacent to Tynning Road. As this part of the line is not now to be electrified, there did not seem to be any reason why they should stay. The Clerk was asked to query this with the Planning Department.

**CLERK**

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup>., October, 2017  
at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.20 pm.

Signed..... Chairman,  
19<sup>th</sup>., October, 2017