

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th., January, 2012
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs. A. McCann, G.Ardrey, S. Christley, K.Jones, L. King,
D. Mayo, M. Richards, K.Rossiter and S.Wing.

1. Apologies: There were none.

2. Minutes of the last Meeting:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th., December, 2011 had been circulated.

Three amendments were made as follows:-

The date of the last meeting was amended to 17th., November, 2011.

In section 4(a), "Jewson's Yard" was substituted for "Tynning Road".

In section 4(f), "The Chairman was substituted for "Cllr. Rossiter".

Cllr. Rossiter, seconded by Cllr. Jones, proposed that these amended Minutes be accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. Finance:

a) To Approve the Financial Report for December, 2011

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

b) To Approve Expenditure for January, 2012

The Clerk reported that eight invoices had been received since the last meeting as follows:-

SSE Contracting	Street Light Maintenance	£ 64.16(+VAT)
EDF Energy	Electricity (Qtr.End.31/12/11)	£140.51
B.& N.E.S.Council	Grasscutting – Allotment	£920.45(+VAT)
B.& N.E.S.Council	Grasscutting – Playing Field	£467.01(+VAT)
Bathampton Vill. Hall	Room Hire(Qtr.end 31/12/11)	£ 27.00
Jeff Havvock	Removal of dead trees	£ 170.00
Cllr. Richards	Keys, Rat poison etc	£ 20.01(+VAT)
Cllr.Ardrey	Travelling to Basic Cllrs.Course	£ 55.90

It was proposed by Cllr. Wing and seconded by Cllr. Ardrey that these invoices should be paid. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

4. To Approve the Budget for the Financial Year, 2012-2013

A proposed budget, including proposed grants to be awarded had been circulated.

There was some discussion. However, no amendments were suggested and Cllr.Rossiter, seconded by Cllr. Richards, proposed that the budget and grants be approved. Carried unanimously.

5. To Approve the Precept

It was proposed by Cllr.Wing and seconded by Cllr.Jones that we should keep the precept at £24,000 as last years value. This was agreed unanimously. The Clerk to advise B.&.N.E.S.Council.

CLERK

Cont'd.....

6. To Approve the Risk Assessment and Management Document

The previous Risk Assessment document had been circulated. It was agreed that no modifications were required. Accordingly, Cllr. Rossiter, seconded by Cllr. Mayo, proposed that we re-approve the document. Carried Unanimously.

7. Group Reports

a) Planning & Conservation Group

The report had been circulated

Cllr. King reported that the proposed extension at 33 Devonshire Road would leave a 10inch gap between it and the neighbour's house. This was felt to be of concern.

New Leaf Farm have applied for permission for a permanent agricultural worker's residence. We have no objection to this.

Manor Barn in Mill Lane has resubmitted its application for considerable alterations. However, the only difference from the previous application is that the walls are in rendered blocks. We feel that this is a retrograde step and as it is a listed building, the external walls, which show, should be in stone.

Regarding the log cabin on land near to Meadow Lane and the canal, an agricultural consultant has been called in and has visited the site together with the Case Officer. We await the report and the decision.

Bathampton Farm has applied retrospectively for a change from agricultural use to residential use.

An application has just been received for a room at Hampton Cottage to be used as a physiotherapy treatment room.

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Rossiter reported that a reply had now been received from the Highways Agency and a meeting had been arranged.

The new single yellow line in Holcombe Lane is not always being observed and Cllr. Rossiter said that he has asked Parking Enforcement to keep an eye on the situation.

Our Handyman had been refused permission to enter B. & N.E.S Council's waste disposal site to dispose of road sweepings (mainly leaves). It seems that the old arrangement for him to do this has come to an end. Cllr. Rossiter said that he had negotiated an arrangement to dispose of the load which was already in the Handyman's trailer. However, a new arrangement will have to be negotiated before anymore trailer loads can be disposed of.

There has been no further progress on the canal mooring strategy.

The V.P.A. response on Gypsies and Travellers has been sent.

7. Group Reports(Cont'd.)
 b) Highways Group(Cont'd.)

Cllr. Mayo informed the meeting of the B.& N.E.S. Council's Parish Agency Scheme for footpath maintenance. Under this scheme, we would be paid a grant to undertake keeping the footpaths clear of overhanging vegetation. This grant would be to buy tools and protective equipment. There are already offers from four volunteers to undertake this work. It seems that there is additional support during the first two years after signing up to the scheme. Several questions were raised during the discussion. Are we able to opt out and go back to the present arrangement if it doesn't work out? Are the volunteers covered by our Parish Council insurance? Are four volunteers enough? It was agreed that Cllr. Mayo would contact British Waterways(via Cllr. Rossiter) to find out how their volunteer groups are organized

CLERK
D.M.
K.R.

c) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Mike Rodd of British Waterways was pleased to hear about the small hut at the corner of Jubilee Gardens. It seems that they will put a protective fence around it for the time being. We are still waiting for someone or some organization to take an interest in it.

M.R.

The dead trees on the allotments have been removed and work to improve parking at the lower entrance to the allotments is due to start soon.

The Clerk reported that we have been successful in obtaining a grant under the Ward Councillors' Initiative to proceed with repairs to the Childrens Play Area. This is due to commence immediately.

Cllr. Richards is due to meet the Practice Manager of the Surgery. He asked for ideas and suggestions he could make for them to be more involved in the Parish.

d) Policy & Finance Group

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman reported that he had been attending the Independent inspector's examination of the Core Strategy. Approval of the new Strategy specifically excluded the Park & Ride on Bathampton Meadows and the Rapid Transport Route.

B.& N.E.S.Council are continuing to look for a Park & Ride site to the east of Bath and are considering going out into Wiltshire. The Flood Compensation documentation specifically excludes the area which was originally designated for the Park & Ride.

B.& N.E.S.Council as a cost cutting exercise wish to abolish the Mobile Library Service. They are having a consultation process. It was agreed that we should not object as a Parish Council but should publicise it in the Newsletter and ask individuals who use the Mobile Library to write in with their own comments.

The Chairman then reminded members that the deadline for the Newsletter copy was tomorrow, Friday, 20th.,January.

Cont'd.....

7. Group Reports(Cont'd.

e) Parish Web Site

Cllr. Mayo said that he now had most of the councillor’s profiles. We still need to think how our “mission statement” should be worded. It was agreed that the Minutes would not be put on the web site until they had been approved. It was also agreed to continue putting the unapproved Minutes in the Village Stores and the Village hall but to put a note on the front stating that after approval, the Minutes would be on the Web site.

f) Clerk’s Report

B.& N.E.S.Council has written to remind us to have adequate insurance for Community events.

It has also sent us the Playing Field Inspection Report which has been passed on to Cllr. Richards.

Sir Graham Watson, our M.E.P. has written with his contact details. Available from the Clerk if required.

C.P.R.E. Avonside are part organizing a meeting on “Localism and Planning” on February, 13th.

8. Matters Arising:

There were none

9. Open Forum

(a) Considering the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee in June, Cllr. Christley said that nothing was arranged yet. The W.I. are willing to help. Discussions are ongoing with Batheaston and Bathford P.C’s.

S.C.

a. Cllr. Ardrey asked if there were any forthcoming meetings on “Localism”. The Clerk would investigate and report back. He was asked to put “Localism” on the agenda for the next meeting.

CLERK

(c) A letter had been received from a resident with suggestions for improving the safety of school children crossing the canal bridge.

Cllr. Rossiter offered to draft a reply.

K.R.

(d) The Clerk had received a telephone call about a speeding car in Hantone Hill. He was asked to report it to our P.C.S.O. Greg Doyle. At the same time he should report that we had not been able to make arrangements for the PACT meeting due to the indisposition of Mr.David Batho.

CLERK

10. Date of Next meeting: Thursday, 16th.,February, 2012
At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.22 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,
16th.,February, 2012