

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th., July, 2014
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs. A. McCann, G.Ardrey, M. Brennan, L. King and M.Richards

1. Apologies: These were received from Cllrs.S. Batterbury K. Jones
and D. Mayo

2. Minutes of the last Meeting:
The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th., June, 2014 had been circulated.
Cllr. Brennan, seconded by the Cllr. King, proposed that these Minutes be
accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. Finance:
 - a) Approval of the Financial Report for June, 2014
The report had been circulated
It was proposed for approval by the Chairman and seconded by
Cllr. Richards. Carried unanimously.

 - b) Approval of Expenditure for July, 2014
The Clerk reported that two invoices had been presented for
payment as follows:-

E.D.F.Energy	Electricity (Qtr.end 30/06/14)	£ 140.51(+VAT)
S.S.E. Contracting	Street Light Main'tce (")	£ 64.16(+VAT)

 It was proposed by Cllr. Brennan and seconded by Cllr. Richards
that both invoices should be paid. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

4. Group Reports
 - a) Planning & Conservation Group
Cllr. King reported. Concerning the Warminster Road ex-M.O.D.
Site, our response amongst other items stated that Georgian terraces
were not appropriate for this site.
The University of Bath has a Field Station down near Bathampton
Manor. An application has been received to locate a Portacabin there. We
have no objection but have requested that permission is given a limit of 5
years. We have also requested that the area is tidied up.
An application has been received to build 6 houses on land to the
south of London Road West in Batheaston. It was felt that they would not
be very visible to us in Bathampton.
The decking on the canal bank by a boat moored next to the Café
Boat is still there. Philip Miller(B. & N.E.S. Council's Enforcement Officer)
has written to ask for its removal.
The new bridge and cycle track in Batheaston has been officially
opened but there is still work to be done -some landscaping with the
planting of trees, benches paid for from the Footpaths Association's
surplus and a self-closing gate at the exit on to Mill Lane.

Cont'd.....

4. Group Reports(Cont'd.)a) Planning & Conservation Group(Cont'd.)

Cllr. King reported that she has told the Planning Department that we still wish to receive hard copies of planning applications.

b) Highways Group

Cllr. Brennan reported that the drains on the Warminster Road had now been sorted out. She also reported that Cllr. Batterbury had filled in a report form concerning the overgrown footpath (& orange barrier) by the noticeboard opposite Hantone Hill.

Cllr. King had attended the meeting on 27th June of our Dist. Councillors Geoff Ward and Terry Gazzard with Mr. Brian Metters and Stefan Chivers(B.& N.E.S. Council) to discuss the traffic in the High Street. Also in attendance were residents of the Harbutts. Mr. Chivers suggested a speed table installed closer to the bottom of Down Lane could slow the traffic down and give the Harbutts residents an unofficial crossing point. This would be added to the list of transport projects and would be considered in time.

Concerning the waste disposal site on the canal bank opposite the school, the Clerk confirmed that the letter had been sent to the Contracts Manager of C.R.T. but no reply had yet been received. It was generally agreed that the present situation is intolerable and we should press C.R.T to move the waste disposal bins to a more suitable site.

The Clerk had received a renewal quote for our electricity contract which expires at the end of September. It is a two year contract lasting until September, 2016 and the charge would be £101.75p per quarter compared to the present charge of £140.51p. Cllr. Brennan said that she had heard nothing further from B.& N.E.S. Council about them taking over responsibility for our street lights. She would contact them again As E.D.F. Energy wish to have an answer by 31 July, it was agreed that we would accept their offer if nothing further is heard from B.& N.E.S. Council by then.

M.B.c) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Richards said that the Gardeners Association is considering what to do about the Trading Hut which is losing money. The Clerk had been asked if he knew what arrangements were made when the hut was first erected on Parish Council land. He had searched through his file of legal documents to no avail.

Cllr. Richards is trying to get a new grit bin to replace the broken one in Hantone Hill. Evidently, the one in Down Lane is also broken.

M.R.

One allotment tenant has still not paid her rent. She has been sent a note giving her notice to pay up and start cultivation otherwise the plot will be allocated to the next person on the waiting list. Another tenant has given up his plot and it has been allocated to new tenant.

Plans for the upgrading of the bus stops on the Warminster Road had been received. These were examined in detail but nothing untoward was noted.

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4. Group Reports(Cont'd.)d) Policy & Finance Group

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman said that Dick Whittington had finished his assessment of the responses to the Housing Needs Survey. There should now be a meeting to consider the next step.

The persons attending the meeting would be Dick Whittington (WERN) James Read(CURO), Cary Grant (B.& N.E.S.) and two members of our Parish Council. It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr. King would be our two representatives.

A.M./L.K.

Three documents have been received concerning the Placemaking Plan. It seems that we need to reinstate the Working Group and find some questions to ask. Are there things we have not done? Are there things that we have done and need not have done?

The Chairman said that the Halcrow Report mentioned 8 sites for the Park & Ride east of Bath but then eliminated five of them. The remaining three are the original site on the Meadows(East of Mill Lane), the Meadows West of Mill Lane and the Park & Rail proposal.

The strongest response is from the V.P.A. who are against the Park & Rail and a link road. It was suggested that as Wiltshire County Council now seems to accept that the A.350 should be the preferred south coast to M4.route, it might be possible to talk to them about the difficulty in finding a suitable Park & Ride site east of Bath. The Chairman thought that this could be done through the V.P.A.

A.M.e) Parish Web Site

There was nothing to report.

f) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that we have received a letter from the Great Western Air Ambulance appealing for funds. It was agreed that this was not within our remit for awarding grants.

5.. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

6. Open Forum

Cllr.Richards mentioned that there had been a recent celebration in Bath in honour of Admiral Phillip.

Cllr. King said that she had received a Transport Survey to complete. She urged all councillors to download it and complete the Survey.

The Core Strategy had now been declared sound and had been approved by B.& N.E.S.Council.

There is concern in the village that children have difficulty in getting to Ralph Allen School as there is no direct transport link. Cllr. Batterbury had attended a meeting which had taken place and at which many parents

had put their point of view. This is a matter for B.& N.E.S.Council and does not concern the Parish Council directly.

Cont'd.....

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7. .Date of Next meeting:

Thursday, 18th.,September,2014

At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.00 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,
18th.,September,2014