

# Bathampton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup>.,January, 2016 in the Village Hall, Bathampton

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

1. Apologies: There were none.

### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup>, December, 2015 had been circulated. The day "Wednesday" in Matters Arising was changed to "Thursday". Also, the first paragraph under the heading Policy & Finance report was amended to read:- "The Chairman reported that she had attended a meeting with Batheaston Parish Council and other groups at "Gather" in Batheaston." After these amendment, Cllr. Ardrey, seconded by Cllr. Andrews, proposed that these Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

### 3. Matters Arising

Councillor Andrews said that he had eventually been in touch with the Canals & River Trust concerning materials and plants on the Canal bank and the supposed clean up. They responded that it had been done though it appears that the plants are still there.

Regarding the "Good Councillor Training" offered by A.L.C.A., the Clerk said that he still needed acceptable dates from a couple of Councillors. **CLERK**

### 4.. Finance:

a) Approval of the Budget and Precept for the year, 2016 to 2017

#### (i) Grants to Village Organizations

It was suggested that we keep the grants to village organizations the same as in the previous year. However, before making a final decision, the clerk was asked to scan the applications and circulate them to the Council.

**CLERK**

#### (ii) Honorarium for the Planning Consultant

It was proposed by the Policy & Finance Group that this should remain at £1050 for the year 2016 to 2017.

#### (iii) Budget,2016 to 2017

A proposed budget, prepared by the Policy & Finance Group had been circulated. The Chairman said that we are to receive a reduced grant of £1020 from B.& N.E.S.Council as well as the grant of around £600 for looking after the footpaths. After some discussion concerning the individual allocations for specific categories, it was agreed that we would request a precept of £23,000, the same as in the previous year. Cllr. Ardrey, seconded by Cllr.McMurray, proposed that we approve the budget and the precept. Carried Unanimously.

**CLERK**

b) Approval of the Financial Report for December,2015

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

**4.. Finance (cont'd.)****c) Approval of Expenditure for January,2016**

The Clerk reported that two invoices had been received as follows:-

|                 |                          |               |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| SSE Enterprise  | Street Light Maintenance | £ 64.16(+VAT) |
| Minuteman Press | Printing Survey Leaflet  | £ 200.00      |

In addition, the Clerk reported that an invoice from EDF Energy for electricity was in the post. This is for £ 100.93(+VAT)

It was proposed by Cllr. Mayo and seconded by Cllr.Ardrey.  
that all three invoices should be paid. Carried unanimously.

**CLERK****d) Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported that the Cotswold Conservation Board has asked for nominations for a representative from a parish council.

Requests for grants had been received from Bathampton Village Show, Bathampton Cricket Club and Bathampton Maxi Lunch Club.

R.O.S.P.A. have sent a Leaflet concerning its service for inspecting the safety of playgrounds and their equipment. Passed to Cllr.Helps.

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

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that the felling of the Cedar tree at 8 High Street had been given permission even though we had made no response apart from asking the reason for the felling.

The application to build four self-build houses on land adjacent to Miller Walk had been refused. The refusal of permission to upgrade the access track to No.5 Miller Walk has gone to appeal. A stop notice has been served on the owner of the house to prevent any work being done.

Cllr. King reported that we have had a reply concerning the Community Infrastructure Levy (C.I.L.). The situation is still unclear. It seems that there will be money available to instal lighting along Tynning Road. B.& N.E.S Council were unaware of the work that Network Rail intend doing in Tynning Road. The Planning Application will be appearing soon.

Concerning the cycle track across the meadows, Cllr. King said that half of the £5000 grant has been allocated towards benches and tables. Further discussion is to take place on a possible bridge over a ditch. Also, there is the possibility of a path under the toll bridge approach to give access to Bathampton Mill. This will need approval from B.& N.E.S.Council. Agreement is still to be reached on a mowing schedule and signage. There has been a problem with dog fouling and the Dog Warden has been involved. It seems that litter bins will be required.

**Placemaking Plan**

Following the distribution of the survey form in the village, 114 responses were taken from the box in the village shop. There will be more responses and Mr. Keith Rossiter will analyse them before sending a response to Bath & N.E.S.Council, prior to the deadline of 3<sup>rd</sup>.,February.

In connection with this, the Clerk was asked to look out any information about the High Hedges Legislation.

**CLERK**

Cllr. Ardrey reported that he will attend the B.P.T. environs meeting on 26<sup>th</sup>.,January. He asked to be informed of the dates of the future meetings.

**CLERK**

Cont'd.....

**5. Group Reports(Cont'd.)**

b) Highways Group

Cllr. Andrews reported that the B.& N.E.S.Council's speed monitoring device which was to be used in Bathampton Lane/High Street area had become faulty. We are waiting for it to be repaired. He is still trying to get the Speedwatch re-activated. Also, air pollution monitoring is to be done in the High Street via B.& N.E.S.Council.

S.A

c) Footpaths

Cllr. Mayo said that there was little to report on footpaths except that during heavy rain water had poured down the footpaths from the Downs.

He had purchased gifts which he had given to his footpath volunteers and would be putting in a claim.

d) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Helps reported that the inclusive swing has a shorter chain than the normal swings and she has asked B.& N.E.S. Council to look at it and do a Risk Assessment.

The recent safety inspection has highlighted two problems. The zip wire needed repair which our Handyman has done. The Commando Wall has rotten posts in the ground. It was agreed to investigate removing it.

J.H.

Cllr. Helps said that she had investigated the cost of safety inspections of the playground by various bodies and found that the B.& N.E.S.Council's price was competitive. She said that the fencing around the play area is getting very weak because the posts have rotted in the ground. She will be getting quotes for the repair. She will also be exploring getting alternative contractors for doing the grass cutting of the allotments and the playing field.

J.H.

The play area working party is now reduced three persons.

e) Communications

Cllr. McMurray said that there was little to report. However, he thought that there should be a link from our website to the Meadows Alliance.

f) Policy & Finance

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman reported that the alternative transport strategy meeting had not produced anything of significance.

**Park & Ride**

There is a meeting tonight and another in two weeks time of the Batheaston Meadows Alliance at "Gather" in Batheaston. There appear to be two groups; one saying that Park & Rides have had their day and the other that the Park & Ride should be somewhere else. There is an on-going debate. The alternative site is at Box Road..

Two Councillors from Bath & N.E.S.Council wish to come and talk to all three parish councils concerning the Park & Ride. We need to contact the other two councils to see if they want a combined or separate meeting. We are waiting to hear suggested dates. It was agreed that, perhaps, we should have a preliminary meeting beforehand.

There is to be a referendum on whether Bath & N.E.Somerset should have an elected Mayor. A Mr. Philip Raby (or a colleague) wishes to come and talk to the Parish Council. It was agreed that we should invite him to address us for half an hour prior to the next meeting on 18<sup>th</sup>, February.

CLERK

**5. Group Reports(Cont'd.)****f) Policy & Finance(Cont'd.)**

The Scrutiny Panel of the Local Development Forum is due to meet on 22.,March. Mr. John Bull, the Chair, says that he does not think it appropriate to meet us before that.

Concerning the West of England Transport Study, Cllr. King agreed to put together a response. Our M.P.Jacob Rees-Mogg has written a letter supporting the Link Road.

Following an email asking for nominations for persons to attend the Royal Garden Party, it was agreed that we should nominate our past Chairman, Mr. Tony McCann. The Clerk would ask if he is willing to be nominated before doing so. **CLERK**

The Chairman then mentioned the Newsletter. A deadline of Friday,29<sup>th</sup>.,January was agreed for the copy to be with the editor. Cllr. Ardrey agreed to put in an item on the Village Shop. Cllr. McMurray said that the Tasburgh Hotel will give a discount to residents of Bathampton and thought that this could be included. There are some new clubs which could be included in the list of "What's On". Also an appeal could be made for some residents to come forward to deliver the Newlsstter

**6. Open Forum**

Cllr. Ardrey had been reading the Placemaking Plan Document. It is very long but he suggested that Councillors should look particularly at the General Section and at Section 6- Bathampton.

**7. Date of Next meeting**

Thursday, 18th., February, 2016

At 7 p.m. for 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

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

Signed..... Chairman,  
18th., February, 2016