

Bathampton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st., March, 2013 in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs. A. McCann, G.Ardrey, M.Brennan, K.Jones, D. Mayo
and M. Richards.

1. Apologies: These were received from Cllr. L. King

2. Minutes of the last Meeting:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st., February, 2013 had been circulated.

Cllr. Ardrey, seconded by the Cllr. Jones, proposed that these Minutes be accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. Finance:

a) To Approve the Financial Report for February, 2013

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

b) To Approve Expenditure for March, 2013

The Clerk reported that only one invoice had been presented for payment as well as two expense claims from councilors as follows:-

C.P.R.E	Annual Membership	£ 29.00
Cllr. Mayo	Sycthes/Gardening Tools	£ 195.64(+VAT)
Cllr. Richards	Gift Voucher	£10.00

It was proposed by the Cllr. Richards and seconded by Cllr. Brennan that these amounts should be paid. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

4. Group Reports

a) Planning & Conservation Group

In the absence of Cllr. King, Cllr. Ardrey reported.

Work has commenced at 18 Devonshire Road on the extension at the rear lower ground floor. At Meadow Barn, there has been a slight alteration to the agreed plan which does not affect our response.

He had attended the Parish Cluster Group meeting but there was no further news regarding the Park & Ride east of Bath. Neither was there any news on Candywood Leys.

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated.

Following the resignation of Cllr. Christley, Cllr. Mayo reported. He said that a blocked drain is to be attended to by B.&.N.E.S. Council by 24th., March. A resident of Devonshire Road has complained of flooding. On walking up the downs above the Warminster Road, Cllr. Mayo had discovered a broken pipe feeding a cattle trough. This may be a contributory factor towards the flooding of gardens on the Warminster Road. The Clerk was asked to write to the two ladies who have expressed their concerns about the flooding and mention this to them.

CLERK

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

Cllr. Mayo said that the bridleway going up to the downs was overgrown beyond the bend. B.& N.E.S. Council has cut the overgrowth back and now intends to make the track less boggy. They are also looking at replacing a stile on footpath BA1/9 and putting steps on the path down to the swing bridge.

Scythes, secateurs and loppers have been purchased and will be stored at the Dry Arch Growers. These and the tools already owned by Dry Arch Growers will be shared by both organizations and used by both. Working parties of volunteers are being organized between May and September this year.

A draft of the proposed walks booklet had been circulated. Some minor comments were made concerning the size of the footpath numbering and the colour of the map. The Clerk would be applying for a grant towards the production of the booklet from the Ward Councillors' Initiative.

CLERK

B.& N.E.S.Council now wish to extend the 20m.p.h. zone in the village to include the upper part of Bathampton Lane and Hantone Hill.

c) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Richards had nothing further to add.

d) Policy & Finance Group

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman reported that we have been asked to consider whether we wish to change the number of councillors on our Parish Council. After discussion, it was agreed to leave the number at nine even though we do not have a full complement at present.

CLERK

Following the resignation of Cllr. Christley, Cllr. Brennan has agreed to take on responsibility for the Highways.

The Annual Parish Meeting is arranged for Thursday, 30th., May. The Chairman asked if we should use the same format as was used last year. It was agreed that he would give a general report covering the whole work of the Council and Group leaders would not give individual reports but be available to answer any questions that might arise.

e) Parish Web Site

There was nothing to report.

f) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that letters had been received thanking the Council for their grants from Bathampton Gardeners Assn., Bathampton Cricket Club and Bathampton Local History Research Group.

For the Annual Flower Show, the Secretary of Bathampton Gardeners Assn. has written asking for permission to erect the marquee

on the playing field on Wednesday, 11th., September and to leave it in situ until Monday, 16th., September. Permission was agreed unanimously and the Clerk was asked to reply.

CLERK
Cont'd.....

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4 Group Reports(Cont'd.)

f) Clerk's Report(Cont'd.)

Quotations had been received from B. & N.E.S.Council for grasscutting on the allotments and on the playing field for the coming season (2013 to 2014). There was an increase in both amounts of 2% compared with this years' charges. It was proposed by Cllr. Richards and seconded by Cllr. Brennan that we accept these quotations.

Carried unanimously.

CLERK

The Clerk reported that he had received the audit papers from the new external auditors – Grant Thornton.

5. Matters Arising:

Cllr. Richards has still to talk to the Rev. Paul Burden about a suitable date for installing the two new plaques on the memorial in the church yard.

M.R.

The Chairman reminded the Council that we need to think of suitable tasks for the Scouts to undertake during their Community Week in June.

6. Open Forum

There were no items brought up.

7. Date of Next meeting: Thursday, 18th.,April, 2013

At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.35 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,

18th.,April, 2013