

**Bathampton Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup>, November, 2015**  
**in the Village Hall, Bathampton**

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

1. Apologies: Apologies had been received from Cllr. L. McMurray.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup>, October, 2015 had been circulated. Cllr. Helps, seconded by Cllr. Andrews, proposed that these Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. Matters Arising

Regarding the trees on the recreation field, an inspection had been carried out. They were found to be safe and did not require any work to be done.

Cllr. Helps had obtained some sponsorship from Bathampton Surgery towards the Christmas tree.

4. Finance:

a) Approval of the Financial Report for October, 2015

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

b) Approval of Expenditure for November 2015

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

B. & N.E.S.Council	Printing Newsletter	£155.00
Wessex Ecological Concty.	Cycle Path Mangt. Plan	£200.00(+VAT)

It was proposed by Cllr.Mayo and seconded by Cllr.Ardrey. That these should be paid. Carried unanimously.

**CLERK**

The Clerk then mentioned that he was unable to print documents as the Council's printer had broken down after around five or more years of service. He had circulated a document in which he had stated a preference for purchasing a particular all-in-one model on special offer at £138(incl.VAT) to include a spare toner/drum unit. The Chairman, seconded by Cllr. King, proposed that the Clerk should proceed with purchasing the printer. Carried unanimously.

**CLERK**

c) Clerk's Report

The Clerk had received information from B.& N.E.S.Council that the Local Council Tax Support Grant which we receive with the precept would be gradually reducing from the present £1270 per annum to zero over the next four years.

MIN/NOV15

5. Group Reports

a) Planning & Conservation Group.

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that permission had been granted to convert No.6 Canal Terrace into two dwellings.

An application has been made to build a new house in the garden of Down House in Bathampton Lane. Cllr. King said that it was felt to be too big for the plot and too tall.

B.& N.E.S. Council seem determined to bring in electronic notification of planning applications. This was felt to be satisfactory where simple applications such as extensions were concerned but it would present problems where large plans were involved. It was suggested that it might be necessary to get Wi-Fi installed in the Village Hall if we needed to examine detailed plans at a Parish Council meeting.

Cllr. King then reported on the Bathampton Meadows Cycle Track. Two meetings had been held. Provisional agreement had been reached on a £5000 grant which must be spent by the end of March,2016. A Landscape Architect will draw up a management plan. There is the possible extension of the track under the toll bridge to Bathampton Mill though ownership of the land is uncertain. R.O.S.P.A. could be brought in to do a safety check. We need to advertise for volunteers to form a group to maintain the path and Cllr. McMurray will be asked to put this on the website. B.& N.E.S. Council has **L.M.**

asked if Bathampton P.C. could be the fall-back group in case any maintenance work is required. It was agreed that Cllr. King could tell them we would be the fall back group on the basis that the risk was remote. We agreed to discuss putting money aside at the budget meeting.

b) Highways Group

Cllr. Andrews reported that the work on making a crossing point near the junction of Down Lane and by the Harbutts had now started.

Regarding the expected clean-up of the canal bank by C.R.T., there has been no news.

Cllr. Andrews reported that he is trying to re-instate the Community Speed Watch Scheme. We would need 8 to 10 volunteers. However, the Co-ordinator for the B.&N.E.S.Area is very difficult to contact either directly or via our local police Beat Manager. It seems that it will be some while before we can get the Scheme functioning.

In regard to getting whole width speed tables installed, Cllr. Andrews had been trying to get in touch with Stefan Chivers of the Highways Department. We are a long way down the priority list.

**S.A.**

c) Footpaths

Cllr. Mayo said that at this time of year, there was nothing to report. However, he was asked if he could get the new "Bathampton Meadows Riverside" cycle and footpath added to the Definitive Map.

**D.M.**

d) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Helps reported that we had been awarded a grant of £1000 towards the special swing seat under the Local Ward Counsellors Initiative.

B. & N.E.S. Council will no longer do inspections of our playground for free. As they wish to charge, Cllr. Helps will obtain quotes from other organisations such as R.O.S.P.A.

J.H.

MIN/NOV/15

Cont'd.....  
Page 3 of 4

d) Leisure & Amenities Group(Cont'd.)

Regarding allotment rents, there was much discussion about whether we should change over to square metres instead of lugs as a basis for charging the rents. Eventually, it was agreed to stay with the present measurements of lugs for the year 2016, and charge the £6.50 per lug as advised to the tenants with their rent demand last December(i.e.2014). If a plot is allocated to a new tenant, it will be measured in square metres and the rent agreed with the new tenant.

**CLERK**

Cllr. Helps said that she is concerned about the cost of grass cutting. She is to investigate alternative contractors.

J.H.

Finally, Cllr. Helps reported that the Christmas tree will be delivered on 1<sup>st</sup>., December between 9 and 11 am.

e) Communications

The report had been circulated.

Cllr.Ardrey reported that he was still putting the Minutes and the Newsletter on the website.

f) Policy & Finance

The report had been circulated.

The suggestion of making the area west of Mill Lane into a Village Green was thought not to be viable because B. & N.E.S. Council would be able to compulsorily purchase it if necessary and allocate an alternative site as a Village Green

**Park & Ride East of Bath**

The B.&N.E.S. Council meeting has delayed the decision until next January. It now appears that the original seven sites are back in contention, not just the three. The Chairman said it was likely that we would need to do further leaflet drops at short notice and she was working with Christine McCann to get a list of people who would be willing to leaflet parts of the village. She would be writing to Counsellors to see if they were able to help.

**Proposed Link Road**

At the Give & Take Day in the Village Hall, villagers were asked their opinions. There were mixed opinions in Bathampton concerning the Link Road .Some Village maps were sold and the sum of £29.55 was raised.

**Training**

A.L.C.A. have offered "Good Councillor Training" at our premises. The Clerk was asked to enquire what the format of this training is and to register our interest.

**CLERK**

6. Open Forum

Having ascertained that there is no Textile collection bin in "The George" car park, the Clerk was asked to forward the letter from Great Western Air Ambulance to them.

**CLERK**

There is a meeting concerning the Joint Spatial Plan on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup>., November. Cllr. Ardrey will see if he can attend.

**G.A.**

Bath Record office are organising a Roadshow. Details passed to J.Book.  
Cont'd.....

MIN/NOV/15

Page 4 of 4

6. Open Forum(Cont'd.)

Cllr. Ardrey reported that he had attended the recent Environs meeting of the Bath Preservation Trust.

7. Date of Next meeting

Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup>., December, 2015  
At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.25 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,  
10<sup>th</sup>., December, 2015