

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th.,September, 2011
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

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

1. Apologies: These had been received from Cllr. S.Wing.
2. Minutes of the last Meeting:
The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th.,July, 2011 had been circulated.
An amendment was made to Section 6(b). The word "National" was
inserted in front of "Regulations".
Following this amendment, Cllr. Rossiter, seconded by Cllr. King
proposed that the Minutes be accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. Finance:

- a) To Approve the Financial Report for July and August, 2011

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

- b) To Approve Expenditure for September, 2011

The Clerk reported that there were two invoices received since the last
meeting, as follows:-

Bath & N.E.S.Council	Printing of Newsletter	£126.50
British Waterways	Rent for Jubilee Gardens	£62.82(+VAT)

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

CLERK

4. Group Reports

- a) Planning & Conservation Group

The report had been circulated,

Cllr. King reported that the proposed extension at 47 Hantone
Hill had been given permission. Also she said that the mobile home had
been erected on Green Belt land adjacent to the canal even though
B.& N.E.S. Council's refusal of planning permission had been upheld on
appeal.

Concerning the Raft Café, it has been agreed by British
Waterways that it is them who should be applying for permission to
change the conditions and not the owner.

There is to be a meeting in Bath on the National Planning Policy
Framework and a response to the document is required by 17th.,October.

There are too many queries concerning the Draft Core Strategy
and the Inspector has had to delay the Inquiry. .

Cont'd.....

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

Evidently, in a Neighbourhood Plan, green areas can be designated and saved. This could possibly be applied to the triangular field and the Miller Walk green area. Cllr. Rossiter thought that we should send a representative to the meeting so that we understand what is involved.

The Suffolk Local Councils Assn. has circulated parish councils asking for support for the Sustainable Communities Act in order that it may become Law. After some discussion it was agreed that as a parish council we should support this. The Clerk to reply.

CLERK

New applications for planning permission had been received-
 a Broadband Cabinet opposite 21 Down Lane
 New Leaf Farm for a floating pontoon on the river.
 Manor Barn, Mill Lane for extensive alterations
 and Hampton Hall, Flat 6 for internal alterations.

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Rossiter reported that there is still no progress concerning the responsibility for cutting back the vegetation overgrowing the A.36 footpath. In the meantime our handyman has cut it back in the interests of safety.

There is a wall in Bathampton Lane which abuts the tarmac road surface. Some of the stones have fallen out. The Chairman said that he would inspect the area.

A.M.

Cllr. Mayo reported concerning footpaths. He now has three volunteers to help him with keeping an eye on the paths. He is to meet with Mr. P. Nandi to discuss getting the Swing Bridge footpath added to the Definitive Footpath Map and secondly the closure of the Bathampton Footpaths Association and the purchasing of three benches. (Cllr. Richards will pass a catalogue to him)

M.R.

There has been no action on the gabions even though B.& N.E.S. Council have said that they would tidy them up.

B.& N.E.S. Council have approached Cllr. Rossiter asking if the Parish Council could persuade someone to act as the School Crossing Patrol. It was agreed that it was unlikely that we would be able to find anyone. Previously notices in the noticeboards had had no effect.

There was still no response from B.& N.E.S. Council concerning the "High Hedges" letter we had sent them.

c) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Richards reported that British Waterways say that the wall bordering Jubilee Gardens is the responsibility of the Highways Department of Bath & N.E.S. Council. He will draft a letter.

M.R.

Cont'd.....

4. Group Reports(Cont'd.)

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

Concerning the playground, Cllr. Richards said that much of the equipment is showing signs of wear and maintenance is needed. We will need to spend a considerable sum before too long. He gave examples of costs. £500 to patch the safety surface. £500 to repair the fencing around the area.£400 for a new see-saw.

Cllr. Richards said that he would like to change the allotment year to start on 1st.,January instead 1st.,April. After some discussion, it was agreed that this would not cause any problem and we would be able to commence on 1st.,January,2013 with a request for nine months rental on 1st.,April,2012.

On the allotments, there are three dead trees. Quotes are being obtained for their removal.(William Wolfe £180:Justin Mallabar £245). Cllr. Richards has had a request from one plot holder to put up two buildings- a shed and a greenhouse. From the sizes quoted, it was agreed that they were too big and his request should be turned down. One building or two smaller ones would be acceptable.

M.R.

Cllr. Richards suggested that as the Pulteney Practice Surgery cause some of the parking problems in the area, they could be asked to do something for the local community, perhaps sponsoring something such as a piece of playground equipment? It was suggested that he and Cllr. Christley should discuss this and come up with suggestions.

M.R./S.C.

d) Policy & Finance Group

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman said that the Chairman of Batheaston Parish Council had told us about a plan they had to put a pedestrian footbridge across the river near to the public car park in Batheaston High Street. The idea is that pedestrians and cyclists would then be able to cross the river and then travel along on the south side of the river on Bathampton Meadows. This would replace the footpath on the north side which is in very poor and dangerous condition. The cyclists would then be able to have a safe route into Bath along the Kennet and Avon tow path. The two Chairman would talk about this.

A.M.

There is to be a meeting of the V.P.A. on 22nd.,September. Cllr. Paul Crossley has been invited to this question and answer session.

Batheaston P.C. have written to ask if we intend to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with any events and whether we could collaborate. Cllr. Christley agreed to contact them.

S.C.

The Chairman then asked if the Councillors could have their reports for the next Newsletter with the editor by Friday,7th.,October.

a. Parish Web Site

Cllr. Mayo asked the Council for their opinions concerning the web site as it is at present. The Chairman had noticed some inaccuracies since the last meeting. He also agreed to look at other councils' objectives to see if we had omitted anything.

Cont'd.....

f) Clerk's Report

The Clerk mentioned that he had received two acknowledgments from B. & N.E.S. Council regarding our letter about the high hedge legislation and the problem in the Village. However, no reply had yet been received.

Bath & N.E.S. Council have sent details of a monitoring scheme for young people together with notices. It was agreed that the notices could be put on our noticeboard.

CLERK

The new District Commander of Avon & Somerset Police has sent a Newsletter.

5. Matters Arising:

As we have agreed to change the allotment year, the Clerk said that we would need to advise any increase of the rental for the year beginning 1st., January, 2013 before 1st., January, 2012. Thus we need to agree any increase before the end of this year.

CLERK

6. Open Forum

a. Cllr. Jones reminded the Council about the ivy hanging down the wall by the bus shelter on the Warminster Road. The Clerk would write a letter to the owner.

CLERK

b. A resident had mentioned that parked cars at the top of Down Lane cause problems to traffic approaching the junction. It was agreed that we should not request double yellow lines.

(c) Cllr. King mentioned that she knew a resident who wished to purchase a memorial bench. She was advised to get a catalogue from Cllr. Richards.

L.K.

9. Date of Next meeting: Thursday, 20th., October, 2011
At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

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

Signed..... Chairman,
20th., October, 2011