

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th, September, 2016
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

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

1. Apologies: These were received from the Chairman, Cllr. Brennan. In her absence, Cllr. King, the Vice-Chairman took the chair.

2. Declaration of Interest: Cllr. Bird declared that she would take no part in any discussion concerning the new planning application for No.42 Warminster Road..

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st, July, 2016 had been circulated. The only amendment was at the request of Cllr. Mayo. He asked that in section 8c. Footpaths, that the word "for" is replaced by "to start". Following this amendment, Cllr. Andrews, seconded by the Cllr. Helps, proposed that the Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

The Clerk said that before he was able to write to the owner of the land bordering onto the gabions, he (the owner) had been approached by the owner of the house opposite. He had agreed to cut one overhanging branch off. The Clerk had then asked B.& N.E.S. Council's Arboricultural Department to inspect the overhanging trees. They have reported that the trees appear to be on the land behind the gabions. The Clerk will contact the owner to discuss the matter further.

CLERK

5. Finance:

a) **Approval of the Financial Report for July & August, 2016**

The report had been circulated. It was then proposed for approval by Cllr. Bird and seconded by Cllr. Andrews. Carried unanimously.

b) **Approval of Expenditure for September, 2016**

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

Canal & River Trust	Annual rent for Jubilee Gardens	£ 70.50(+VAT)
G.B.Sport & Leisure	Supply Nest Swing Seat	£ 1233.00(+VAT)
Deepair Ltd.	Grasscutting Meadow Area	£ 130.00

The Clerk reported that an invoice was expected from Grant Thornton for £200(+VAT) for the annual audit. He asked for approval for that also, so that it could be paid as soon as the invoice is received.

It was proposed by the Cllr. Helps and seconded by Cllr. Ardrey that all four invoices should be approved. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

c) **Clerk's Report**

A.L.C.A. have sent details of a Local Council Award Scheme.

The Planning Inspectorate has written with details of a Definitive Map Modification Order. Cllr. Mayo, after a preliminary look at it, thought that it applied to footpaths in Bath and not in Bathampton. He3 will report back at the next meeting.

D.M.

Cont'd.....

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c) **Clerk's Report(Cont'd.)**

Bath & N.E.S.Council have sent details of a Public Path Diversion Order. This is for the path from Miller Walk to Bathampton Lane which has been used for the past twenty years and was never officially diverted during the changeover from Wansdyke Rural District Council to Bath & N.E.Somerset Council.

6. Ongoing Items

Bathampton Meadows Cycle/Footpath

Cllr. King reported that the wooden footbridge has now been installed. There was good publicity for the official opening. The grass is being cut on a regular basis and there are plans to create a wild flower meadow, as well as to put up signage.

"The George" car park

Cllr. Andrews reported that there had been no response from the Regional Manager and it was felt best to let the matter rest.

Community Speedwatch

Cllr. Andrews said that the Speedwatch has been launched and there are sufficient volunteers. He had spoken to Stefan Chivers but had not had a satisfactory explanation of why a new speed monitoring process would produce meaningful data. Stefan Chivers said that he wished to speak to the Beat Manager. Cllr. Andrews said that he also wished to speak to the Beat Manager.

S.A.

Placemaking Plan

Our submission, having been sent to B.& N.E.S.Council, was then sent onto the Planning Inspectorate. The hearing commenced yesterday (14th.,September). Mr. Keith Rossiter attended on behalf of the Parish Council. He reported that little of value was achieved yesterday but today there was a better outcome. Site visits will be made later. This is an ongoing hearing for all parts of our region so the final outcome will be some time coming.

Playground Repairs

Cllr. Helps said that further to the three quotes which she had obtained for repair of the fencing, she had been exploring obtaining a grant. It did not look very hopeful. She will have further information at the next meeting.

J.H.

The zip wire's mechanical parts are worn and need replacement. The main wooden structure is fine but the wire, pulley, seat etc. need to be replaced. Cllr. Helps had obtained one quote for replacement (£1470) but will obtain others before the next meeting.

J.H.

Park & Ride

Cllrs. Help & King had attended a meeting in Batheaston at which Cllr. Tony Clarke updated everyone on the position. There seemed to be no change. Site F (East of Mill Lane), Site B (New Leaf Farm), the Hayes Site and "The Shed" both on the Box Road were all mentioned. It is reported that the decision will be taken at the Cabinet Meeting in November. Opinion seems to be that they will still go for Site F.

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British Telecom are consulting on whether their payphones should be removed as they are little used these days. The request for our opinion has come through Bath & N.E.S.Council with a request that we respond directly to B.T.. After discussion, it was agreed that we have no wish to keep the two payphones in Bathampton.

CLERK

8. Group Reports

a) Planning & Conservation Group.

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that the Planning Application for No.42 Warminster Road had been refused but a modified application has now been received.

Network Rail have reported that they are almost ready to put in their Planning Application for the electrical substation away from the School.

Work on building houses at the former Jewson's Yard, which ceased after the referendum, is to recommence at the end of September.

The new foot/cycle path on the Meadows is to feature in the Bathscape/Waterscape initiative.

The mill wheel at the Old Mill is being removed and renovated. On re-installation, it will be generating electricity. There is talk of having boat trips on the river from the Old Mill up to Warleigh Weir. Also, there is a suggestion that a lock might be installed at Pulteney Weir. This would extend the navigable river up to Bathampton.

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated. Cllr. Andrews said that he had little to add. On "Safer Routes to School", there was nothing further to report.

c) Footpaths

Cllr. Mayo reported that the second cut of the undergrowth had now been completed.

d) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Helps reported that the Playground Group had not met during the July and August period. There are now two companies designing new playground arrangements

J.H.

e) Communications

Cllr. McMurray commented that the Broadband provision had been upgraded in Devonshire Road, but there has been no improvement for the top end of the Village. (For more detail see the Policy & Finance Report)

f) Policy & Finance

The report had been received in the Chairman's absence. Cllr. Ardrey commented that the V.P.A. are in favour of the Box Road sites for the Park & Ride.

The councillors were advised that the deadline for copy for the next newsletter is Friday, 28th., October.

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MIN/SEPT/16

9. Open Forum

There was still concern about our local bus service. It is being run by Wessex not First Bus and has been renumbered- 12. There are problems with tickets not being accepted for journeys on to other buses and the earlier last bus in the evening is a problem for some. It was agreed that we should ask residents to make comments on the bus service on social media. We could make this request on the website and in the next newsletter.

Cllr. Helps said that the Village Show on the previous Saturday had been a huge success. There had been a record attendance and the large variety of sideshows had enhanced the atmosphere. She felt that we should send a letter of congratulations and thanks to the organizing committee. The Clerk agreed to do this.

CLERK

Cllr. Helps also said that Rose, who has served behind the Post Office counter in the shop for many years, even before the present shopowner took over, is to leave. She felt that some recognition of her service should be made and suggested putting a note in the Newsletter. Agreed.

J.H.

Cllr. Ardrey reported that he had attended meetings of the V.P.A., the A.L.C.A. B.& N.E.S. Area and the Environs Committee of The Bath Preservation Trust.

Following comments from a resident that there was insufficient signage on the upgraded towpath, Cllr. Andrews said that he would contact the Canal & River Trust to inquire when the temporary signs would be replaced.

S.A.

The same resident had queried why, when he had tried sending a question via the website, he had received no answer. Cllr. McMurray said that he would investigate.

L.M.

Also, the same resident asked if the Agenda for the Parish Council Meeting could be put on the website prior to the meeting. This was agreed.

L.M.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 20th., October, 2016

At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.13 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,
20th., October, 2016