

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th, January, 2015
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs. A. McCann, G.Ardrey, M. Brennan, N.Land 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 11th, December, 2014 had been circulated. Cllr. Ardrey, seconded Cllr. Brennan, proposed that these Minutes be accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. Finance:

a) Approval of Budget 2015-2016

i) Grants to Village Organizations

It was suggested that the grants to village organizations should remain the same as last year's except that the grant to Bathampton Gardeners Association should be increased by £50 to £800. This would give total grants of £2100.

(ii) Honorarium for the Planning Consultant

It was suggested by the Policy & Finance Group that this should be increased by £50 to £1050.

(iii) Budget 2015-2016

A proposed budget, prepared by the Policy & Finance Group, had been circulated. The Chairman stated that we are to receive the same grant of £1270 from Bath & N.E.S.Council again as well as around £600 Parish Agency Grant for looking after footpaths. It was felt that we should keep the precept at £23000, the same figure as last year's. After some discussion, Cllr. Ardrey proposed that the Council should approve the budget. This was seconded by Cllr.Richards and carried unanimously.

CLERK

b) Approval of the Financial Report for December, 2014

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

c) Approval of Expenditure for January, 2015

The Clerk reported that two invoices and had been presented for payment as follows:-

E.D.F.Energy	Electricity (Qtr. end 31/12/14)	£ 95.91(+VAT)
S.S.E.Contracting	Street Light M'ance(")	£ 64.16(+VAT)

It was proposed by the Cllr.Brennan and seconded by Cllr. Ardrey that both should be paid. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

Cont'd.....

4. Group Reportsa) Planning & Conservation Group

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

The new house at Carisbrooke in Bathampton Lane has been permitted. The Chairman reported that he had attended the hearing into the refusal of planning permission for a permanent workers residence at New Leaf Farm. We await the outcome.

Cllr. Ardrey said that there was much objection to the plans for the former M.O.D. Warminster Road site. Many local residents and the Planning Officer are among those expressing concern at the number, size and location of the proposed dwellings. The D.C.C. meeting at which the plans will be considered is now on 11th, February. Cllr. Ardrey will attend.

G.A.

There was nothing further to report on the decking and plants on the tow path opposite the School. Cllr. Brennan will remind the Canal & River Trust about the problem.

M.B.

A meeting with B.& N.E.S. Council, Batheaston Parish Council and ourselves to discuss the management of the new cycle/footpath across the meadows is yet to be arranged.

A Planning Application for The Old Rectory in Bathampton Lane is for a new front door and to increase the height of the front garden wall. We have objected to increasing the height of the wall as it will detract from the street view.

Another application, to which we have no objection, is to change "The Old Post office" in the High Street from a shop into a dwelling.

It has been reported that a line of mature trees alongside the old skittle alley at The George had been felled. This is in the Conservation Area and Planning Permission should have been sought. The Clerk was asked to write to the manager to alert him and suggest he applies for Retrospective Planning Permission.

CLERK

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated. There was nothing further to report.

We are still waiting for a date for the closure of the A.36.

c) Leisure & Amenities Group

Cllr. Richards said that he now has one vacant allotment plot and no waiting list.

The bare surface area in front of 5 Hantone Hill is due to have the grass re-instated.

Disappointment has been expressed about the new bus shelter outside the Village Hall. It gives very little protection from the weather. B.& N.E.S. Council say that it cannot have end panels because it would restrict use of the footpath.

MIN/JAN/15

4. Group Reports(Cont'd.)

d) Policy & Finance Group

There was nothing further to report subsequent to the circulated report.

The Chairman asked that copy for the Newsletter should be with the editor by Friday, 23rd., January. He would make an appeal in the Newsletter for new parish councillors.

ALL

e) Parish Web Site

There was nothing to report.

f) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the Canal & River Trust seem to be having difficulty with its invoice processing. He had received several requests by email to pay an invoice which had been paid last September.

S.S.E. Contracting Ltd. is in the process of changing its name to S.S.E. Enterprise. .

B.& N.E.S. Council has sent information and the form to apply for next year's precept.

5. Matters Arising:

Cllr. Mayo would be reminded to progress putting the new footpath across the meadows onto the Definitive Map..

CLERK

6. Open Forum

B.& N.E.S. Council have queried some aspects of Neighbourhood Planning. Cllr. Ardrey will respond.

G.A.

It was queried whether we should send details of Bathampton Planning Applications to the Environs meeting of the Bath Preservation Trust. After some discussion, it was felt that we should only do this in cases which are contentious.

Cllr. Brennan mentioned that there seemed to be building work at Bathampton Farm. Cllr. Ardrey would investigate.

G.A.

She also mentioned that she would be away for the V.P.A. meeting on 3rd., March. The Chairman said that he might attend.

A.M.

7. Date of Next meeting:

Thursday, 19th., February, 2015
At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.40 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,
19th., February, 2015