

# Bathampton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup>, May, 2015 in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllr. A. McCann, Mr. S. Andrews, Mrs. M. Brennan, Mrs. J. Helps, Mrs. L. King, Mr. N. Land, Mr. L. McMurray and Mr. D. Mayo, The Chairman, Cllr. McCann, moved a resolution that under Standing Order 28, we should suspend Standing Order 1(a) for this meeting only. This was proposed by Mrs. King and seconded by Mr. Land. Carried unanimously.

1. Apologies: These were received from Mr. G. Ardrey and Mrs. S. Batterbury.
2. Election of Chairman: Mrs. King, seconded by Mr. Land, proposed Mrs Brennan for the post of Chairman. This was carried unanimously.
3. Election of Vice-chairman: Mr. Mayo, seconded by Mrs. Helps, proposed Mrs. King for the post of Vice-chairman. Carried unanimously.

Following these elections, Cllr. McCann withdrew from the meeting and the new Councillors signed their Acceptance of Office forms.

4. (a) Minutes of the Last Meeting  
The Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup>, April, 2015 had been circulated. It was agreed that the first item in Matters Arising concerning the BA1/11 footpath should be deleted.  
Cllr. Mayo, seconded by Cllr. Land, proposed that these Minutes, subject to the amendment, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. (b) Responsibilities of Councillors  
Discussion then took place over the areas of responsibility for each Councillor. The following was decided.

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Policy & Finance          | Chairman & Clerk      |
| Highways                  | Cllrs. Andrews & Mayo |
| Leisure & Amenities       | Cllrs. Helps & Land   |
| Planning & Conservation   | Cllrs. Ardrey & King  |
| Web site & Communications | Cllr. McMurray        |

5. Finance:
  - a) Approval of the Annual Accounts for 2014 to 2015

Copies of the Accounts Statement had been circulated to all councillors. Cllr. King, seconded by Cllr. Land, proposed that the accounts be approved. This was approved unanimously.

**CLERK**

- b) Approval of the Annual Governance Statements.  
The Governance statements on the annual accounts document were read out one by one and to each the Council gave the answer "yes".

The Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Mayo, proposed approval of these statements and again there was unanimous agreement.

**CLERK**  
Cont'd.....

MIN/MAY/15

Page 2 of 4

5. Finance:(Cont'd.)

c) Approval of the Financial Report for April,2015

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

d) Approval of Expenditure for May 2015

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

|                  |                                |                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Mrs.C McCann     | Catering at Annual Parish Mtg. | £ 38.19(+VAT)  |
| N.A.L.C.         | L.C.R. Subscription            | £ 17.00        |
| Mr. M.K.Crockett | Internal Audit Fee             | £ 185.00       |
| Viking Ltd.      | Toner Cartridges/Paper         | £ 103.64(+VAT) |
| Sydenhams Ltd.   | Shingle                        | £ 47.32(+VAT)  |
| Wolf Partnership | Hedge Work on Allotments       | £ 250.00(+VAT) |
| Mr.M.Richards    | Keys for Allotment Gate        | £ 14.96(+VAT)  |

It was proposed by Cllr.King and seconded by Cllr. Helps. that all seven invoices should be paid. Carried unanimously.

**CLERK**

The Clerk then mentioned that our annual insurance is due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup>.,June. Two alternative quotations have been received. Our previous insurers, Came and Co., are quoting a premium of £ 946.38 and Zurch Insurance is quoting an annual premium of £ 624.07 with a reduction to £ 582.85 for a three year agreement. It was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk would make a comparison of the two quotes and would make the decision as to which one to go for.

**M.B.**

6. Group Reports

a) Planning & Conservation Group

Cllr. King reported that the wall in front of the Old Rectory in Bathampton Lane had been built to the planned height despite our objection.

There is to be a combined meeting with Batheaston P.C. and B.& N.E.S. Council to discuss the management of the new cycle/footpath across the Meadows and the possible extension to link up with the canal towpath.

There is no progress with getting the decking and plants removed from the canal bank opposite the School.

Cllr. Mayo mentioned the extensive extensions being built at 60 Holcombe Vale. It seems to be taking a long time and the building materials are blocking the path between it and No. 58. It was confirmed that planning permission was given some while ago.

Cllr. King then mentioned the planning application for a paved driveway and services duct on land at Miller Walk. The applicants agent has now involved our local District Councillors. Cllr. King said that she would talk to Cllr. Geoff Ward.

**L.K.**

MIN/MAY/15

Page 3 of 4

6. Group Reports(Cont'd.)

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman said that there were anomalies in the speed restriction signage. Even though Bathampton Lane is now a 20 mph zone, there are some 30 mph signs and the V.A.S. only reacts to speeds in excess of 30 mph.

Cllr. Mayo reported that the volunteer work parties had commenced with clearing the path to the swing bridge. The hedge alongside the triangular field had also been started

Cllr. Mayo reported that the swing bridge had now been designated as a footpath and added to the Definitive map after a process lasting about three years. He also said that B.& N.E.S.Council have looked at the footpath BA1/11 where it meets Bathampton Lane. They will re-assess it in the winter to see if it requires steps or other remedial work to make it safe.

There is still some concern over vehicles driving up the old tramway from the Dry Arch and damaging the track.

At the annual parish meeting, concern was expressed at the continual blockage of the path between nos. 58 & 60 Holcombe Vale by building materials. The Clerk was asked to write to the owners of No. 60 who are having the work done.

**CLERK**

c) Leisure & Amenities Group

There was no report.

At the last meeting, there was concern that the Canal & River Trust are expecting us to take on the lease of the Lengthsman's Hut. It seems that our handyman has used it for storage of items such as road cones.

The Chairman agreed to talk to the Canal & River Trust.

**M.B.**

d) Policy & Finance Group. There was no report.

e) Parish Web Site There was nothing to report.

f) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that Bath Preservation Trust had invited us to send a representative to the Environs Group meetings. After discussion, it was agreed that we do not need to send one but would send comments if a controversial planning application came about.

Bathampton Village Show has requested permission to erect a marquee on the playing field from Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup>., until Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup>., September. There was unanimous agreement to giving permission.

**CLERK**

We have received notice that the Post Office will reopen in the Village Stores on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup>., July. Most services will be available

with the notable omission of the National Lottery. The Clerk was asked to write to enquire why there is no lottery.

CLERK

7. Matters Arising:

There were none.

MIN/MAY/15

Page 4 of 4

Cont'd.....

8. Open Forum

Cllr. Helps said that she would still edit the Newsletter.

Cllr. King mentioned the Village Stores. With the post office being re-instated, it is hoped that there will be an increase of custom. She also said that there had been some concerns about an electricity sub-station being located near the school. This is to provide power for the electrified railway line. There is evidently a meeting on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup>., June which will be addressed by staff from Network Rail.

Following a comment at the Annual Parish Meeting that the Council had rather a large surplus at the end of the financial year, it was suggested that we consider whether there were any projects which would benefit the village. The Playground Group is meeting on a regular basis and may have recommendations for new equipment.

Cllr. Mayo asked if the deadline for the Newsletter could be changed from the Friday to the Sunday. This was agreed.

Cllr. McMurray was concerned that there is no street lighting along Mill Lane. We are trying to get a speed limit along this section in which case it would have lighting. He also wondered if we had any dealings with King Edward's School with them having a large playing field in our Parish. He was told that we are on good terms with them. The most recent co-operation was to install a gate so that children going to Bathampton School could walk inside their grounds instead of continuing along Dark Lane..

9. Date of Next meeting

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup>., June, 2015  
At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 4.15 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,