

# **Bathampton Parish Council Newsletter July 2014**

## **CHAIRMAN'S NOTES**

### **Bathampton Flower Show**

Put it in your diary!! On Saturday 13 September Bathampton Gardeners' Association will host the annual Flower Show. In addition to the usual competitions there will be something to please everyone from Cream Teas to stalls selling plants, cakes, jewellery and greetings cards. If you fancy competing get a copy of the Schedule and Rules from Judith Book, 20 Holcombe Lane, 465781.

### **Park & Ride east of Bath**

B&NES Council have published, for public consultation, their Bath Transport Strategy "Getting Around Bath". There is a consultation questionnaire on the B&NES website at [bathnes.gov.uk](http://bathnes.gov.uk). B&NES are working on proposals for a Park & Rail facility based on a new Bathampton Station and a bus-based Park & Ride somewhere east of the City. They are also examining the possibility of a link road from the A36 to Batheaston Bypass. Confusingly, although there are questions in the questionnaire about the link road and the parking schemes, these are not actually mentioned in any detail in the Strategy document so it is difficult to see how people can make an informed response to these questions. Nevertheless it is clear that Bathampton is yet again the focus of B&NES efforts to provide a Park & Ride. The Parish Council, together with the Valley Parishes Alliance, will monitor developments closely and oppose anything which will spoil our valley.

### **Bathampton Housing Needs Survey**

Thank you to those who filled in the survey questionnaire. We have received from West of England Rural Network (WERN) a preliminary analysis of the results. The next stage is a meeting between WERN, Curo, B&NES and representatives of the Parish Council. This meeting will examine the survey results and determine what the next step, if any, should be.

**Tony McCann**

## **Planning and Conservation Report Lin King and George Ardrey, and Susanne Wing (co-opted)**

### **Jewsons Yard (The Old Timber Yard) 15 New Houses**

The main application for 15 new houses was given outline planning permission by BANES on July 2nd. This means that the site has been given approval but final details of layout/design etc will now be submitted.

### **New Leaf Farm (Green Belt) New Agricultural Workers House**

The re-submitted application for a revised covered yard was approved but the permanent house at New Leaf Farm (farm entrance off Mill Lane, to replace the permitted temporary dwelling for an agricultural worker needed for reasons of security and efficiency) was turned down despite support from the Parish Council.

### **Candywood Leys**

A retrospective application has been received for various outbuildings.

### **Bathampton Manor**

Applications have been made for a west side extension and alterations to the roof and also listed building consent for internal and external alterations

### **Previous M.O.D. Site, Warminster Road**

Although not in Bathampton we were asked for our comments on the plans for the erection of 189 dwellings plus ancillary work. We have no objection in principle to housing on this site but object to its treatment as a city-centre site and subsequent density of housing and proximity to road. Our main objection however is that the proposed building will encroach onto the strip of green belt which divides Bathwick from Bathampton and which we insist must be maintained.

### **Canal Boat decking**

B&NES are investigating the unauthorised decking and planting alongside a boat moored on the canal, near to the Raft Café.

### **Batheaston/Bathampton Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridge and track.**

This is now complete and was opened on July 15th. Signage remains to be added at the exit onto Mill Lane and we are in discussion with B&NES on this. We will also discuss planting of hedging and trees and possible placing of benches later in the year.

This quarter the Parish Council has also received other applications; details of all planning matters, including our comments and others', can be found at <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk> .

### Highways

Just a reminder to everyone to make sure your hedges are not narrowing footpaths or blocking views from junctions in the village.

We have asked the Highways Agency to cut back the vegetation narrowing the footpath alongside the triangular field. This work is the responsibility of the landowner but to date we have not been able to identify who owns the field. If you do have contact details for the current owner please let one of the councillors know.

We are pleased to see that Down Lane has now been resurfaced.

### Canal

We continue to work with the Canal and River Trust regarding the state of the Biffa Bins on the canal at Tying Road. We have written to the contract manager for the Trust asking them to enforce the service agreement with the provider to have the bins emptied 3 times a week. We would also remind residents that the bins are for the use of boat users only. Other residents should use the BANES waste and recycling services.

### Footpaths

We have just started the second cut of footpaths around the village to ensure they are all accessible for people to enjoy. A group of volunteers meets on alternate Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. If you would like to help out, please contact Cllr Mayo.

B&NES are working on several improvements to footpaths around the village:

- The footpath and cycle track through Bathampton Meadows and over to Batheaston was opened earlier this month
- The surface of the bridleway leading up to Bathampton Down has been improved which will make it passable by the time winter comes around
- The footpath that runs beneath Grosvenor Bridge is due to be resurfaced and the steps that lead to it down from the tow path will be replaced
- We are also in discussion with B&NES over what to do with the kissing gates that have been ripped off between Dry Arch Growers and the swing bridge

A new bench has been erected on the road leading to the Bath Golf Club directly beneath Sham Castle. This was a joint venture between the Council, Bathampton Footpaths Association and the National Trust. A bench is due to be installed right next to Sham Castle very shortly.

## **Leisure and Amenities**

**Mike Richards**

### **Jubilee Garden**

Following on from the last newsletter, no further word has been received from the Canal and Rivers Trust regarding the renovation of the lengthman's hut. One request put to us was for a few volunteers to lend a hand with some basic clearance, but that has also fallen on deaf ears! Would those interested please let a Parish Councillor have your details and further information will be given. As a local community project, this is an ideal opportunity to make good this attractive and busy area in our village and its use and safekeeping would remain with the Parish Council.

### **Allotments**

The fine weather has certainly been a bonus for the allotment holders and this has resulted in some bumper crops of vegetables and berries. One or two plots need attention as the weeds are also growing well. Please let a Parish Councillor know if you would like your name put onto the waiting list for allotments.

### **Playground and Playingfield**

We passed the last inspection and besides acceptable wear and tear, one snag was the state of the carpet safety surface, which had gained a covering of moss in some spots. Netting is still needed for the mini goal posts so if anyone has ideas please let a Parish Councillor know. And should any group of parents like to help in considering a scheme for better play facilities, again, please inform a Parish Councillor. Another reminder: dogs are not allowed in this area.

### **General Amenities.**

Plans from BaNES concerning Bus Stops and Bus Shelters have been released with a start date of between 3 and 6 months, so there is still time for a few amendments!

Frequent barking from some dogs is causing a few residents to complain. Whilst this is understandable for short periods, prolonged barking is extremely irritating to others and should be contained. The BaNES dog warden can enforce restrictions if a call is made to Council Connect (01225 394041). This is also the telephone number to call to let your local Council know of any local problems such as pot holes, dangerous trees, blocked drains or even areas where road or pavement cleaning is required. They cannot have inspectors in every place all of the time, so please contact them to explain the problem.

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## **Village News and Events**

Please let Jan Helps know if you would like anything included in this section

### **Village Hall**

The village hall is a great venue for one off events and is very reasonably priced. If you would like to use the hall please contact the booking secretary on 01225 425085.

### **New bus service to Ralph Allen School**

Following a meeting on 26 June between Ralph Allen School and Bathampton and Bathwick parents, the school announced that they are piloting a new bus service starting in September to improve transport to and from the school. The service will also include pick-up for after school clubs. It will start on the A36 near Hantone Hill, pick-up on Down Lane and

Bathamton Lane before joining the A36 down to Bathwick. There is a free trial for the first week and then an annual pass with dedicated seat can be purchased through the school on-line payment system. This is a welcome improvement and it is hoped the uptake will be such that it can continue to run.

For further information contact Jo Marsh [j.marsh@ralphallenschool.com](mailto:j.marsh@ralphallenschool.com).

### **Dry Arch Growers**

Dry Arch Growers are seeking to employ a part time, trainee/grower for September. All work would take place under supervision alongside members of the co-operative. For further information contact Jan Helps on 01225 336656 or 07972564641.

Visit Dry Arch on Thursdays and Sundays and contact Jan if you are interested in a veg box or apple juice.

<p>If you would like to publicise any activities or events of interest to Bathampton Residents please contact Tony McCann or any of the Parish Councillors who will be happy to pass them on for inclusion in the next newsletter.</p> <p>Contact details:</p> <table><tr><td>George Ardrey</td><td>424270</td></tr><tr><td>Sarah Batterbury</td><td>07802 727244</td></tr><tr><td>Moirra Brennan</td><td>313503</td></tr><tr><td>Kate Jones</td><td>422870</td></tr><tr><td>Lin King</td><td>460998</td></tr><tr><td>David Mayo</td><td>466875</td></tr><tr><td>Tony McCann</td><td>423230</td></tr><tr><td>Mike Richards</td><td>466757</td></tr></table> <p><a href="http://www.bathamtonparishcouncil.org.uk">www.bathamtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a></p>	George Ardrey	424270	Sarah Batterbury	07802 727244	Moirra Brennan	313503	Kate Jones	422870	Lin King	460998	David Mayo	466875	Tony McCann	423230	Mike Richards	466757	<p>Village Hall Bookings Mary Feddery Tel: 425085 <a href="mailto:bathamtonvillagehall@outlook.com">bathamtonvillagehall@outlook.com</a></p> <p>Newsletter Editor Jan Helps can be contacted on</p> <p>Telephone: 01225 336656 E.mail: <a href="mailto:j.s.helps@talk21.com">j.s.helps@talk21.com</a></p> <p>Please let Jan Helps know if there are changes to any of the information in "What's on in Bathampton"</p>
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