

Bathampton Parish Council Newsletter October 2013

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

New Parish Councillor

We are pleased to welcome to the Parish Council Sarah Batterbury. Sarah lives on Holcombe Lane and has 2 children at the school.

Flower Show

As usual, the Bathampton Gardeners' Association put on a splendid show with even more attractions than in previous years. Also, as usual, the weather was remarkably kind.

Valley Parishes Alliance

This association of 9 parishes east of Bath in the Avon Valley has now been running for four years. It carries more weight with other bodies than any one parish would on its own. The leaders of both B&NES Council and Wiltshire Council have been to our meetings for Q&A sessions. The VPA also has a sub-committee which holds regular meetings with the Highways Agency since several of our parishes border the A36, for which the HA is responsible. The HA gathers accident information from the police but this only concerns accidents causing death or serious injury. To get a fuller picture of incidents on the A36 the HA and VPA have created a report form on which anyone can log accidents, near misses etc. This form can be found on the Parish Council website at

www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk/reportit

Lollipop person

Bathampton Primary School currently has a lollipop person for morning duties but not for the afternoon. The work involves acting as a School Crossing Patrol for 30 minutes each weekday afternoon. For further details contact the school on 465229.

Twinning

For some years Batheaston has had a twinning arrangement with a village in Brittany called Oudon. This arrangement is run by a twinning association which is a separate organisation from the Parish Council. They have asked whether Bathampton people would be interested in joining their activities. If anyone is interested please contact Peter Davenport, Deputy Chairman, Batheaston Twinning Association on pdavenport@kyrle222.plus.com

Tony McCann

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

Batheaston/Bathamton Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridge

Work has commenced on the proposed new route from Batheaston over the River Avon, skirting Bathampton Meadows and exiting onto Mill Lane at New Leaf Farm entrance.

Candywood Leys

The previous Newsletter reported allowance for reapplication for temporary agricultural dwelling. Instead the owners have applied for permission for a travellers' site, which the Local Authority is considering.

Park & Ride East of Bath.

A decision on a short list of potential sites remains in abeyance awaiting revision of the Core Strategy under Public Consultation on <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk>

New Building at 63 Warminster Road

Application for demolition and rebuild has been referred to Local Authority committee in October. The Parish Council oppose the new design on the grounds of height and footprint.

Extensions at 60 Holcombe Vale

Application for extensive alterations has, with provisos, been supported by the Parish Council as being in keeping with surrounding properties.

This quarter the Parish Council has received eleven Planning Applications and eight Applications for Tree Work, and details of all local planning matters, including our comments and others', can be viewed on <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk>

Leisure and Amenities

Mike Richards

Jubilee Garden

Hopefully, recent contact with the Canal and Rivers Trust will produce a response regarding possible plans to improve this area by getting the 'lengthman's' hut repaired. At the same time CRT may include some displays to show the historic nature of the area

Allotments

Several plots have recently been relinquished and will be taken up by people on the waiting list. We would welcome additional applications from Bathampton residents as the Parish allotments are first and foremost for our local community. So should you be keen to enjoy and have an abundance of homegrown vegetables and fruits, please make contact with any Parish councillor, and pass the word around your friends. The harvest this year was generally better than last and plot holders with fruit trees and bushes have enjoyed an abundant crop.

Playground and Playing field

The travelling zip wire tyre buffer has been replaced, as the last inspection from B&NES highlighted that the item required attention. Apparently the balance springs on the Seesaw

cannot be repaired so the time has come to consider a replacement as we know this item is popular with young children.

Watch out for dogs. Should any be seen in this area please ask them to leave or report details to a Councillor, who will involve the BaNES enforcement officer.

General amenities

During the installation of the new Jubilee plaque, suggestions were made for the flower planters to be placed on matching stone slabs on the ground around the monument. Having received three estimates from contractors, the Parish Council has now agreed a contract for the work to proceed and the Finance & Fabric Committee of St Nicholas Church has approved the layout of the site. This continues 110 years of recognition of our monarchy by *'the Parishioners of Hampton'* who in 1903 instigated the monument to honour the reign of Queen Victoria and the Coronation of Edward VII.

We are awaiting the introduction of bus shelters at Holcombe Lane and St Georges Hill, which B&NES investigated some months ago. The works will also include the relocation of the Holcombe Lane bus stops.

Finally, as there were generally favourable comments regarding the Christmas tree outside the Village Hall last year, it was agreed to repeat the display this year. Sponsorship would enable us to have a bigger and better display, so if anyone knows of local suppliers or services that would like to be involved with the project, please let the Parish Council know. Of course the sponsorship will be declared and acknowledged.

Highways Group

Moira Brennan, David Mayo and Kate Jones

Highways

Since our last report the Highways Agency have cut back vegetation on the pavement on the north side of the A36 between Bathampton Lane and Devonshire Road where the boundaries of the triangular field were narrowing the pavement.

The Valley Parish Alliance (VPA) met with the Highways Agency as part of a regular communication plan regarding the A36. The Highways Agency facilitated the VPA to submit representations to a strategy workshop looking at the medium and long term issues facing the major routes in the South West (including the A36). The issues that the VPA asked to be considered are the degree of severance of the parishes by the A36 and the lack of crossings, traffic congestion - particularly around the junction with Brassknocker Hill, the development of alternative routes from the M4 to the south coast and poor visibility on junctions.

Canals

The Canal & River Trust and Kennet & Avon (K&A) Waterways Partnership have produced a Proposed Towpath Mooring Plan for The Kennet & Avon Canal west of Devizes to Bath. Subject to any changes in the plan as a result of the consultation, the Canal & River Trust and the K&A Waterways Partnership will undertake a 12 month pilot of the K&A Towpath Mooring Plan beginning as early as is feasible in 2014. We have asked Keith Rossiter to review the plan and respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

Footpaths

Our volunteers have finished cutting back surface vegetation on footpaths for the year. We have teamed up with the Dry Arch Project to share tools and expertise. B&NES have replaced the steps directly south of the triangular field leading up to Bathampton Down. They have also organised for a contractor to improve the path between the end of Holcombe Lane and the swing bridge. We hope this work will take place before the end of the year. Please continue to report footpath issues to Cllr David Mayo.

Village News and Events

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

Adult Table Tennis

Our Senior Table Tennis group is now up and running – Tuesday mornings at Bathampton Scout Hut, from 10.30 – 1.00. 4 tables, bring your own bat, all abilities welcome. £30 for 10 weeks from 8 October, or if you just want to come and try it out, £3 per session. Just come along or, to find out more, contact Ron Adams on 425745.

Dry Arch Growers

A huge thank you to everyone who came along and helped with the apple harvest. What a bumper crop. We now have bottles of juice available so get in touch if you would like some. . If you would like more information or are interested in a vegetable box, contact Jan Helps on 01225 336656 or Hannah Isaac on 07795 127786

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.

Contact details:

George Ardrey	424270
Sarah Batterbury	07802 727244
Moira Brennan	313503
Kate Jones	422870
Lin King	460998
David Mayo	466875
Tony McCann	423230
Mike Richards	466757

www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk

Village Hall Bookings
Angela Shearer Tel: 421112
angela@shearer.org.uk

Newsletter Editor
Jan Helps can be contacted on

Telephone: 01225 336656
E.mail: j.s.helps@talk21.com

Please let Jan Helps know if there are changes to any of the information in "What's on in Bathampton"