

**Bathampton Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup>.,April, 2016**  
**in the Village Hall, Bathampton**

Present: Cllrs. M. Brennan, S. Andrews, J. Bird. J. Helps and L. King,

1. **Apologies:** These were received from Cllrs. G.Ardrey, L. McMurray  
and D. Mayo

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup>.,March, 2016 had been circulated. There being no amendments, Cllr. King, seconded by the Chairman, proposed that these Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising**

a) Regarding the Leylandi Trees, the Clerk had not yet written to Bath & N.E.S.Council. It was not clear to whom the letter should be addressed so the action is to be carried forward.

**CLERK**

b) Cllr. Andrews reported that the “Quiet Zone” on the canal is going ahead and notices should be in position soon.

c) Cllr. Andrews had responded concerning the speed of vehicles in Mill Lane. He repeated our concerns and our desire that the speed limit should be reduced.

d) Cllr. Andrews said that he would contact the Canal & Rivers Trust again concerning the plants on the canal bank by the moored boat. Although CRT have allowed the boat to moor permanently, this should not extend to allowing planting on the bank.

**S.A.**

4.. **Finance:**

- a) Approval of the Financial Report for March,2016

The report had been circulated. This summarises the position at the end of the 2015 to 2016 financial year.

The Handyman and the Highways Group have finished with a slight surplus ( £475 & £15 respectively) whilst the Leisure and Amenities Group have a surplus of £2457. Administration went slightly over budget by £159. Unexpectedly, a new laptop computer and printer had been purchased.

The Clerk will be sending the accounts off to the internal auditor in the very near future.

**CLERK**

The report was then proposed for approval by Cllr. Helps and seconded by Cllr. Andrews. Carried unanimously.

- b) Approval of Expenditure for April,2016

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

Bath & N.E.S.Council	Risk Assessment-Swing Supports	£
59.00(+VAT)		
S.S.E.Enterprise	Street Light Maintenance	£
64.16(+VAT)		

E.D.F.Energy	Electricity	£
97.47(+VAT)		
G.B.Sport & Leisure	Disabled Swing Seat	£
1675.50(+VAT)		

It was proposed by the Cllr. King and seconded by Cllr.Andrews that the first three invoices should be paid. Carried unanimously.

It was agreed to withhold payment for the disabled swing seat as it had broken within three days of installation.

**CLERK**

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**4.. Finance(Cont'd.)**

d) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the Secretary of Bathampton Village Show had written to ask permission to erect a marquee on the Playing Field from Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup>.,until Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup>.,September in order to hold the Annual Flower Show. There was unanimous agreement to this and the Clerk was asked to reply granting permission.

**CLERK**

Bath & N.E.S. Council has written to inform us that our grant under the Parish Agency Scheme for keeping the footpaths clear of vegetation for the coming season will be £626.74. The Clerk will send an invoice to initiate the payment.

**CLERK**

Confirmation has been received from Bath & N.E.S.Council that the first half installment of the Precept has been received into our bank account (£11,500), together with half of the Local Council Tax Support Grant. (£ 510)

A copy has been received of a letter sent by the Prior's Walk (Bathampton) Management Ltd., to Bath & N.E.S. Council's Planning Department objecting to the plan for four self-build houses on the land adjacent to Miller Walk.

**5. Group Reports**

a) Planning & Conservation Group.

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that Bath & N.E.S.Council are now sending copies of Planning Applications for responses by email instead of by post. She reported that Mr. Denys Clarke, having looked at several of these, now seemed happy with the new arrangement. She asked the Clerk to remind her when a response is in danger of becoming overdue.

**CLERK**

An appeal has now been made against the refusal of Planning Permission for the four self-build houses on land adjacent to Miller Walk

The appeal against Bath & N.E.S.Council's refusal of Planning Permission for upgrading the access track to the Miller Walk Open area has been dismissed. Following this, a C.L.P.U. (Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Development) application has been made. The Clerk was asked to write to the Planning Department with our objections again.

**CLERK**

The University of Bath has applied to build an extension to one of its halls of residence. We are to object to this as it eats into the shielding of the site

by trees and the external finish is not in keeping with that of the rest of the building.

Cllr. King queried whether we were getting all the notifications from Bath & N.E.S. Council that we should. The Clerk to check.

#### **CLERK**

Concerning the cycle/footpath across the Meadows, we have agreed to be responsible for maintaining the benches etc. by using volunteers. The benches are being installed next week and a litter pick is being organised.

Concerning the electrification of the railway and the re-location of the substation away from the school, there was no further news.

With work commencing on the Old Jewson's Yard Site, notices have been posted at the top of Bathampton Lane and the top of Down Lane restricting access of lorries to the site. It was queried whether improvements to the Tynning Road and the footpaths could be financed under the "Safer Routes to School" initiative.

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### **5. Group Reports(Cont'd.)**

#### **a) Planning & Conservation Group(Cont'd.)**

Finally, Cllr. King reported that we had replied concerning the proposed changes to Planning Application Arrangements. We agree with A.L.C.A.'s responses.

#### **b) Highways Group**

Cllr. Andrew's report had been circulated. He has just received, by email, data concerning the speed of traffic in Bathampton Lane. Bath & N.E.S. Council's interpretation of it is very suspect.

Concerning the speedwatch, he had walked around the Village with the Beat Officer and the Speedwatch Co-ordinator to identify suitable locations for the volunteers to be stationed. Seven volunteers have come forward but another three are required before they can be trained. An appeal will be made in the Newsletter.

Regarding Mill Lane, Cllr. Andrews said that Stefan Chivers (the Highways Officer) seems unable or unwilling to take any action to reduce the speed limit.

The re-surfacing of the canal towpath is proceeding. Also pot holes in Bathampton Lane are being repaired.

#### **c) Footpaths**

The volunteer group which maintains the footpaths is starting up again.

#### **d) Leisure & Amenities Group**

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Helps reported that the disabled swing seat had been broken within days of being installed. She had been in touch with G.B. Sports who had, in turn, been in touch with their supplier. She is considering whether to replace it with a basket seat or alternatively if G.B.Sports still have the original seats they could be put back.

The Playground Group have met with an equipment supplier. There have been many suggestions including multi-use centres.

She had received a well-written letter from an 11 year old asking for bigger goal posts and basket ball posts.

The volunteers are organised for planting up the planters and Cllr. Helps has agreed a budget for some of the volunteers to source their own plants.

e) Communications

In the absence of Cllr. McMurray, there was nothing to report.

f) Policy & Finance

The Clerk was asked to check the arrangements for Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup>., April when the majority of Councillors are to receive "Good Councillor Training".

**CLERK**

The Chairman said that there is a rumour about a re-shuffle within Bath & N.E.S. Council and they may not now make a decision about the Park & Ride on May, 4<sup>th</sup>., or 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Chairman then reminded the councillors that the deadline for copy for the Newsletter is tomorrow, the 22<sup>nd</sup>., April.

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**6. Annual Parish Meeting, Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup>, May, 2016**

The Chairman said that she wanted leaders of the Groups to present their own reports to the meeting and she asked the Clerk to circulate the previous Chairman's notes from the 2015 meeting.

**CLERK**

**7. Open Forum**

a) Concerning flytipping, it was agreed that we do not need notices, prohibiting it, to be placed by the canal opposite the School.

b) Cllr. Andrews asked that notices advertising the Speedwatch should be placed in the noticeboards.

**CLERK**

**8. Date of Next meeting**

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup>., May, 2016

At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.25 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,

21<sup>st</sup>., April, 2016