

Bathampton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th.,April, 2017 in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs. 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. **Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th.,March, 2017 had been circulated. In the absence of any amendments, Cllr.Bird, seconded by Cllr. King proposed that the Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. **Matters Arising**

The Clerk was asked to contact the handyman to get his proforma which he has filled in with details of his jobs and mileages.

CLERK

Also, he was remind Cllr. Mayo about getting the new cycle/footpath across the meadows added to the Definitive Map.

CLERK

He is also to contact B.& N.E.S.Council again in order to find out if cutting the grass on the bank opposite the School is in their contract.

CLERK

Julie O'Rourke, in B.& N.E.S.Council's Planning Office is leaving. The Clerk was asked to write and thank her for all her work with us and to send good wishes for her future.

CLERK

5. **Finance**

a) **Approval of the Annual Governance Statement, 2016 to 2017**

Blank copies of the Annual Governance Statement had been circulated. The Chairman took the Councillors one by one through each statement. The answer to each one was "Yes". Accordingly, she proposed that the Statement be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. King and carried unanimously.

b) **Approval of the Financial Report for March, 2017**

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

c) **Approval of Expenditure for April,2017**

The Clerk reported that two invoices had been received this month as follows:-

S.S.E.Enterprise	Street Light maintenance	£ 64.16(+VAT)
B. & N.E.S.Council	Quarterly Playground Inspection	£ 75.00(+VAT)

Cllr. King, seconded by Cllr. Helps, proposed that these invoices be paid.

Carried unanimously.

CLERK

d) **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported that he had received an update from the West of England Regional Authority concerning the JSP and the JTP. It gives a web address for obtaining further information.

Cont'd.....

d) Clerk's Report(Cont'd.)

An order had been received for the Rights of Way Vegetation Clearance from B.& N.E.S.Council. The Clerk had sent an Invoice for this and the grant of £633 has now been received into the Parish Council's bank account.

B.& N.E.S.Council has also paid into our bank account, half of the annual precept (£11,500) and half of the Local Council Tax Support Grant (£255).

6. Ongoing Items**a) The George Car Park**

The car park meters are now functioning. This has caused much dismay and bad feeling in the Village. The whole of the parking area is owned by the pub chain. (The only piece of land used by the pub which is not theirs is the seating area by the right-angled bend in the road.) There is on-going discussion to try to obtain reduced charge permits for the regular users, e.g. staff at the School and church volunteers. There is a strip of land alongside Tynning Road owned by B.& N.E.S.Council, which could be used for a school car park.

Dist. Cllr. Alison Millar is to talk to the Council about this. In the meantime, Mr. Kelvin Packer from B.& N.E.S. Highways Department is due to come to our next meeting on 18th., May to discuss this and other Highway matters.

b) Community Speedwatch

Cllr. Bird reported that Sarah Tovey had met David Boardman and several suggestions had been made- A new vehicle activated sign in Bathampton Lane to indicate vehicular speed. Use of radar on Warminster Road. Appropriate signs would be funded by B.& N.E.S.Council. 20 & 30 M.P.H. stickers for waste bins could be ordered costing around £150. Community Speed Watch signs would cost around £50. New locations for the "speed-watchers" are being approved. Cllr. Bird was asked to invite Sarah Tovey to the next parish council meeting.

J.B.**c) Park & Ride**

The Chairman suggested that we might donate funds to Bathampton Meadows Alliance to support action against the Park & Ride. It was resolved to donate £1000, but before doing this we should find out the opinion of our villagers. This can be done via the Newsletter and at the Annual Parish Meeting on 15th., May.

In the meantime, everything is on hold because of the forthcoming General Election.

d) Bathscape

This is a new initiative by B.& N.E.S.Council. It is said that the proposed Park & Ride on the Meadows could be part of it.

e) Website

There is concern that the website is not being kept up-to-date. There were only three visitors in the last month. In the absence of Cllr. McMurray, discussion of this was left until next month's meeting.

f) Cycletrack

Cllr. King reported that the "Friends of Bathampton Meadows" will have to take out their own insurance as our policy does not cover them. They are busy fund-raising. Signs are being organised pointing towards the canal towpath and also prohibiting dog fouling. More litter bins are required but these will not be funded by B.& N.E.S.Council. She queried whether we should give them a grant. It was agreed that they would have to apply for one.

MIN/APR/17

7. Group Reports

a) **Planning & Conservation Group.**

The report had been circulated.

For the proposed extension at 1 Down Lane, suggestions have been made regarding materials. For the proposed extension at 10 Devonshire Road, we had no objection but for the one at 100 Holcombe Vale, it was felt to be too overpowering for the neighbours on either side.

b) **Highways Group**

Cllr. Andrews said there was little to report. He was aware of potholes in the village which he had reported to B.& N.E.S.Council. Also he had reported an abandoned car. He was aware that streets and footpaths do not appear to be swept. The Chairman said that she had obtained the Street Cleaning Schedule from B. & N.E.S.Council and would send it to him.

M.B.

c) **Footpaths**

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

d) **Leisure & Amenities Group**

Cllr. Helps said that the replacement fencing for the playground is due in the next two weeks.and she would ask them to liaise with the Clerk when installation is due, if she is away.

J.H./CLERK

Cllr. Helps then reported that all the allotments are taken.

e) **Communications**

In the absence of Cllr. McMurray, there was no report.

f) **Policy & Finance**

The report had been circulated.

Group leaders were asked to get their reports to Cllr. Jan Helps for the Newsletter by Friday, 28th.,April. It seems that the Village Show have leaflets which they would like distributed along with our Newsletter. We have been asked to include an article on "Swiftwatch". Also there are some changes to "What's On".

ALL

8.. Annual Parish Meeting 15th.,May,2017

The Chairman then mentioned the arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday, 15th.,May. She asked the Group Leaders to give her a copy of their annual report.

The Clerk said that due to being away from 6th., to 13th.,May, he will need to post the agenda by Friday,5th.,May. He would send a draft agenda to the Chairman to amend as necessary. Topics which could come up for discussion include the donation of £1000 to Bathampton Meadows Alliance and the local bus service

9. Open Forum

The only point mentioned was a reminder to ask the Handyman for his monthly mileage sheet.

CLERK

10. Date of Next Meeting - the Annual Meeting

Thursday, 18th.,May, 2017
at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

Signed..... Chairman,

18th.,May, 2017

