

Bathampton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th.,February, 2018 **in the Village Hall, Bathampton**

Prior to the meeting, Messrs. D.Trethewey & A.Thomas B.& N.E.S.Council) addressed the Council. See the attached appendix.

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

1. Apologies: These were received from Cllr. G.Ardrey

2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th.,January, 2018 had been circulated. The Clerk was asked to put a note at the beginning of the Minutes referring to the appendix which was a report on the pre-meeting concerning Highway matters and "Safer Routes to School".

Following this amendment, Cllr Helps, seconded by the Cllr. King, proposed that the Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

Cllr. Helps reported that two allotment tenants had mentioned that they could not park at the Down Lane entrance to the allotments because of a car seemingly parked permanently in one of the spaces.The Clerk was asked to write to Mrs. Batterbury again asking her to find a way of freeing up the space as soon as possible.

CLERK

The Clerk reported that he had not yet received a reply from A.L.C.A. concerning possible training of the Handyman.

CLERK

Cllr. Helps asked the Clerk to contact Idverde who cut the grass on the playing field and in the allotments last season. We have not received monthly invoices as they had promised nor have we received an invoice for the whole season.

CLERK

5. Finance

a) Approval of the Financial Report for January, 2018

The Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Helps proposed that the report be approved. Carried unanimously.

b) Approval of Expenditure for February, 2018

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

B.& N.E.S.Council	Printing Newsletter	£ 101.00
Viking Direct	Toner Cartridges/Paper	£ 76.33(+VAT)

Cllr. King., seconded by Cllr. Anrews,proposed that these two invoices be paid. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

c) Clerk's Report

An anonymous letter had been received from "The Residents of the Chestertons" saying that two footpaths linking the estate to the Warminster Road are dangerous because of accumulated leaves and debris. Cllr. Helps said she would talk to our Handyman for him to have a look at the paths.

5. Finance(Cont'd.)**c) Clerk's Report(Cont'd.)**

The Canal & River Trust have sent a leaflet entitled "Championing the Waterway".

B.& N.E.S.Council have written to confirm that we will be receiving the precept of £23,000 plus the Local Tax Support Grant of £260.

S.S.E.Enterprise have sent a quotation for changing our street lights to L.E.D. lighting. (See below)

6) On Going Items**a) Safer Routes to School.**

The chairman asked if we should give a grant towards the proposed pedestrian bridge.(To be known as Bathampton Conker Crossing). Cllr. Andrews said that he had witnessed the situation at the canal bridge in the morning when the children were coming to school. It was very dangerous and in his opinion a pedestrian bridge was badly needed. The Chairman said that it had been suggested at the VPA meeting that a simple pedestrian bridge not built for disabled access could cost around £50,000. If it had to cater for full disabled access or bikes, it would cost many times more. After some discussion, Cllr. King, seconded by the Chairman, proposed that we award Bathampton Conker Crossing a grant of £1,000. Carried unanimously.

CLERK**b) Proposed conversion of Street lights to L.E.D.'s**

The quote received from S.S.E.Enterprise to convert seven of our streetlights to L.E.D. lighting(Three had already been converted inadvertently) was in a total sum of £9,566.19(+VAT). This is almost four times the rough price of £2,500 quoted by Mr. Stephen Burrell(B.& N.E.S.Lighting Dept.) following his visit to us. The Clerk was asked to send this quote to Mr.Burrell and ask him for his comment.

CLERK**c) Village Shop**

The shop has been sold subject to contract and we must await further news.

d) Community Empowerment Fund

Applications for grants had been submitted for purchasing tools and protective equipment for the footpath volunteers and for trees and grasscutting for Friends of Bathampton Meadows.

e) 19 Down Lane

This was covered under Matters Arising.

7. Group Reports**a) Planning & Conservation Group.**

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that there had been over 100 objections to Network Rail's application to make its temporary site in Tynning Road into a permanent depot. Network Rail has now withdrawn its application, because it says that under a Railways Act dating back to 1854, they do not need to apply for planning permission. We await action from B.& N.E.S.Council.

Since the report, an application has been received for a side extension, dormers and a front porch at 79 Holcombe Close.

The plan to erect 8 houses on the site of Bathford Nurseries has been dismissed

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

The Canal & River Trust are intending to hold a Canal Festival in Bathampton later in the year and have asked permission to use Jubilee Gardens. There was unanimous agreement. Cllr. King would reply.

L.K.

The contract to allow vehicular access along the track alongside the Charlcombe Homes development is about to be signed. This will allow the level crossing at the end of Tynning Road to be closed to vehicles about three months later.

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated.

Concern was expressed at the narrowness of the footpath along the Warminster Road alongside the triangular field. Grass and soil have encroached over the hard surface reducing the width. Highways England would be contacted.

S.A.

Cllr. Bird said that she was contacting the Police concerning two vehicles (old ambulances) which had been left parked in the same situation for a long time.

J.B.

Cllr. Andrews said that the heritage metal diamond-shaped signs on the canal bridge which give the weight restriction are badly in need of a coat of paint. Cllr. Helps said that she would ask the handyman to have a look at them.

J.H.

c) Footpaths

Cllr. Mayo said that the application to the Community Empowerment Fund had been for tools and protective equipment for the volunteers amounting to £535.

d) Leisure & Amenities Group

Cllr. Helps said that the new goal posts had been erected on the playing field with the netting to follow.

She also mentioned that the old trading hut on the allotments was being maintained by the Village Show committee.

One free allotment plot was being offered to a prospective tenant. The Clerk reported that most of the rents had been received

e) Communications

The Chairman said that she had been tweeting. Twitter is useful for getting responses but we need someone with expertise to maintain the website.

f) Policy & Finance

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman said that some of the older volunteers who deliver the newsletter had said they were no longer able to do it. We had managed to get new people to cover their routes. She was concerned however that we relied on one person to manage the distribution of the newsletters and we have no cover if she is unable to do a newsletter.

She referred to the new G.D.P.Regulations. She thought that we might not need a Data Protection Officer.(D.P.O.) if we had less than 250 employees. The Clerk was asked to check with B.& N.E.S.Council.

CLERK

8.. Open Forum

Cllr. King reminded Cllr. Mayo that he was to get the cycle track across the meadows accepted as a Right of Way and put on the Definitive Map.

D.M.

Finally, Cllr. King reminded the Council of the invitation from the new manager of "The George" to an open event on Wednesday evening 21st.,February.

Cont'd.....

9. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 15th., March, 2018
at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.10 pm.

Signed..... Chairman,
15th., March, 2018