

# Bathampton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup>., July, 2016 in the Village Hall, Bathampton

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

1. **Apologies:** These were received from Cllrs.G.Ardrey.

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup>., June, 2016 had been circulated. There being no amendments, Cllr. Helps, seconded by the Cllr. Mayo, proposed that these Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

3. **Matters Arising**

The Clerk was asked to circulate Cllrs. Ardrey, Brennan & Bird to arrange a meeting of the working group which is to review Standing Orders, the Financial Regulations and the Risk Assessment Documents.

CLERK

4. **Finance:**

a) **Approval of the Financial Report for June,2016**

The report had been circulated. It was then proposed for approval by Cllr. Mayo and seconded by Cllr. King. Carried unanimously.

b) **Approval of Expenditure for July, 2016**

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

Bath Gdn. Machinery	Servicing Gardening Equipment	£ 136.20(+VAT)
S.S.E.Contracting	Street Light maintenance	£ 64.16(+VAT)
E.D.F.Energy	Electricity	£ 98.97(+VAT)

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

CLERK

c) **Clerk's Report**

The Bath Preservation Trust had sent a survey document to be completed on their role. The Clerk reported that Cllr. Ardrey had already filled it out on line.

The Chairman said that our Code of Conduct should be published on the website. This was agreed and the Clerk would email a copy to Cllr. McMurray.

CLERK

The Chairman also asked the Clerk to email copies of our Risk Assessment document to the working party who are to review it.

CLERK

It was also mentioned that we should review our inventory to make sure that it is an accurate record of our property. The Clerk to circulate it.

CLERK

5. **Bathampton Meadows Cycle/Footpath**

Cllr. King reported that work is proceeding. The grass is being cut on a regular basis and planning is going ahead for the footbridge.

6. **Proposal to make "The George" car park Pay & Display**

Cllr. Andrews reported that a meeting had taken place of the Rev. Jonty Frith, Paul Falkus (the Headmaster of the School), three B.& N.E.S. councillors and three representatives of the residents of Canal Terrace with the Regional Manager from the brewery company. They pointed out the problems which would arise if the brewery went ahead with their plan. The outcome of the

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**6. Proposal to make "The George" car park Pay & Display (Cont'd.)**

meeting was that the manager was to come back to us after he had considered his course of action. This has not yet happened.

There was much discussion on this. As this impacts on "Safe Routes to School", it was felt that B.& N.E.S.Council should be involved on the safety measures for the School. Another suggestion was that a survey should be undertaken of the pupils' needs.

As no response had been received from the Regional Manager of the brewery, Cllr. Andrews was asked to send him an email asking for a response. **S.A.**

**7. Community Speedwatch**

Cllr. Andrews said that he had met up with the Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator and progress was being made. There is now discussion on the signage- the exact format and where it should be displayed..

The volunteers have been circulated and are going for training.

B.& N.E.S. are able to do the speed monitoring again for us at a cost of around £120. We would be happy to pay if the results were acceptable . Cllr. Andrews is to write to Stephan Chivers to find out why he thought another set of data would make a difference. **S.A.**

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

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that the Inspector is to visit the site of the four self-build houses which went to Appeal. The green space has been included in the Placemaking Plan but the plan for the access was not included in this appeal. The result is expected by the end of August.

An application has been received for tree work in Meadow Lane. It involves felling several trees. We objected, particularly to the felling of the oak tree. However, the application has since been passed. The Clerk was asked to write to B.& N.E.S. asking them to police the work and make sure that the oak tree is not felled. **CLERK**

There is concern that the trees at the bottom of Down Lane are now so big that they overhang right over the road. This is where the gabions are and which are now completely obscured by the undergrowth. The Clerk said that no one acknowledges ownership of the strip of land containing the gabions. It was thought that the trees may be on land behind this strip so the Clerk was asked to write to the owner asking him to arrange for them to be cut back if they are on his land. **CLERK**

Finally, Cllr. King reported that Kelvin Packer(B.& N.E.S.) says that the Safe Routes to School signage for the exit and entrance via the Church are incorrect.

**b) Highways Group**

The report had been circulated. Cllr. Andrew reported that the H.E. are to tackle the overgrowth on the Warminster Road but would not tackle that on the slope by St. George's Hill. There was discussion about B.& N.E.S. mechanical road sweeper. There does not appear to be a regular schedule of road sweeping.

Cllr. Andrews reported that the canal towpath is now open and looking very good.

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c) **Footpaths**

Cllr. Mayo reported that the first cut of the undergrowth has now been completed and the second one is scheduled to start next Saturday.

d) **Leisure & Amenities Group**

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Helps said that she will query the total loading of the new nest swing seat as several adults have been seen using it.

The grass on the allotment paths was becoming too long between cuts for the machines to cope with easily. As a result, Cllr. Helps obtained agreement from Cllrs. Brennan and King to have four extra cuts over that agreed in the original contract. These will cost an extra £276.76+VAT.

**Playground Fencing.** Cllr. Helps explained that the fencing around the childrens' play area was becoming unsafe. Many of the posts had rotted. She explained all the possibilities. After discussion, it was agreed that we should go for galvanised metal fencing rather than wood as it would last much longer. Also, it was suggested that the area is enlarged up to the boundary fence which would mean having new fencing on three sides only. This would be a major expense and it was suggested that a grant may be available from B.& N.E.S.Council. This is an ongoing project and Cllr. Helps would report further at the next meeting.

J.H.

e) **Communications**

Cllr. McMurray commented about the provision of Broadband within the Village. At the top end of the Village the Broadband is very slow. It is possibly held up because of difficulty in getting permission to close the road to put cables across to the South side.

Cllr. McMurray reported that we have many followers on Twitter and a "reach" of 408 on Facebook concerned about proposed changes to the No. 4 bus service. This is the number of people who shared it to their own timeline or mentioned the story in their own post. This is way beyond the usual amount of reach we get.

f) **Policy & Finance**

The Chairman reported that the decision on the Park & Ride East of Bath is imminent and there is much talk again about the Link Road.

The councillors were reminded that the deadline for the newsletter copy is Friday,29<sup>th</sup>.,July.

ALL

9. **Open Forum**

There was concern about changes to the No.4 bus service. It seems that there will be changes to the fares and to the timetable. We should have more information by the September meeting.

10. **Date of Next meeting**

Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup>.,September, 2016

At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.23 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,  
15<sup>th</sup>.,September, 2016

