

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th.,May, 2017
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs. Brennan, G.Ardrey, J.Bird, J. Helps L. King. and D. Mayo

1. Apologies: These were received from Cllrs. S.Andrews, L. McMurray.
and District Cllr. A.Millar

2. Election of Chairman for 2017 to 2018.

Cllr. Helps proposed that Cllr. Brennan be elected as Chairman for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr. King and carried unanimously.

3. Election of Vice-chairman for 2017 to 2018.

Cllr. Bird proposed that Cllr. King be elected as Vice-chairman for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr. Ardrey and carried unanimously.

4. Declarations of Interest: There were none.

5. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th.,April, 2017 had been circulated. Three small amendments were made on page two. Cllr.Bird, seconded by Cllr. Helps proposed that these amended Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

6. Matters Arising

The Clerk was asked send a copy of the handyman's proforma which he had filled in with details of his tasks, to Cllr. Helps. He was also asked to send the handyman another copy for him to fill in asking him specifically to put in his daily mileages.

CLERK

Cllr. Mayo is progressing putting the new cycle/footpath across the meadows on to the Definitive Map.

D.M.

Having found that B.& N.E.S.Council are responsible for cutting the grass on the bank opposite the School, the Clerk was asked to contact Idverde asking them to take this area out of their contract and to reduce the cost accordingly.

CLERK

7. Finance

a) Approval of the Annual Accounts Statement, 2016 to 2017

Copies of the completed Annual Accounts Statement had been circulated as well as the Bank Reconciliation, the explanation of Variances, the Supporting Statement and the Inventory. The Chairman proposed that the Statement be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. King and carried unanimously. The Chairman and Clerk then signed the statement signifying approval.

b) Approval of the Financial Report for April, 2017

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

c) Approval of Expenditure for May,2017

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

Bathampton Village Hall	Hire of room,2017-2018	£ 135.30
Mr.M.K.Crockett	Internal Audit	£ 185.00

The Chairman, seconded by Cllr. King, proposed that these invoices be paid. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

The Clerk had received by email the renewal quote for our insurance in the sum of £625.90p. He had raised some queries having read the accompanying documentation. Do volunteers need to be named? How many are we allowed? Should we add the new nest swing seat and the play area perimeter fencing? The Chairman said that she thought the value of £36,100 was insufficient for cover for the playground equipment. The Clerk said that he would telephone Zurich Insurance to discuss these points. As the premium is due on 1st.,June, it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr. Helps that we should pay the above premium now with any subsequent changes to be discussed at the next meeting.

CLERK**d) Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported that he had received three updates to the Electoral Roll since the last meeting. He had also received notification that the sum of £875.24, being the V.A.T. we paid last year, had now been paid into our bank account.

He had received a letter of thanks from Bathampton Local History Research Group thanking us for the grant and informing us how the publication of their findings is progressing. She wishes to put some information in a flyer to go with our parish newsletter. The Clerk was asked to reply saying that we would prefer a paragraph to be inserted in the newsletter rather than a flyer.

CLERK**8. Ongoing Items****a) The George Car Park**

Cllr.King reported on the present situation. There is now a growing problem with cars parking in other places in the Village. She is of the opinion that there is little more that we can do. We are waiting for "The George" management to come back to us. In the meantime, Mr. Kelvin Packer from B.& N.E.S. Highways Department is due to come to our next meeting on 15th.,June to discuss this and other Highway matters. We are contacting Bathampton Mill to keep them informed about the situation.

b) Community Speedwatch

Cllr. Bird reported that a new site had been identified and approved. It is in the bus stop on the Warminster Road near the junction with Bathampton Lane.

c) Park & Ride

The Chairman said that there was nothing to report. At the Annual Parish Meeting, the Chairman had asked if anyone objected to the Parish Council donating £1000 towards the Bathampton Meadows Alliance to help them in fighting against the Park & Ride. There were no objections from the audience of around 30.

d) Bathscape

Cllr. King said that she had obtained some brochures concerning this new initiative by B.& N.E.S.Council. Some had been given out at the Annual Parish meeting and she had more if Councillors wanted them..

e) Website

In the absence of Cllr. McMurray, there was nothing to report. It seems that we should keep the website for legal material such as the Minutes, Regulations and Reports and for “chatty” material go to Twitter or Facebook.

f) Cycletrack

A litter bin is required to be sited in the arch under the toll bridge road. B.& N.E.S.Council have refused to pay for one. They also have not pollarded the crack willows for many years and some now are in a dangerous state. The Friends of Bathampton Meadows are looking into raising funds for both of these purposes.

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

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that the Planning Application for two new houses at Woodside on the Warminster Road is now going to be decided by the Officer. Originally, it was going to the Management Development Committee but the Chair of that Committee has decided to send it back to the Officer.

Neighbours in Hantone Hill, both at the side and to the rear of the site have objected because they will be overlooked. We had no objection in principle.

b) Highways Group

There was nothing to report.

The Chairman said that Batheaston P.C. are having their street lights changed to L.E.D. at B.& N.E.Somerset Council’s expense. She asked the Clerk to contact their Clerk to inquire who in B.& N.E.S. to contact.

CLERK**c) Footpaths**

Cllr. Mayo reported that the first cut of overhanging vegetation had already been done. The second cut is due to start this Saturday. He has enough volunteers 8 or 9 in total and 2 to 3 attend each session. He was asked to advertise the times when the cutting is to take place.

D.M.**d) Leisure & Amenities Group**

Cllr. Helps said that the replacement fencing for the playground is at present being installed. The playing field and allotment paths have been cut for the second time. She is to meet with the Handyman to identify those areas of grass in the Parish which he cuts.

A resident of the High Street has complained that a badger is coming into her garden from the allotments. She wants the P.C. to cut back the undergrowth and to get rid of the badger. It was felt that the badger’s sett is not in the allotments and for this reason and that it is illegal to interfere with a badger sett, there is nothing we can do.

Cllr. Helps said that she had had a request from Grenville Jones to advertise “Golden Oldies” in the Newsletter. This was agreed.

e) Communications

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

f) **Policy & Finance**

There was nothing to report.

10.. Open Forum

Cllr. Bird mentioned the weeping willow tree at the corner of The Normans. Cutting back has been agreed by the Planning Department. She also mentioned a street light not working on the Warminster Road. This to be reported to Highways England.

Cllr. Ardrey mentioned that he will be attending the Environs Committee Meeting of the Bath Preservation Trust next Tuesday and will produce a report. There is also a Liaison meeting of A.L.C.A. B.& N.E.S. group next Thursday, which he is doubtful about attending.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 15th., June, 2017
at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

Signed..... Chairman,
15th., June, 2017