

Bathampton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th, October, 2016 in the Village Hall, Bathampton

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

1. Apologies: These were received from the Chairman, Cllr. Brennan & Cllr. Andrews. In the Chairman's absence, Cllr. King, the Vice-Chairman took the chair.

2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th, September 2016 had been circulated. In the absence of any amendments, Cllr. Ardrey, seconded by the Cllr. Bird, proposed that the Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that he had a reply from Mr. Holbeche concerning the tree overhanging Down Lane. He considers that the problem tree is not in his garden but he is to get a tree surgeon to inspect those growing in his garden. The Clerk was asked to write to Mrs. Carter who lives opposite and is concerned about the overhanging tree.

CLERK

Cllr. Mayo was asked about the communication received last month from Bath & N.E.S. Council concerning footpaths. They border our parish and that is why we received the communication. There is a move to downgrade them from byways to footpaths.

5. Finance:

a) Approval of the Financial Report for September, 2016

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

b) Approval of Expenditure for October, 2016

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

S.S.E. Enterprise	Maintenance of Street Lights	£ 64.16(+VAT)
E.D.F. Energy	Electricity	£ 99.22(+VAT)
B. & N.E.S. Council	Printing Newsletter	£ 130.00

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

CLERK

c) Clerk's Report

The C.P.R.E. Avonside Branch are having their A.G.M. on 12th, November to which we have received an invitation.

6. Ongoing Items

a) Bathampton Meadows Cycle/Footpath

Cllr. King reported that a formal managing committee is to be set up and an appeal for volunteers will be made.

Cont'd.....

6. Ongoing Items(Cont'd.)**b) "The George" car park**

Cllr. Andrews reported (in his report),that there was still no response from the Regional Manager

c) Community Speedwatch

Cllr. Bird said that the Speedwatch is taking shape. There are two approved places in Bathampton Lane and one by the bus shelter on the A.36 at the top of Down Lane. Training has been undertaken.

d) Placemaking Plan

There was nothing further to report.

e) Park & Ride

There has been little mention of this recently. It is not clear when the decision will be made. It could possibly be on the 8th.,November.

f) Playground Repairs

Cllr. Helps said that she had obtained three quotes for the repair of the zip wire which were as follows:-

Mant Leisure	£500
G.B.Sport &Leisure Ltd	£336
Safety Green	£140

She said that Safety Green had not come to look at what was needed and she had little confidence in their expertise. She therefore proposed that we accept the quotation from G.B.Sport & Leisure Ltd. This was seconded by Cllr. Bird and carried unanimously.

CLERK**7. Speeding Cyclists on the Towpath**

Following several reports of incidents between cyclists and pedestrians, it was felt that we should put an item in the Newsletter asking users of the towpath to show more consideration for other users. If possible we should find a contact for reporting such incidents. The C.& R.T. are due to put up permanent signage in December.

8. Local Bus Service

There have been numerous complaints since the service was taken over by the Wessex Bus Company and a new timetable instituted. The timing of the bus in the morning is too late for children to connect with other buses in Bath and to get them to school on time. They can catch the No.265 on the Warminster Road but then they have a 40 minute wait in town. Another problem is that a through fare cannot be purchased and it has become expensive for a child to get to school. Basically, the new service runs at inconvenient times and is twice as expensive. A further problem is that the service finishes very early at 4.45pm. Cllr. Helps said that she had emailed Cllr. Tony Clarke at least three times and has had no reply. It was agreed that a formal letter would be sent both to Cllr. Clarke and to Wessex Bus Company once a contact has been identified.

**J.H.
CLERK**

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

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that the Planning Application for No.8 Warminster Road was discussed at a full Committee Meeting. It was decided to make a site visit before making the decision.

The fencing has been permitted at the Old Rectory.

Building work has recommenced at the old Jewson's Yard.

Concerning an amendment to the application for the old M.O.D. site on the Warminster Road,(May,2016), this has not yet been decided.

b) Highways Group

There has been a request from a resident of the High Street for a speed hump to be removed as it causes bad vibrations in her house. An official from B.& N.E.S.Council has visited her and agrees that there is a problem. It has been suggested that the Parish Council could part-fund the removal. It was agreed that further investigation and information are required.

c) Footpaths

The Clerk had passed a communication received from Bathford Parish Council concerning footpath BA1/32 to Cllr. Mayo This is the path from the level crossing at the end of Tynning Road to Bathford. Network Rail seems to be trying to close it and Bathford P.C. require evidence from 50 regular users of the path. Cllr. Mayo will seek clarification.

D.M.

d) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Helps reported that two companies have submitted quotations for the upgrade of the playground. The possibility of getting a grant is being explored. She is waiting for extra information from fencing providers and now considers that we should go for the cheaper option.

J.H.

e) Communications

Cllr. McMurray said that there was nothing further to add to his circulated report.

f) Policy & Finance

There was no report this month.

10. Open Forum

(i) Cllr. McMurray said that a suggestion had been made that we should have Wi-Fi in the Village Hall. This was thought to be an excellent idea and Cllr. Bird said that she would write to the Village Hall Management Committee with the suggestion. It was queried whether B.& N.E.S.Council would be able to fund this.

J.B.

(ii) Cllr. Helps said that the Village Show Committee are holding a Christmas Fair on 26th.,November and they wondered if we could have the Christmas tree in situ by then. The Clerk was asked to look out details of the supplier from last year.

CLERK

10. Open Forum(Cont'd.)

(iii) Having had information from B.& N.E.S.Council that information is now available on-line for anyone to trace their ancestral records, Cllr. McMurray was asked to put the details on the website.

L.M.

(iv) Cllr. Helps reported that she had attended a meeting called by the C.& R.T. to launch the resurfaced towpath. She felt it was badly organised and the C.& R.T. personnel present only seemed to be trying to fund-raise.

(v) Following a suggestion that we should nominate Mrs. Carter for a Community Award, the Clerk asked if it was the Council's decision that we should go ahead. She was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr. Helps. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

(vi) The Council were reminded that the deadline for getting copy to the editor for the Newsletter is Friday,28th.,October.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 17th.,November, 2016
At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.15 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman,
17th.,November, 2016