

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st., June, 2018
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

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

1. Apologies: These were received from from District Councillor G.Ward.

2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17th., May, 2018 had been circulated. Cllr King, seconded by the Cllr. Bird, proposed that the Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. Co-option of a Parish Councillor

As the person concerned was unable to attend the meeting, this item is carried forward to the next meeting.

CLERK

5. Matters Arising

The Clerk had spoken again to the department of S.S.E.who we have a maintenance contract with for our street lights. He had been informed that S.S.E. could change our lights over to L.E.D.s gradually and so spread the cost over several years. After discussion, it was agreed that we do not wish to commit any money to this changeover at present and would invite a representative to come and talk to us about our maintenance contract.

CLERK

Cllr. Mayo is making enquiries to find out if the new footpath across the Meadows to Batheaston could be added to the Definitive Map early instead of waiting for the usual 20 years of use.

D.M.

The Clerk said that he had not received a reply from the residents of 62 Warminster Road concerning the hedge on their western boundary. As the hedge and the underlying surface growth are in need of another cut back, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to them again. We would give them the option of cutting it themselves before making arrangements for B.& N.E.S. Council to do it again.

Cllr. King said that the Planning Application for extensions and alterations at Langdale, Bathampton Lane are not tall enough to overlook Kennett Park so we have not objected. Also, the application to convert a barn at New Leaf Farm into dwellings is a re-application for permission which was given way back.

Cllr. Helps said that the hedge at 27 Devonshire Road had now been cut back and it was much easier for traffic turning out of Devonshire Road into Down Lane. She also reported that the replacement cradle swing seat had been fitted.

Cont'd.....

6. Finance**a) Approval of the Financial report for May,2018**

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

d) Approval of Expenditure for June,2018

The Clerk reported that one invoice had been received this month as follows:-

B.&.N.E.S.Council	Printing Newsletter	£ 118.00
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Cllr. Ardrey, seconded by Cllr. Bird, proposed that this invoice should be paid. Carried unanimously.

CLERK

c) Clerk's Report

The Clerk had received an update on the Joint Spatial Plan. He had also received confirmation that the footpath across to Bathford from the Tynning Road level crossing was now on the Definitive Map.

7) On Going Items**a) Clean Air Zone and Congestion Charge**

The Chairman encouraged individual councillors to send their responses into Bath & N.E.S.Council concerning the proposed congestion charge. The proposals would make it impossible for residents of Bathampton to access a local supermarket or the motorway network without incurring a charge. The Chairman is drafting out a Parish Council response.

ALL

b) Ward Boundary Changes

The Boundary Commission are asking again for comments concerning the proposed wards in Bath City. They are not asking for comments concerning the proposed new ward that Bathampton will be in. It was agreed that there was no point in making a further submission as it seems that our new ward has already been decided.

c) Avon Wildlife & the Meadows

Cllr. King said that Avon Wildlife Trust would like to manage the whole of the meadows area. The National Trust are interested and could take it on for a 200 year lease but this would depend on a decision at the National Board. Negotiations are at a very early stage and there will be more talks involving B.& N.E.S.Council, the N.T. and Avon Wildlife Trust. An application is being made to the St.Johns Foundation for funding to put signage on the cycle track.

There had been a problem recently with some rough campers entering the area with their vehicles. The Police and Environmental Health were alerted but they moved out after the week-end. Access is going to be a problem to sort out. Travellers need to be kept out but there must be access for emergency vehicles as, for example, last week-end when someone fell in the river.

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

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King said that Network Rail had attended a meeting at the School. They said that they had re-instated part of the field and the second access had been removed. B.& N.E.S. Council Planning Department seem to have back-tracked on Enforcement Action and now say that Network Rail are within their rights. The Legal Department are looking into it.

Cont

8. Group Reports(Cont'd.)

a) Planning & Conservation Group

Cllr. Ardrey said that B.& N.E.S. Council have circulated the HELAA documents again. Basically, they are asking Councils to help them find sites for housing. Four sites are identified within Bathampton: the triangular field, Miller Walk field, Bathampton Down (D.8) and the valley including the Meadows(D.10). It is not clear what B.& N.E.S. want this time and we are waiting to hear back from them. In the meantime, the Clerk was asked to look out our previous response.

CLERK

Cllr. King said that planning applications had been received for extensions at 51 Hantone Hill and for a new bungalow at 46 Devonshire Road(a very small plot).

It was reported that the weeping willow at the bottom end of The Normans had been removed.(Mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting).

Cllr. King said that Stephen Dalley Smith is now getting on with the post of our planning consultant and has declined the honorarium.

b) Highways Group

Cllr. Andrews reported that the pavement at the top of Down Lane has been re-instated and the work in Mill Lane has been completed.

Bathampton Lane still has some pot holes and the footpath on the north side of the Warminster Road has had the overgrowth cut back but the path has still not been cleared. A mechanical road sweeper comes along but cannot cope with the amount of accumulated dirt.

S.A.

c) Footpaths

There was nothing to report. .

d) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

The problem of the grass cutting of the playing field and the allotment paths appears to have been overcome. We now have had a schedule of when the next cuts will be done.

J.H./CLERK

A request had been received via B.& N.E.S. from a resident for some outside adult exercise equipment. Cllr. Helps will enquire further

e) Communications

There was nothing to report.

f) Policy & Finance

The report was circulated.

The Chairman informed councillors that the next deadline for copy for the newsletter is 27th.,July. She thought that we should include the Bathscape walk in September and mention the Exercise Site(Mentioned at the A.P.M.). The Village Show will have their own literature to be distributed with the Newsletter.

ALL

There was no further news on the Village Shop.

Cllr. Mayo was reminded to spend the Community Empowerment Grant because we will have to report soon on how it was used.

D.M.

9.. Open Forum

Cllr. King mentioned that there had been several resignations from Batheaston P.C. This was because a councillor went ahead with a purchase costing £1 which had not been sanctioned by the Council.

This prompted a discussion concerning our agendas. We should have more items of business and less going over items already reported.

9. Open Forum(Cont'd.)

Cllr. Mayo said that there are problems on the canal towpath. Vegetation is overgrowing the path and making it difficult for walkers and cyclists to pass. It was becoming dangerous. It is the Canal & River Trust's responsibility.

S.A.

Cllr. King said that we had not yet given the Conker Crossing our approval and support. She asked the Clerk to do so.

CLERK

Finally, the Clerk said that he would like to resign from 30th.,September. He would assist in finding a new clerk and help to make a smooth changeover. It was agreed to put an advertisement in the next Newsletter as well as on the website.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 19th., July, 2018
at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.45 pm.

Signed..... 19th., July, 2018