

Bathampton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th.,October, 2017
in the Village Hall, Bathampton

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

1. Apologies: These were received from Cllr. L. McMurray.

2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st.,September 2017 had been circulated. Two small mendments to the wording were made. Following this, Cllr. Ardrey, seconded by the Cllr. Bird, proposed that the Minutes, be accepted. Carried unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

Cllr. McMurray is to be reminded again that he is writing a guide to Twitter. **L.M**

Cllr. S. Andrews is waiting for a contact back concerning the possible changeover of our street lights to L.E.D.'s. **S.A.**

The Clerk will email Neighbourhood Watch again obtain a list of the roads in Bathampton which are in the Scheme. **CLERK**

Having had no reply from Network Rail regarding the temporary site in Tynning Road, Cllr. King contacted the Planning Officer. An Enforcement Officer will visit. **L.K.**

Our Ward Councillor Geoff Ward reported that he had visited the house in the High Street whose owner had complained about vibration from vehicles going over the speed humps outside. He said that she had a legitimate complaint.

5. Finance

a) Approval of the Financial Report for Septeber, 2017

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

b) Approval of Expenditure for October,2017

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

S.S.E.Enterprise Ltd.	Street Light M'tce(Qtr.end 30/09/17)	£ 64.16(+VAT)
E.D.F.Energy	Electricity (2 Mnths. End. 30/09/17)	£ 64.14(+VAT)
Bath Preservation Trust	Subscription 2017	£ 15.00
G.B.Sport & Leisure	Repairs to Play Equipment	£ 452.90(+VAT)

The Clerk pointed out that E.D.F. Energy are due to collect their payment by Direct Debit at the end of the month. Cllr. Helps, seconded by Cllr. King, proposed that the other three invoices be paid. Carried unanimously. **CLERK**

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

The Clerk reported that the second instalment of the precept and the Local Council Support Grant had been received at the beginning of the month.

The Cotswold Conservation Board has written saying that they have a vacancy for a Parish Council member on their board and inviting nominations.

The C.P.R.E. have sent an invitation to the Avonside Group's A.G.M. on 4th., November in Bath.

E.D.F. Energy have sent details of a renewal contract for our electricity for the two years ending 30th., September, 2019. The total cost is £ 803.29p. This works out at an average of £100.41 per quarter which is an increase of about 2 to 3% over what we have paid during the last two years. The Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Ardrey, proposed that we accept the contract. This was carried unanimously and the Clerk was asked to sign the form of acceptance.

CLERK**6. Ongoing Items****a) The George Car Park**

Cllr. King reported that she had visited "The George" but the new manager was not there. She spoke to a Deputy who said that arrangements had been made for the school staff and the church officials to have permits to use the car park free of charge. Cllr. King also said that with the increased parking on the roads in the Village, we should remind Kelvin Packer that he is coming to look at the traffic problem.

b) Safer Routes to School

Cllr. King reported that a pedestrian bridge is in the course of being designed.

c) Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk had contacted the Clerk of Batheaston P.C. and asked about the time limits and restrictions involved in making a Neighbourhood Plan. The reply was that it takes well over a year and there is a lot of work involved. The Chairman asked the Councillors for their opinions. After some discussion, it was agreed that that it did not seem to be worth it for all the work involved and for the little added protection that we would get. It was therefore unanimously agreed to not proceed with the Plan.

d) Village Shop

The Village Shop is closing on 31st., October. The Chairman said that she had spoken to the Practice Manager. The shop and the flat above had been on the market. They have been bought and the premises will continue as a shop but there is no detail as to what type of shop.

e) Community Empowerment Fund

Cllr. Helps said that the handrail alongside the steps leading from the Warminster Road to The Chestertons is in good condition and no work needs doing on it. She would like to spend the grant on something in the childrens' play area. Goal posts or a new ride-on unit for young children were suggested. She will be investigating prices.

J.H.

6. Ongoing Items(Cont'd.)**e) Community Empowerment Fund(Cont'd.)**

Cllr.King wondered whether the grant could be used to develop the Meadows Area into a Community Area, perhaps involving Avon Wildlife Trust who look after the ox-bow lake area.

The Chairman said that she is meeting up with a U.N.E.S.C.O. representative on the next day.

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

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. King reported that the Planning Application for work at Woodlands, St. George's Hill has now been withdrawn.

She also reported that the extension at 3 Devonshire Road, which had been permitted in error, evidently cannot be reversed.

b) Highways Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Andrews said that the 20 mph limit at the western end of Bathampton Lane is now only just being signed off.

He is still in contact with B.& N.E.S.Council with a view to getting information about road sweeping schedules in Bathampton.

S.A.**c) Footpaths**

Cllr. Mayo reported that things were quiet at present with the volunteers not being active.

Cllr. Andrews queried the exact location of the parish boundary where the footpath leads down from the canal towpath towards the Grosvenor Bridge. There is a set of concrete steps and are they our responsibility? Cllr. Mayo will investigate.

D.M.

Cllr. Helps reported that the footpath leading from the corner in Devonshire Road down to Bathampton Lane has much overgrowth of trees. It was agreed that B.& N.E.S.Council should be asked to cut them back.

CLERK**d) Leisure & Amenities Group**

Cllr. Helps reported that the playground equipment had been repaired.

After being contacted, Idverde had cut the grass on the allotment paths. There are two allotment plots which look very unkempt. Cllr. Helps will be emailing the tenants to see if they wish to relinquish them or keep them on. She has two potential tenants on a waiting list.

J.H.**e) Communications & Website**

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

f) Policy & Finance

The Chairman asked for contributions for the Newsletter to be with the editor by Friday, 27th, October.

ALL

The request by Mrs. Batterbury, of 19 Down Lane, to lower the Parish Council's access track to the allotments was discussed. She has demolished the boundary wall between her drive and the track.

MIN/OCT/17

7. Group Reports(Cont'd.)

f) Policy & Finance(Cont'd.)

If her house is in the Conservation Zone, she should not have done this without planning permission. Also she has been parking her car on the Parish Council land adjacent to the track. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would draft a letter to go to her solicitor. This would include a request to have some permanent marker to show the dividing line between Mrs. Batterbury's property and the Parish Council land.

CLERK

The Chairman said that we need to think about arranging the budget for the next financial year. She would arrange a meeting of Cllrs.King and Helps with herself and the Clerk.

M.B.

The Chairman reported that the V.P.A.meeting minutes had been circulated. Batheaston Parish Council had now dropped out of the Alliance. It now seems that funding for the Link Road might come from the Metro Mayor.

8.. Open Forum

Cllr. Mayo asked if we should have a Christmas tree this year. There was wholehearted agreement that we should and Cllr. Helps will arrange it.

J.H.

Cllr. King urged all councillors to respond to the Parking Strategy document which had been circulated. She also mentioned the HELAA (Housing & Employment Land Availability Assessment) which we need to respond to. The Clerk was asked to check that it had been circulated to all the Council.

**ALL
CLERK**

Cllr. Ardrey mentioned that the website had out-of-date material on it. The Clerk to ask Cllr. McMurray to have a look at it and delete anything out-of-date.

CLERK

9. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 16th.,November, 2017
at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.05 pm.

Signed..... Chairman,
16th.,November, 2017