

# Bathampton Parish Council

## Newsletter May 2018

### CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place in the Village Hall on Wednesday 30 May at 7.30. This year, as well as hearing an update from your councillors, we have speakers on two subjects related to health and activity. We have speakers from BANES to talk about the work they are doing in various communities to help people build healthy activity into their lives. We will also have a presentation about the Safer Routes to School work stream – including the plans for a pedestrian footbridge over the canal (The Conker Crossing). I am hoping that we will also have people who can talk about some of the activities that already exist in Bathampton, like Pilates, Zumba, Keepfit and Yoga. As ever we invite you to join us for some drinks after the main event, with a chance to mingle and talk to people about the various activity options available in the village.

Following the BANES consultation on the number 265 bus it seems that some changes are proposed to the route from 29 April. From the First Bus website it seems that the bus timings will not change but the service has been renumbered as D1 and there may be new buses with USB charging and free Wi-Fi. At this stage no mention has been made of fare changes so I assume these are staying the same. As part of the same restructure services to Melksham via the London Road (renumbered D3) will become more frequent and will run via Batheaston High Street, making them accessible via the Toll Bridge or cycle path.

You may have seen proposals from BANES to introduce a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) in Bath by 2020. This would involve some classes of vehicles, which are seen as polluting, having to pay a charge to enter the city. There are no details yet as to what the charges or the zone will be. Having seen the traffic problems caused in the village this week as a result of cars avoiding the road works on Cleveland Bridge, there is a real concern that a CAZ that charges high polluting vehicles for using Cleveland Bridge could cause them to route via Bathampton. It is important that as many people as possible impress upon BANES that they need to design a scheme that does not have this effect.

BANES are holding drop in events on Wednesday 9 May, 3-6pm in Morrisons and on Tuesday 29 May, 4-7pm in Green Park. You can also email them your views

[environmental\\_monitor@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:environmental_monitor@bathnes.gov.uk) or [get more information at](#)

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/bath-breathes-2021/get-involved>

Once again I have a plea for people to step forward to fill some key roles in the village. We really need some new Parish Councillors. We currently only have 7 and we should have 9. If you are interested please talk to one of the councillors (numbers are at the end of the newsletter) or come along to a meeting at 7.30pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month in the small room at the Village Hall. You can also have a chat to any of us at the Annual Parish meeting.

Finally, this newsletter comes to you via a number of volunteers who deliver to every home in the village. We need someone to coordinate this work. The role involves collecting the newsletters from the printer, folding them (often in association with other contributors) and delivering counted bundles to the various people who deliver. It is a few hours work, four times a year, but makes it possible for us to continue to communicate with the whole parish via this newsletter. Please get in touch with me or Jan Helps if you think you could help.

**Moira Brennan**

## **The Parish Council on line**

We are currently without a communications lead. If you would like to be the social media voice of Bathampton please get in touch with any of the councillors.

Follow @bathamptonpc on Twitter to get updates on events and issues affecting the village.

For official announcements, updates on important issues and the minutes from our regular Parish Council meetings you can visit [www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk)

## **Village Hall**

The Village Hall Annual General Meeting will take place in the small hall on Wednesday 9 May at 7.30. Please come along and hear about how the hall is being managed.

We still need a Chairman and a Booking Secretary to help us to keep the Village Hall functioning as a key part of village life. The roles are not onerous but you do get to meet lots of people and help them make their events fantastic. If you are interested please contact Moira Brennan on 313503 or use the email details below.

You can book the hall by emailing on [bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com) or call 07800 898101. Booking forms are available on the noticeboard in the foyer.

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## **Highways Group**

**Stuart Andrews and Jacqueline Bird**

There are various matters arising:

Work to improve the safety along Mill Lane is currently happening. The speed limit has been reduced to 30 mph and works on the carriageway and on widening the pavement should be evident by the time you read this. All of these will make it easier and safer for children to walk to school. There are traffic flow restrictions but this is all in a good cause.

There have been police speed cameras along Bathampton Lane which have recorded many speeding motorists. Some resurfacing along Bathampton Lane should also have taken place.

Highways England have trimmed the verge vegetation under St George's Hill on the south side of the Warminster Road. BANES have then tried to use their machinery to sweep the verge but realised that the grime and mud, compacted over years, and possibly decades, needed manual digging out; thus, a couple of weeks ago this was done - although rather half-heartedly I fear as only one of the double yellow lines is currently visible.

Within the village litter is not too bad and thanks, as ever, to those who help keep the verges litter free. Outside the village there are some truly ghastly litter eyesores (the Batheaston by-pass and the A46 heading north are particularly shocking. If this causes you concern please phone or contact BANES directly, as they are responsible for litter collection (and the more people who complain the more likely they are to do something).

There is a dangerous pavement at the junction of Down Lane and the Warminster Road; it has been reported twice if not thrice to BANES and Highways England, and action has been promised. One's breath is held.

Street lighting throughout most of the village has been modernised comparatively recently but there are some ongoing issues with a few lamp posts; the Parish Council is liaising with BANES about these.

## Generally

If you spot any Highways related issue which needs to be addressed, we would encourage residents to contact the relevant bodies. Issues on the Warminster Road should be directed to Highways England - contact [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk) or telephone 0300 123 5000.

For issues on the other roads within our village contact Council Connect at BANES: [Council\\_Connect@Bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Council_Connect@Bathnes.gov.uk) or telephone 01225 394041.

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## Leisure and Amenities

## Jan Helps

### Allotments

As the growing season begins would allotment holders please carry out the following as requested in their agreement: edge plots, mark the corners and ensure that plot numbers are clearly visible. This helps with grass cutting, which has begun.

### Playground

New football posts have been installed and we will continue to make general repairs to the rest of the playground in accordance with health and safety advice.

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## Footpaths

## David Mayo

Our footpaths working parties have started their first cut of the year. There are four paths that need regular cutting and we tackle them throughout May. Sessions are held weekly and all tools are provided. It is a friendly volunteer group which is doing something positive for the community and is very effective exercise, so if you are interested in participating please get in touch with Cllr Mayo.

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## Planning and Conservation Report

## Lin King and George Ardrey

As usual, there are many applications for extensions, but nothing significant.

### Network Rail

There were over 150 objections to the application from Network Rail to turn the field they own at the end of Tynning Road into an operational railway and maintenance yard. Possibly as a result of this NR withdrew the application. They then stated that they did not need approval as it would be Permitted Development under the Railways Act of 1854.

Charlcombe Homes (developers of Jewsons Yard / Tynning Meadows) took legal advice which they shared with us, and which indicated that NR were wrong and that it would not come under Permitted Development. BANES Planning and Enforcement Officer Richard Stott was also satisfied that the works undertaken are not Permitted Development and that a breach of control may have occurred. He therefore issued a Planning Contravention Notice (PCN) on 9th March, and NR had 21 days to respond. We do not know what (if any) response was made by NR but it is now with the BANES legal team for assessment.

We await the outcome, and meanwhile continue to register our objections wherever possible.

### Cycle Track

Two River Rescue Cabinets have now been installed

## **Bathampton Meadows**

I will be attending a meeting at the Guildhall on May 15th between BANES and Avon Wildlife Trust who will discuss extension of the Nature Reserve in the Meadows.

## **Level Crossing**

Again, no further news regarding the new track to take traffic to Bathampton Farm and allow the level crossing to be closed to traffic (but still open for pedestrians). We hope that negotiations will be concluded soon and the track opened.

This quarter the Parish Council has also received other applications; details of all planning matters, including our comments and others', can be found at <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk>.

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## **The Bathampton Conker Crossing - Connecting the community with a cycle and footbridge over the canal**

**EXHIBITION OF PROPOSALS FOR THE BATHAMPTON CONKER CANAL CROSSING – everyone welcome, please come along**

**SUNDAY 20TH MAY 2018, 2.00pm TO 5.00pm, BATHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

Guided walk at 3.00pm to the proposed location from the Village Hall

The work to create an exciting design for a new foot and cycle bridge over the canal has been progressing. Our main aim is to improve safety for local people, especially for children.

The work to date has been developed with the help of local individuals and organisations whom we are thrilled are supporting us including Bathampton Primary School, King Edward's School, the Parish Council, Mac McKillop, Charlcombe Homes, Format Engineering and specialist surveyors. Their input has helped assess the feasibility of an attractive, value for money bridge.

A draft proposal has been submitted to B&NES Council as a Pre-Planning Application. Now is the time to consult you and other local people so that your views can be taken into account while we await a preliminary response from the Council, and before any final planning application is made.

If you want to know more and to express your views, so they can be taken into account, please come along to the Exhibition. Local people involved and some advisers will be there to answer questions and offer explanations about the information on display.

**Website:** [bathamptonconkercrossing.com](http://bathamptonconkercrossing.com)

**E-mail:** [bathamptonconkercrossing@gmail.com](mailto:bathamptonconkercrossing@gmail.com)

## **Tasburgh House Sculpture Trail**

Tasburgh House are hosting a sculpture trail on the first two weekends in May. Details are on their website in the Blog section.

## Bathampton Brownie Pack needs a new Brown Owl

Annabel Young

I currently run 57th Bathampton Brownies at Bathampton Village Hall but I will be graduating and moving out of area soon so our unit is in danger of closing!

We're desperately looking for someone who already has or is willing to complete their Leadership Qualification to save our unit. Running the Brownie unit has been so rewarding, it's amazing to see how much the girls get out of each meeting and it's lots of fun too!

We meet on Wednesday evenings during term time for an hour and a half. Meeting times can be adjusted slightly to meet any other commitments you have.

As the unit leader you would be responsible for planning meetings (with help from two other experienced assistant leaders), contacting parents and new enquiries and keeping the unit finances up to date.

Please get in touch if you are interested. You can come and visit a meeting to see if it's right for you before you commit!

Annabel Young - <tel:0795438077> [email:57thbrownies@girlguidingbath.org.uk](mailto:57thbrownies@girlguidingbath.org.uk)

## Village News and Events

Please let Jan Helps know if you would like anything included in this section, including any changes to the What's on section.

If you would like to publicise any activities or events of interest to Bathampton Residents please contact any of the Parish Councillors who will be happy to pass them on for inclusion in the next newsletter.	Newsletter Editor
Contact details:	Jan Helps can be contacted on
Stuart Andrews 425637	Telephone: 01225 336656
George Ardrey 424270	E.mail: <a href="mailto:j.s.helps@btinternet.com">j.s.helps@btinternet.com</a>
Jacqueline Bird 312621	Please let Jan know if there are changes to any of the information in "What's on in Bathampton"
Moirá Brennan 313503	
Jan Helps 336656	
Lin King 460998	
David Mayo 466875	
Don Smith secretary 744472	

### What's On in Bathampton January 2018

Organisation	Meets	Organiser	Contact
Art Groups	Monday 1.30pm Monday 6.30pm Thursday 9.00am		
Bathampton Village Show			
Beavers	Wednesday 6.15 - 7.15pm		
Bell ringers	Monday 7.45pm & Sundays 10.00am		
Bridge Club	Monday 1.30 – 4.30 pm Tuesday 1.30 – 4.30pm		
Brownies	Wednesday 5.45 - 7.10 pm		
Cricket Club	Tuesday & Sunday		
Cubs	Tuesday 6.30 – 8pm		
Dance, Ballet and Modern Curtis school of Dance	Friday pm		
Dry Arch Growers. Bathampton community co- operative	Thursday mid morning and pm (while light) Sundays 11 - 3		
Goldies Singing session	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month. Methodist Church 11.00- 12.00		
Guides	Thursday 7.00-8.30pm		
Chair Keep Fit	Wednesday 3.15 – 3.45pm		
Body workout	Tuesday 6.40 to 7.40pm Wednesday 2 – 3pm		
Mini Club	Wednesday 9.00 to 11.00 term time Miller Room		
Maxi Club lunch for retired people	Last Thursday in Month 12 – 1.30 Miller Room		
Pilates Miller Room	Tues 10.15 to 11.15 6 to 7pm 7 to 8pm		
Village Hall	Thurs 6pm to 7pm		
Zumba Dance Village hall	Thurs 7.05pm – 7.55pm		
Playgroup bathamptonplaygroup@ yahoo.co.uk	Mon, Tues, Wed, Friday		
Scouts	Friday 7.30 to 9.30pm		
Scottish Country Dance	Thursday 1.30 to 4.30pm		
Senior Table Tennis	Tues mornings 10.00-12.00 Scout HQ		
Table Tennis	Every Saturday in Autumn and Spring 6 – 8pm Scout HQ.		
Tai Chi	Scout hall Monday 8 - 9pm Thursday 10 – 11am		
Yoga Village hall	Friday 12. – 13.30		