

Bathampton Parish Council

Newsletter May 2019

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Annual Parish Meeting

The annual parish meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29 May 2019 in the village hall. As usual there will be a chance to have a chat over a glass of wine at the end of the meeting. After a round up of the year from the parish councillors we will have a guest speaker from Truespeed. Some of you may have received a leaflet through your door from Truespeed. They are looking to invest a significant sum to offer very fast broadband (over 200Mbps) via fibre to door in Bathampton. To find out more about Truespeed look at www.truespeed.com.

Since my last newsletter we now know more about the proposed Clean Air Zone (CAZ). As you will know from the local coverage, private vehicles will **not** be subject to the new charges but taxis and light and heavy goods vehicles will. BANES modelling suggests the new rules could cause an extra 100 light good vehicles (LGVs) to divert via Bathampton each day. (Currently about 400 LGVs use the bridge daily).

One outcome of the proposals is that BANES will monitor traffic flows through Bathampton once a year during the run up to and during the life of any scheme. This will allow us to identify any unusual changes in traffic flows. In November last year BANES measured traffic for a week on Bathampton High Street and on the Batheaston side of the toll bridge. The toll bridge data showed there has been about a 5% increase in traffic flows since the last count in 2014. The previous vehicle count that we have access to for the High Street was in 2002. The new data showed that over the last 16 years the traffic has increased by 4% eastbound and 7% westbound.

BANES forecasts for traffic growth over the next 3 years (ie by 2021) is for a further 46% increase. We have questioned why they expect such a large increase given that the traffic has been relatively stable for so long. Their response was simply that with any modelling there is a degree of uncertainty! Given this we welcome the annual traffic data and will continue to monitor the situation and seek action if we see significant increases.

Number Twenty Five news

See exciting updates from our new cafe / shop / post office (yes really) later in the newsletter.

Your Parish Needs YOU

Only 6 people stood as candidates for the 9 vacancies for Parish Councillors in Bathampton. This means there will not be parish council elections on 2 May (although there will be elections for Ward councillors). All of those who stood are existing councillors. We are sorry that Jacqueline Bird will not stand for re election and we thank her for all her work over the last 4 years. We now need to fill the three vacancies. Please, please think about becoming a parish councillor. We have an opportunity to co opt three new councillors without an election. It doesn't take a lot of time and you get involved in interesting stuff and meet local people.

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 the minutes from our regular Parish Council meetings you can visit www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk

Village Hall

You can contact Kate for bookings at bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com.

Events coming up in the Village

Hall. The Village Show Plant Sale on 1 June.

Soroptimist Quiz Night with Supper and a Cash Bar In Aid of Bath & District Samaritans

Saturday 11th May 2019 Time: 7.00 pm Cost : £10.00 per person

For details and tickets: Diane Steele on 01249 448793 or email: sibath.soroptimists@gmail.com

Highways Group

Stuart Andrews

Canal

The canal towpath and surrounding areas seem very messy and unloved at the moment. We have contacted the Canal River Trust but have seen little action. I know many residents are also raising concerns directly with the Trust. If you wish to raise an issue or concern you can contact the Trust on 0303 0404040.

Roads

The errant street lamp at the Warminster Road / Down Lane junction has been repaired. We have authorised contractors to start work to replace the lights owned by the Parish Council. Until this is done the lamp along the footpath between Devonshire road and Bathampton Lane will be out of action.

For issues on the roads within our village contact Council Connect at BANES

Council_Connect@Bathnes.gov.uk or telephone 01225 394041 or Highways England for the A36 on 0300 123 5000 or info@highwaysengland.co.uk.

Leisure and Amenities

Jan Helps

Allotments

We have a small number of plots free. If you are interested in having an allotment, please contact the clerk or Jan Helps. Contact details are at the end of the newsletter.

This is also a gentle reminder to allotment holders that they should edge plots and ensure that the corners are marked and the plot number should be clearly visible.

Road junctions

Now that trees and shrubs are growing rapidly, please could we remind owners of properties next to junctions to keep any hedges trimmed so that drivers have safe sight lines.

Planning and Conservation Report

Lin King and George Ardrey

As usual, there have been many applications for extensions, some quite extensive, and for tree works; significant applications are discussed below.

The Old Shop

The application for a rear extension and to reconfigure the flats upstairs to provide 5 flats, leaving the shop part more or less as is, has been approved. There are still signs in the shop window which indicate that the whole building is for sale.

Conker Crossing

The application for a new bridge to take pedestrians/cyclists across the canal has also now been approved. There is an update on this below.

Network Rail

I have not heard of any further incidents. Please, can you help us by letting us know whether/how Network Rail actually use the site? If you live locally and see any activity, please would you record what you see or hear and let us know? Thank you.

Bathampton Meadows

No further news on the possible extension of the Nature Reserve in the Meadows which would see the Meadows protected for the foreseeable future. We remain hopeful for a good outcome.

Level Crossing

I haven't heard any more on negotiations regarding the new track through Jewson's Yard to take traffic to Bathampton Farm and allow the level crossing to be closed to traffic (but still open for pedestrians).

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>.

Cycle Track

Lin King and Peter Fear

The season has started with the first cut of the grass, volunteer planting of saplings and with the construction of a living willow dome.

The gate onto Mill Lane has been broken since last June and Peter Fear has been liaising at length with BANES re mending or replacing it. This has resulted in a proposal from BANES for a shorter 7ft gate to replace the existing one, which will be locked (though accessible by the emergency services), and will leave a 1.7m gap for pedestrian/cyclist access. This proposal conforms to "Standards for Highways" and the cost would be shared between BANES, the Friends of Bathampton Meadows Riverside and the Avon Frome Partnership.

This will be better for cyclists but the Parish Council and the Safer Routes to School team (Bathampton Primary) are concerned that access onto Mill Lane might be less safe for children. It has been pointed out that this has been the case since the gate was broken! We are minded to accept this proposal from BANES but ask if the entrance could be set back even more from the road to improve safety. We will ask BANES to proceed but if you have any comments or suggestions please can you contact the clerk by mid-May, otherwise work will progress as planned.

Conker Crossing

Fiona Meldrum

Following Planning consent being granted for the scheme, the Highways team at BANES are now working through the decision and considering the necessary actions to comply with the conditions of the decision notice. BANES Highways team have indicated that they will continue to work closely with the Conker Crossing team as they progress with the project.

£40,000 was allocated by BANES to the project in 2018/19, but as a result of the timing of the planning consent and commitments on other projects, this funding was carried forward to support the scheme in the current financial year. When BANES Council set its budget in February 2019, it allocated a further £50,000 from the Transport Improvement Programme to fund the next steps, which

will be the production of construction drawings and a contract document that would enable the Council to obtain competitive quotes.

At present we haven't secured a funding stream to cover the actual construction of the bridge but the Conker Crossing team will continue to work with Council officers to explore funding options and ensure the continued development of the scheme as part of the work plan for 2019/20.

Twenty Five, the cafe and shop.

By the time you read this Twenty Five will have been open for 5 months. Over that time we have welcomed many locals to our shop and served lots of coffee, tea, cake and lunches.

Over our first few months we have sourced excellent coffee and we serve Yorkshire Tea. We make all our own cakes. Cheesecake, bread pudding, brownies and rocky road are the most popular. Our menu initially revolved around toasted sandwiches but with the recent enlargement of our kitchen we are now able to include a selection of platters and charcuterie boards. Please do come and try them.

Our shop continues to expand as we respond to more and more requests. I am pleased to say that we now stock Cotswold Dairy milk (including the organic range), free range eggs and fresh bakery bread. We also stock a range of frozen goods including Jon Thorner Pies and ready meals. Our fridges have fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as a selection of chilled goods and our shelves contain everything from corned beef to maple syrup; bleach to toiletries.

Our ice cream freezer has just arrived and is stocked full of delicious Marshfield and Wall's ice creams. We also stock a wide range of sweets and chocolates.

Over the next few weeks you will see the introduction of an outreach post office. The post office will be with us between 8 and 10 am on a Tuesday and Thursday and will offer all the usual post office services. They will be bringing issues of the Bath Chronicle with them on a Thursday. Next on our list of things to do is to apply for a licence to sell alcohol, both to those who eat with us and to those who wish to take home a bottle of wine or a beer. Like everything, these things all take far longer than you originally expect but we continue to make progress !!

Twenty Five, the takeaway

Finally, we are now open for business on a Friday evening for our Friday Night Takeaway. Available from 5:30 until 9:30pm there are a selection of home made burritos, nachos and much more.

Please do contact me if you have any requests, queries or comments. We can only provide the shop and café that is right for the village with your input and support.

Our opening times are:

9-5 Monday to Thursday
9-9.30pm Friday (Evening takeaway as well as normal hours)
9.30-4pm Saturday
Closed Sunday

Kay 01225 542739

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

Village Hall

You can contact Kate for bookings at bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com.

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		Parish Clerk: Ali Taylor	
		01225 466 137	
		Newsletter Editor Jan Helps can be contacted on Telephone: 01225 336656 E.mail:	
Stuart Andrews	425637		
George Ardrey	424270		
Moira Brennan	313503		
Jan Helps	336656		
Lin King	460998	Please let Jan know if there are changes to any of the information in “What’s on in Bathampton”	
David Mayo	466875		

www.bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk

What's On in Bathampton February 2019

Organisation	Meets	Organiser	Contact
Art Groups	Monday 1.30pm Monday 6.30pm Thursday 9.00am		
Bathampton Village Show	www.bathamptonvillageshow .co.uk		
Beavers	Wednesday 6.15 - 7.15pm		
Bell ringers	Mondays 8pm Sundays 10.15am		
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		
Chair Keep Fit and Body workout	Wednesday		
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		
Guides	Thursday 7.00-8.30pm		
Iyengar Yoga village hall	Wednesday 7.30- 8.45pm		
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 village Hall Zumba Dance village hall	Tues 10.15 to 11.15 6 to 7pm 7 to 8pm Thurs 6pm to 7pm 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 7.30 pm Thursday 9.30 am		
Yoga Village hall	Friday 12.15 – 13.45		