

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th December 2019

in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs M. Brennan (MB) (Chair), G. Ardrey (GA), L. King (LK), Cllr A. Purpuri (AP).

No members of the public in attendance.

		Actions
		Actions struck through are complete
2019/113	Apologies: Received from Cllr J. Helps (JH), D. Mayo (DM), Cllr S. Andrews (SA) Ward Cllr S. Warren	
2019/114	Declarations of interest.	
	There were none.	
2019/115	Minutes of the previous meeting	
	The minutes of the meeting held on 21 st November 2019 had been circulated. Prior to the meeting Cllr Mayo presented a change to the minutes for consideration. This amendment was agreed by all Cllr's present at the meeting and the minutes were ADJUSTED, AGREED and APPROVED and signed by the Chair.	
2019/116	Review of actions carried forward from previous meetings	
	<p>Items a – c to be carried forward.</p> <p>Item d – Cllr King has re-approached Charlcombe homes about the removal of their signs. No further action required.</p> <p>Item e - f to be carried forward.</p> <p>Item g - to be carried forward and a review of the risk register to be added to the January meeting's Agenda.</p> <p>Item h – to be removed as a duplication to item g.</p> <p>Items i – m to be carried forward.</p> <p>Item n – Cllr Ardrey has made the necessary changes to the newsletters. No further action required.</p> <p>Item o – The Clerk reported that all Allotment rent request letters had been emailed & posted out. No further action required.</p> <p>Items p & q – to be carried forward.</p>	
2019/117	Finance	
	<p>a) <u>Financial report for November 2019</u></p> <p>This had been circulated previously.</p>	

Table 1

Cllr Brennan noted that Table 1 shows all receipts and expenditures for Bathampton Parish Council from 1st April to the end of November 2019 but excludes items for approval at the December meeting.

Table 2

Transactions since the previous meeting were noted.

Table 3

The listed items were APPROVED for payment. The expenditure for the SLCC Membership Renewal came in lower than stated in the Financial Report, £126.00 versus £132.00 respectively.

The report was APPROVED by the Council and signed by the chair.

b) Clerk's report

The Clerk's report covering everything from the previous meeting (21st November 2019) had been circulated.

The Clerk presented a letter to get authorisation for a change of address on the main and statement business bank accounts. This was signed by Cllr Brennan, Cllr King, Cllr Ardrey & the Clerk. The Clerk stated that she would get authorisation from Ali Taylor, her predecessor, and the letter would then be forwarded to Barclays for processing.

Clerk

The CIL Statement included within the Clerk's report was reviewed by all present. This was approved and the Clerk agreed to include the information onto the Bathampton Parish Council website and send the link to BANES.

Clerk

Cllr Brennan noted that the next CIL Installment is due in January and asked that everyone has a think as to what the money is spent on.

All

The Clerk asked to delay the provision of the necessary document to Cllr Ardrey for the July – Sept 2019 Internal review and that these would be provided with the Oct – Dec documents for ease of providing all information and documentation in one go. This was agreed and the Clerk would send this to Cllr Ardrey in the New Year.

Clerk

The Clerk reported that the budget preparation for 2020/2021 would be a priority for the w/c 16th Dec to get draft budgets circulated as soon as possible.

Clerk

Surplus spend in the accounts was discussed but it was agreed that it is useful to keep additional monies in the accounts in case it's needed for i.e. legal fees or to help support important community projects that may arise

i.e. Bathampton Meadows or any other unexpected expenses. It was noted by Cllr Brennan that we have not increased our Precept in some time, and we wouldn't want to decrease it, due to the difficulty in increasing this again, should we need to.

The Clerk discussed Street Light Maintenance and mentioned that other Parish Councils are trying to negotiate as a collective to put them in a stronger position to negotiate a better deal. An interest was expressed by the Clerk who asked to be kept in the loop with any discussions and she would report back accordingly.

Clerk

The Clerk reported that revisions had been made to the 2020 Allotment rent request letters and these had all been emailed & posted out (in instances where an email address was not available). It was also noted that a small number of Allotment holders had already made payment and that the majority had been made electronically.

The Clerk reported that the Grant letters were sent out to local organisations on the 4th December with a deadline of return by the 6th January. The Clerk also asked the Cllrs present to consider offering a grant to the Bathampton Pre-school Playgroup which operates from the Village Hall. They haven't previously received a grant but as they have been an integral part of the community for over 40 years, nurturing little ones in preparation for school and bringing local families together, it was thought that they would be a worthwhile organization to offer additional support to. The Cllrs agreed that the Clerk could approach the Bathampton Pre-school Playgroup to ask them to submit a grant application, but it would need to be used for something tangible and the grant would be expected to be to the sum of £100.

Clerk

Following on from the Climate Emergency discussion in the November meeting, the Clerk agreed to obtain information from organisations that may be able to supply free trees to the local community to encourage people to plant more on their land and within their gardens. The Clerk reported that the Woodland Trust offer a 'Free trees for Schools and communities' project but the trees need to be planted on publicly accessible land and don't extend this to individuals as it goes against the Ethos of their scheme.

Following the circulation of the Clerk's report, the Clerk also reported that she had obtained information regarding the 'More Trees for BANES' Scheme, based at the Dry Arch in Bathampton. The Clerk explained that the focus is more on broad scale planting & organized volunteer days on site. It was also mentioned that they are always looking for land to plant them on (significant spaces) and members of the community are welcomed to visit and volunteer, should they wish to do so. Cllr Brennan suggested that they include a paragraph within the next parish Council Newsletter, including information about their scheme and how people can get involved. The Clerk agreed to follow this up.

Clerk

	<p>Regarding the email from a Bathampton resident, regarding the broken bench at the bottom of Down Lane, it was reported by the Clerk, that this had now been repaired by Alan, the Handyman. The Clerk reported that she had since received communications from members of the parish, stating how happy they were with the repair, the speed that the repair was carried out and the bench had already had much use. It was agreed that Alan had done a wonderful job in getting this repaired and the Clerk said that this would be feed these comments back to him.</p> <p>All other items of correspondence, phone calls etc. were noted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>2019/118 Street Lighting Maintenance</p>		
	<p>Cllr Brennan reported that William Seabourne from SSE would be in the area on Monday to have a walk through the village and he would put a programme in place to get the Street Lighting works completed as soon as possible. Cllr Brennan agreed to follow this up.</p>	<p>MB</p>
<p>2019/119 Ongoing Items</p>		
	<p>a) <u>Avon Wildlife, the Meadows and Cycle Track & Weir</u></p> <p>It was noted that the AGM for December was being delayed until January. No further information was available.</p>	
	<p>b) <u>Clean air zone.</u></p> <p>There was no update provided.</p>	
	<p>c) <u>BPC’s Digital presence.</u></p> <p>Cllr Purpuri reported that Twitter had been quiet over the last month. Most communications circulated had been quite lengthy and more suited to communicating via Facebook.</p> <p>Cllr Purpuri also discussed new website regulations, regarding accessibility requirements for public sector bodies and the changes that would be needed to be made to the Bathampton Parish Council website in view of this. Following contact with another Parish Council, it was thought that a notice on the site stating that if people need receipt of our content in a</p>	<p>AP</p>

	<p>e) <u>Policy & Finance</u></p> <p>Cllr Brennan reminded everyone that the Bathavon North Forums would be held within Bathampton next year and that we should all try and make an extra effort to attend. It was highlighted that the next two are being held on the 21st January and 10th February in the Methodist Church. Cllr Brennan asked that once we have information on the following dates, we should communicate them on social media and include within the Bathampton Parish Council newsletter.</p> <p>Cllr Brennan also noted that the budgets had been looked at and along with the Clerk, Cllr Helps and Cllr King, the budgets would be reviewed in January to allow a budget to be recommended to the council and a Precept to be set.</p>	<p align="center">ALL</p> <p>Clerk/MB/JH/LK</p>
2019/121	Open Forum	
	<p>The purchase of the old shop was briefly discussed, and it's thought that the plans to open a Spar shop on the premises are just rumors, that had been circulating the village. No further information was available.</p>	
2019/122	Date of Next Meeting. Thursday 16th January 2020, 7:30pm in the Village Hall.	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:30pm

Signed:

Chair

Date: 16th January 2020