

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Virtual meeting**

**Present:** Cllrs M. Brennan (MB) (Chair), L. King (LK), J. Helps (JH), D. Beard (DB), G. Ardrey (GA), A. Purpuri (AP), P. Marsh (PM) and Clerk L. Daly.

Two members of the public in attendance.

		<b>Actions</b>
		Actions struck through are complete
<b>2021/034</b>	<b>Welcome:</b> The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
<b>2021/035</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> K. Lutteroth.	
<b>2021/036</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b>	
	There were none	
<b>2021/037</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b>	
	The Minutes of the meeting held on the 18 <sup>th</sup> February had been circulated. The Minutes were AGREED and APPROVED. Due to the meeting being conducted virtually the Chair would sign the Minutes when feasibly possible to do so.	<b>MB</b>
<b>2021/038</b>	<b>Review of actions carried forward from previous meetings</b>	
	<p>The actions carried forward were reviewed.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the Financial Regulations would be reviewed and circulated for discussion at the April Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>In response to Cllr Mayo’s departure from the Council it was AGREED to remove the action regarding the steps on the pathway behind St Nicholas Court. The Council would review again, should this be raised as an issue in the future.</p> <p>It was AGREED to include the Bathampton A36 speed-watch initiative into the next Parish Council Newsletter.</p> <p>The Chair referred to the outstanding actions allocated to David Mayo regarding the definitive pathway forms. The Chair AGREED to find out how many completed hard copy forms Gill Huggins has for each pathway and to find out if Gill requires any additional forms or maps to be printed. The Clerk AGREED to find out what electronic forms David Mayo had placed into the Clerk’s Google email folder.</p>	<b>MB/Clerk</b>
<b>2021/039</b>	<b>Update from Ward Cllr Sarah Warren</b>	
	<p>The Chair invited Ward Cllr Sarah Warren to update the Council on current matters of interest to the Parish Council.</p> <p>Ward Cllr Sarah Warren reported that the land transfer of the Meadows land-holding to the National Trust had not been called in for discussion by committee and it was going ahead but proceeding slowly. It was noted by Ward Cllr Sarah Warren that the National Trust had previously suggested that on completion of the transfer they would be keen to consult with the local community regarding input on the vision for the space.</p>	

	<p>Ward Cllr Sarah Warren made the Council aware of the ‘Bath River Line Project’ that was being funded by the West of England Combined Authority (WECA). It was further noted that a consultation was currently taking place to help BANES scope out plans for this new cycling and walking route which would run from Batheaston to Bath City Centre, via the Bathampton Meadows. It was hoped that this would be the start of creating a Network of cycle paths across the East of Bath. Ward Cllr Sarah Warren AGREED to circulate further information on the Project consultation.</p> <p>It was additionally noted by Ward Cllr Sarah Warren that discussions were taking place about what the governance would look like for the project and whether the Parish Councils will form part of the central project group or if they will be consulted by another means.</p> <p>Ward Cllr Sarah Warren reported that there are on-going discussions between the National Trust and private landowners to purchase additional land. Cllr King highlighted that the proposed plans show the River Line route running through land owned by New Leaf Farm and asked Ward Cllr Sarah Warren whether more official information could be forwarded to the Council to keep them updated.</p> <p>The Clean Air Zone (CAZ) launch was reported by Ward Cllr Sarah Warren to have gone smoothly. It was noted that 33,000 vehicles had entered the CAZ with 5.6% being subject to the CAZ charges. It was noted that the next challenge for BANES would be issuing reminders to the large majority who have yet to pay.</p> <p>Following a query from Cllr Beard regarding the observed increase in vans travelling through Bathampton High Street Ward Cllr Sarah Warren AGREED to review the traffic monitoring data to find out if there is evidence of this.</p> <p>Ward Cllr Sarah Warren concluded by highlighting the support available to Bathampton residents following the introduction of CAZ, i.e., vehicle upgrades. It was AGREED to include the phone number in the next newsletter that residents can call to get support.</p>	<p><b>SW</b></p> <p><b>SW</b></p> <p><b>SW</b></p> <p><b>MB/JH</b></p>
<p><b>2021/040</b></p>	<p><b>Public Participation regarding Planning application – 21/01163/FUL</b></p>	
	<p>The Chair invited the two members of the public to speak who attended to listen to the discussion on the planning application for change of land use from agricultural land to a dog walking paddock with fencing, parking, storage and shelter at Parcel 3875 Warminster Road, Bathampton (21/01163/FUL).</p> <p>The members of public expressed concerns regarding the increase in traffic, parking within the area and the proposed infrastructure for the site. The Chair noted that further information for the application was available online for review. The Chair added that the Council had been granted an extension to the 19<sup>th</sup> April from BANES to respond on this application, enabling the application to be added to the April Agenda and which would be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>2021/041</b></p>	<p><b>Finance</b></p>	
	<p>a) <u>Financial Report for February 2021</u></p>	
	<p>This had been circulated previously.</p>	
	<p><u>Table 1</u></p>	

	The clerk referred to her report and noted a cash movement of -£1,159.48 for the month. It was highlighted by the clerk that £10 income had been received for the rent of the village hall.	
	<u>Table 2</u>	
	Transactions from the 1 <sup>st</sup> February up to the 28 <sup>th</sup> February were noted.	
	<u>Table 3</u>	
	<p>The Clerk noted the items of expenditure requiring approval. It was highlighted that £500 for the river safety equipment has already been paid to BANES following approval by the Parish Council at the July 2020 meeting. It was additionally noted that the HAGS invoice totalling £930 included no charges associated with the Aerial Runway despite the landing board having been repaired.</p> <p>The Council AGREED to authorise the Clerk to pay David Mayo the outstanding expenses incurred from paying the IONOS web hosting fees on receipt of the claim.</p> <p>The items listed within the Financial Report were APPROVED for payment.</p>	
	The report was APPROVED by the Council and would be signed by the Chair when feasibly possible to do so.	<b>MB</b>
	b) <u>Clerk's Report</u>	
	<p>The Clerk's Report covering everything from the previous meeting (21<sup>st</sup> February 2021) had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the two Barclays savings accounts belonging to the Council. It was AGREED to allow the Clerk to combine the money into one account thus freeing up the other account to be used for the sole purpose of holding private donations allocated towards the Playground Project.</p> <p>As detailed within the Clerks report, the Clerk highlighted that the GoFundMe page had now been set up and she would start promoting this across all available communication channels. The Clerk highlighted her plans regarding the application for the National Lottery, including plans to obtain testimonials from the community and the possibility of a video montage to accompany the application. The Clerk noted that on completion she would circulate the application copy for the Council to review.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to her report which included correspondence received from the BANES playground inspectors and HAGS regarding the decommissioning of the Aerial Runway equipment. Costings were included for its repair to enable it to be reinstated and approximate costs for new Aerial Runway equipment to be obtained.</p> <p>On review and discussion of the options presented it was AGREED to proceed in getting the runway repaired 'Option 2' which would involve removing and replacing all wooden legs and top beams but re-using other elements. This would provide a 15-year warranty on the wooden supports. This was agreed to be a cost-effective, long term solution to get the Aerial Runway back up and running.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the £1,000 private donation and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) could be used to cover the repair cost, £3,571.60 (plus VAT). It Was AGREED to include details of its repair or impending repair</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
		<b>MB/JH</b>



	<p>The Clerk referred to the Risk Assessment &amp; Management Policy which had been circulated to all Councillors for review ahead of the meeting. Councillors were invited to comment by the Chair. Some amendments were proposed, these were: - a) changing the total holding of money from two years income from the precept to three years b), to state that allotment rents are only paid by Cheque and Electronic transfer and c) update the information under the management of trees, should the tree inspection report be later agreed by the council. Subject to these changes the Policy was deemed to be accurate and APPROVED by the Council.</p> <p>Cllr Helps AGREED to put revised wording together for the management of the Councils trees, should the tree inspection and report be approved.</p>	<b>JH</b>
<b>2021/043</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	
	<p>It was AGREED that the next Parish Council newsletter would be circulated in early May with the content deadline being the last Friday in April. The Chair asked the Council to consider content for inclusion which would be discussed at the April Parish Council meeting.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>2021/044</b>	<b>Tree Inspection and Report</b>	
	<p>Cllr Helps reported back on a meeting with Bob Ford from the Cotswold Wardens. Following a review of the trees on the playing fields, several of the trees were identified as being a potential risk. This was due to their size and due to them growing on a sloping bank in close proximity to residential housing.</p> <p>Following a brief discussion, the Council AGREED to ask a professional tree inspector from BANES to inspect the trees and put a report together to detail what the trees are and their condition. It was thought useful to help monitor the trees and it could be used when obtaining quotes for tree works. The cost of £112.50 (excl VAT) was AGREED and Cllr Helps AGREED to arrange.</p> <p>Cllr Helps additionally referred to two Oak trees with Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) along the pathway from Devonshire road leading onto Bathampton Lane. Cllr Helps noted that they have been previously managed by the Cotswold Wardens but are now in desperate need of pollarding due to dead branches overhanging Bathampton Lane. Ward Cllr Sarah Warren noted that Denise Hart from BANES may be able to assist or would be able to put Cllr Helps in contact with someone who can help.</p>	<b>JH</b>
<b>2021/045</b>	<b>Ongoing Items</b>	
	<p><u>Avon Wildlife, the Meadows, Cycle Track &amp; Weir</u></p> <p>In addition to the update from Ward Cllr Sarah Warren on the Meadows transfer, Cllr King AGREED to speak with her contacts to ensure that Bathampton Parish Council are involved in any discussions from the outset.</p>	
	<p><u>Drainage on the A36</u></p> <p>Cllr Beard reported that his request for information on the scheme thought to be in the design process by Highways England (HE) to address the flooding issues on the A36 had fallen off their radar. Cllr Beard noted that he had re-registered this with HE and a response advising of their design plans was expected within 15 working days.</p> <p>Cllr Beard additionally noted that the BANES Drainage Group had been spending time cleaning the drains and gullies around the edge of Bathampton</p>	

	<p>Down to help reduce surface runoff onto the A36 down the track by St George's Hill and subsequently contributing towards the flooding issue. It was however noted that whilst the issue had been resolved it would need repeating.</p> <p>A change in BANES's policy on drain clearing was highlighted by Cllr Beard, moving from a reactive approach to more planned maintenance. It was noted that blockages for instance may therefore not be responded to unless it is deemed a threat to property or life, but Cllr Beard AGREED to speak with BANES and find out more information about the new policy and the planned frequency of maintenance in view of this.</p>	<p><b>DB</b></p>
	<p><u>Climate Emergency</u></p> <p>Cllr Helps referred to an email which had been circulated ahead of the meeting which included links to a Community Carbon Footprint tool released by the Centre for sustainable energy. Cllr Helps noted the functionality of the tool which allows parishes to compare their footprint against other parishes and the National average. It was highlighted by Cllr Helps that there were some errors within the data and suggested only viewing the consumption data. Cllr Helps concluded that she would review the consumption data and determine what measures Bathampton Village could take to address this.</p>	<p><b>JH</b></p>
<p><b>2021/046</b></p>	<p><b>Group Reports</b></p>	
	<p><u>Planning &amp; Conservation</u></p> <p>Cllr King referred to her planning report circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that BANES had not informed Bathampton Parish Council on the outcome for application (20/03109/FUL), which had been permitted. The Council however had no objections and the Clerk had informed BANES to help prevent any decision outcomes from being missed going forward.</p> <p>There was a 'No Objection' response suggested for a CCTV camera to be installed on the front elevation of The Old Barn, Church Close (21/00849/LBA).</p> <p>The Planning Groups recommendation for the application for 9 Devonshire Road (21/00939/FUL) was a 'No Objection' response although it was suggested to ask that the door and colour of finish to the front of the annex could be in keeping with the main building.</p> <p>There was 'No Objection' response suggested for the application at 32 Hantone Hill (21/01098/FUL).</p> <p>The Planning Groups recommendation for the application for 26 the Chestertons (21/01021/FUL) was a 'No Objection' response but to suggest that as the house is in a prominent corner position and the elevation shown as 'side elevation' faces the road and is monolithic, to ask that they consider something to break this up, for instance a window.</p> <p>The Council AGREED to all four planning application responses suggested by the Planning Group.</p> <p>As previously noted within the meeting the application (21/01163/FUL) for the change of use from agricultural land to a dog walking paddock and facilities would be included on the April agenda for discussion.</p> <p><u>Highways</u></p>	

	<p>Following a meeting with BANES on the forthcoming Cleveland Bridge closure Cllr Purpuri informed the Council of BANES'S 3-step plan to help manage the expected increase in traffic flow through Bathampton village.</p> <p>Cllr Purpuri reported that light-controlled crossings would be implemented between the George and the Church and between the Meadows pathway and New Leaf Farm from the outset and the footpath across the hump-back would be repainted to help improve pedestrian safety 'Step A'.</p> <p>Cllr Purpuri further reported that 'Step B' would involve installing a bus gate on London Road West preventing traffic from travelling directly from the A46 and taking a short cut over the Toll Bridge. It was also suggested that the road above Bailbrook House would be closed. 'Step C' would be to turn the Toll-bridge into a one-way system to restrict traffic flow.</p> <p>It was noted that whilst there are no defined traffic levels that would trigger escalation to the next steps, the traffic flow and safety of pedestrians would be monitored closely by Bathampton Parish Council and the school and regular contact would be made with BANES who could escalate quickly through the steps should this be required.</p> <p>Cllr Marsh reported that a small team of four willing volunteers had been formed to help run the A36 Speed watch initiative, including himself and Cllr Purpuri. It was additionally highlighted that as the speed watch initiative had been dormant for some time the monitoring points needed reassessing by Avon and Somerset police. The team were awaiting this information before the initiative could commence. It was AGREED to include a mention within the next newsletter to appeal for additional volunteers.</p> <p>Cllr Purpuri reported that the NO2 monitors in the village were positioned within the legal requirement limits and BANES are unable to lower them due to the risk of vandalism and theft. It was additionally noted that the data is available monthly which BANES have now published.</p> <p>A detailed discussion was had regarding improving the safety of the crossing on the A36 as part of the Severance Project and initiatives to help improve the crossing of the top of Down Lane. Moving the positioning of the bus stop from one side of Down Lane to the other was discussed.</p> <p>The council AGREED that the existing A36 crossing is unsafe and were collectively in favour of removing the existing islands and making it a traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing.</p> <p>It was additionally AGREED that a community consultation on the proposed plans for the crossing and bus stops would be required and a link to this information would be promoted in the next Newsletter.</p> <p>The Chair AGREED to try and locate the data on the pedestrian usage of the crossing compiled by a previous Councillor and would forward to Cllr Purpuri for review.</p> <p>Cllr Purpuri and Cllr Marsh AGREED to put together a formal proposal for consultation and on receipt of feedback from the community they would put together a business case for the council to review and approve which would then be endorsed by the Ward Councillors.</p> <p><b>Footpaths</b> There was nothing further to report.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MB/JH/TP</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MB</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TP/PM</b></p>
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	<p><b><u>Leisure &amp; Amenities</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Helps reported that quotes had been obtained to improve the fencing on the south side of the allotments to help prevent deer from entering, following a number of complaints received from allotment holders. After a discussion it was AGREED that the council have an obligation to allotment holders to ensure the allotment boundary is well maintained. The works totalling £815 to raise the height of the fencing and to help strengthen the existing fence was APPROVED.</p> <p>Cllr Helps AGREED to put wording together for an email to be sent out to allotment holders detailing the plans and outlining the associated costs of the works, especially as they are almost half of the Parish Councils allotment rental income for the year.</p> <p>Cllr Helps additionally AGREED to put wording together for a letter to be sent out to all residents who collectively own the stretch of land between the allotments and the rear of the gardens across Holcombe Lane, noting the need to access this land to enable the boundary to be maintained.</p> <p><b><u>Policy &amp; Finance</u></b></p> <p>The Chair reported that she had attended a zoom meeting regarding the WECA multi model transport update and that whilst no decisions had been made the council need to keep an eye out for the next phase consultation.</p> <p>The Chair additionally reported that contact had been made with HE to find out why the lights on the A36 had not been replaced and to find out expected timings if they are waiting to convert them to LED. The Chair noted that she would continue to follow this up.</p> <p>Following David Mayo’s departure from the Council, Cllr Beard volunteered to assist on the maintenance of the footpaths. It was AGREED to include a mention in the next newsletter to request a new councillor with an interest in footpaths from within the community.</p> <p>The Chair reported that she was liaising with a couple of Bathampton residents who litter pick around the village and train litter pickers at Sydney gardens to find out if any learnings can be applied in Bathampton and to help get more litter pickers on board.</p> <p><b><u>BPC’s Digital Presence</u></b></p> <p>There was nothing further to report.</p>	<p>JH</p> <p>JH</p> <p>MB</p> <p>MB/JH</p>
<p><b>2021/047</b></p>	<p><b>Open Forum</b></p>	
	<p>There was nothing further to report.</p>	
<p><b>2021/048</b></p>	<p><b>Date of next meeting. Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021, 7:30pm.</b></p>	
	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.58 pm</p>	

**Signed:** .....

**Chair:**

**Date:**