

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th December 2021

Present: M. Brennan (MB) (Chair), L. King (LK) (Vice Chair), D. Beard (DB), J. Helps (JH), T. Purpuri (TP) and Clerk L. Daly.

One member of the public in attendance (Kevin Guy (KG) Liberal Democrat Group Leader for Bathavon North)

		Actions
		Actions struck through are complete
2021/126	Welcome: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2021/127	Apologies: Cllr G. Ardrey (GA)	
2021/128	Declarations of interest	
	There were none.	
2021/129	Update from Kevin Guy (Bathavon North Cllr)	
	<p>The Chair invited Kevin Guy to speak. Kevin Guy provided the Council with an update on the Conker Crossing.</p> <p>Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council would arrange a meeting for mid-January with the Conker Crossing Trustees to discuss the next steps regarding the bridge's planning application which is due to lapse in the New Year.</p> <p>Kevin Guy agreed to investigate whether it is worth the Parish Council and Ward Councillors recording their support for the creation of a safer route to school to help provide confidence should the existing planning application lapse and a new application be required.</p> <p>Kevin Guy additionally agreed to find out whether Sustrans had been explored as a potential funder for the bridge, since they primarily fund cycling and walkway projects and funded the canal towpath project.</p> <p>Kevin Guy proceeded to give an update regarding the Cleveland Bridge project. It was reported that BANES are going to pursue further restrictions on HGV goods vehicles travelling that route.</p> <p>It was finally reported that works were due to take place at the beginning of the New Year to transform the road leading down to Sydney Gardens from the towpath into a safer cycle highways route. Some disruption along the A36 was likely in view of this.</p> <p>Kevin Guy was asked about the payment of Council Tax regarding Student Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO's). Kevin Guy noted that BANES don't have the power to change Council Tax laws, and this would have to be at Government level. He agreed to raise at a forthcoming meeting.</p> <p>The member of public left the meeting.</p>	<p>KG</p> <p>KG</p> <p>KG</p>
2021/130	Minutes of the previous meeting	
	The Minutes of the meeting held on the 18 th November 2021 had been circulated. The Minutes were AGREED and APPROVED and Signed by the Chair.	

2021/131	Review of actions carried forward from previous meetings																																					
	<p>The actions carried forward were reviewed.</p> <p>Cllr Beard reported that the BANES clean air zone team had informed him that there would be a 6-week delay on the collecting and processing of the data for the 4 lower-level air quality monitors.</p> <p>Cllr Beard agreed to find out if someone would be willing to analyse this data on behalf of the Parish Council.</p>	DB																																				
2021/132	Finance																																					
	a) <u>Financial Report for November 2021</u>																																					
	This had been circulated previously.																																					
	<u>Table 1</u>																																					
	<p>The clerk referred to her report and noted a cash movement of +£143.99 during November. The Clerk highlighted that this increase was primarily due to the receipt of the Ward Councillor fund and allotment rents that helped offset the small number of costs incurred during November. A playground donation was also received which would be transferred to the Playground Project fund.</p>																																					
	<u>Table 2</u>																																					
	Transactions from the 1 st November up to the 30 th November were noted.																																					
	<u>Table 3</u>																																					
	<p>The Clerk referred to the items of expenditure requiring approval.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="389 1182 1217 1384"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Details</th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Gross</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>16.12.2021</td> <td>SLCC</td> <td>Membership Renewal</td> <td>£134.00</td> <td>£0</td> <td>£134.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16.12.2021</td> <td>CPRE</td> <td>Membership Renewal</td> <td>£36.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£36.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16.12.2021</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>QTR 3 (Oct-Dec 21)</td> <td>£240.60</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£240.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16.12.2021</td> <td>Handyman</td> <td>Expenses (June -Nov 21)</td> <td>£285.57</td> <td>£7.61</td> <td>£293.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Sub Total</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£703.78</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The expenditure totalling £703.78 and salaries totalling £970.62 were approved for payment.</p>	Date	Payee	Details	Net	VAT	Gross	16.12.2021	SLCC	Membership Renewal	£134.00	£0	£134.00	16.12.2021	CPRE	Membership Renewal	£36.00	£0.00	£36.00	16.12.2021	HMRC	QTR 3 (Oct-Dec 21)	£240.60	£0.00	£240.60	16.12.2021	Handyman	Expenses (June -Nov 21)	£285.57	£7.61	£293.18			Sub Total			£703.78	
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	The above invoices were checked, the report was approved by the Council and signed by the Chair.																																					
	b) <u>Clerk's Report</u>																																					
	<p>The Clerk's Report covering everything from the previous meeting (18th November 2021) had been circulated prior to this meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the first draft budget for 2022-23 which had been circulated prior to the meeting for councillors to review and provide feedback on. It was noted that the Precept had been increased to £26k to help achieve a £3k surplus with the view of building up the funds towards the Playground Project. The Council provisionally agreed to this proposed precept increase and subject to review of the final budget in January.</p> <p>The Grant applications were reviewed and considered by the Council as part of the overall budget. Following a discussion, it was agreed to allocate the following organisations the noted amounts:</p>																																					

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	<p>Cricket Club - £50, Maxi Lunch Club - £150, St Nicholas Church - £1,000, the Bathampton Playgroup - £100, Friends of Bathampton Meadows Riverside (FOBMR) - £250 and the Village Show - £1,000. The Council agreed to increase the Village Show grant from £800 to £1000 for 2022 due to the difficulty in holding fundraising events because of Covid-19. This would likely reduce back to £800 for 2023 unless a good case for an increase is presented and agreed upon.</p> <p>Following a discussion, the Clerk noted that she would amend the 2022/23 budget to reflect the agreed grant allocations. The Clerk would also review and adjust the Clerk's salary to include a forecast for the awaited 2021-22 National Salary Award and to then adjust the Playground maintenance and repair budget to ensure the Surplus of 3k is retained for the financial year. Following these amendments being made the Clerk agreed to circulate the revised budget to Cllr's Brennan and Helps for review prior to bringing the final budget back to the January Parish Council meeting for approval.</p> <p>Following a brief discussion, the Council agreed to the additional costs of £88+VAT to purchase four grass mats to include inside and around the perimeter of the Parallel bars to help prevent ground erosion. It was agreed to position the parallel bars in a similar position to where they were previously. The Clerk agreed to query the quality of the coated versions vs the standard metal finish for the parallel bars with the supplier and if no notable difference was highlighted the coated lime green version would be ordered.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to an email she had received after circulation of the Clerk's report offering the Parish Council a patchwork quilt that a member of the Community's mum had previously won in a village raffle. It was agreed that the Clerk should respond and take receipt of the quilt with the view of raffling it off at the next Village Show raffle or donating it to the Bathampton Playgroup for their use.</p> <p>Following agreement for a three-way house swap which included a house in the new development on Tynning Lane the clerk was asked to check that the section 106 condition on this property and the other properties on this development has been retained.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p>
2021/133	Valley Parishes Alliance (VPA)	
	<p>Following a discussion, the Council agreed that the VPA Network was useful, but they would be in favour of asking the VPA to remove the yearly membership fee and for funding to be acquired as and when specific issues arise. Informal online meetings to be held twice a year were also favoured to significantly reduce the costs e.g., minuting meetings.</p>	
2021/134	Grants to Community Groups	
	<p>The grants awarded to the Community groups were covered under Agenda item, 2021/132b.</p>	
2021/135	Ongoing Items	
	<p><u>Avon Wildlife, the Meadows, Cycle Track & Weir</u></p> <p>Cllr King noted that there was no update to report.</p>	

	<p><u>Drainage on the A36</u></p> <p>Cllr Beard reported that he would be meeting with BANES Chief Drainage Engineer, Simon Morrisey to look at the build-up of debris in the ditches running up the Bridleway. It was thought that the work would be too much for a team of volunteers and the need to excavate was likely. Cllr Beard noted that he would provide an update to the Council following the meeting detailing what needed doing and the options available.</p>	<p>DB</p>
	<p><u>Climate Emergency</u></p> <p>Cllr Helps had circulated a report prior to the meeting. The Repair Café event and improving some of the villages green space with tree planting e.g., Holcombe Vale were two areas that the Council agreed to move forward on. It was agreed to promote the Repair Café event via the Parish Newsletter and a date for the event would be confirmed later and subject to Covid-19 developments.</p> <p>Cllr Helps noted that the Bathavon Climate Emergency group were seeking representatives from local Parishes to drive forward Climate Emergency priorities. Cllrs could put their names forward and it was suggested that this could also be promoted to the wider community via the next Parish Newsletter.</p>	
<p>2021/136</p>	<p>Group Reports</p>	
	<p><u>Planning & Conservation</u></p> <p>Cllr King referred to her planning report circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr King highlighted that a response had been submitted for application (21/03907/FUL for the installation of a roof extension with lift to provide first floor accommodation at 61 Warminster Road due to BANES not being able to offer an extension past the 14th December for a response. The council had unanimously agreed a ‘No Objection in principle’ response via email prior to the meeting but noting that the finished works will not be in keeping with the original streetscape of the Warminster Road and to query whether the Local Plan Policy D2 applies.</p> <p>Cllr King referred to a planning application for 44 Warminster Road (21/05109/FUL) for the erection of ground and first floor rear extension. It was highlighted by Cllr King that this application was similar to another recent application made for the property that had been approved without addressing concerns raised by Bathampton Parish Council. The planning group suggested a ‘No objection’ response in principle but to highlight concerns about the cladding and oppressive appearance.</p> <p>A ‘No Objection’ response was suggested for the replacement of a single storey extension at 73 Warminster Road.</p> <p>A ‘No Objection’ response was suggested for the felling of T1 at the Abbey Rectory, Redwood House (21/05188/TPO) but to include a note that the Council cannot support the removal of branches of T2 purely, to provide a view.</p>	

	<p>The suggested responses for the applications above were approved by the Council.</p> <p>Cllr Beard would follow up with BANES regarding the modifications carried out by Five Valleys, Warminster Road to the public footpath which had been previously reported.</p> <p><u>Highways</u></p> <p>Cllr Purpuri agreed to arrange the meeting to discuss the Conker Crossing as discussed under Agenda Item 2021/129</p> <p>Cllr Purpuri further reported that volunteers had expressed interest in joining the Bathampton speed watch team, but these offers had not materialised to anything yet.</p> <p><u>Footpaths</u></p> <p>Cllr Beard reported on the footpath registration process and highlighted that he would be completing the paperwork and submit the request to BANES for three of the paths. Cllr Beard would proceed in collating evidence forms for the other three.</p> <p>Cllr Beard further reported that he would be taking receipt of the drainage rods on the 17th December and would meet with the Handyman to arrange the storing of the rods within the Bathampton Parish Council garage.</p> <p>Regarding litter and fly tipping between Devonshire Road and Bathampton Lane, Cllr Beard agreed to visit the site at the weekend as part of his litter pick. Cllr Beard noted that he would notify BANES of any rubbish that he couldn't easily remove.</p> <p><u>Leisure & Amenities</u></p> <p>Cllr Helps had circulated a report ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>After a brief discussion, it was agreed that Bathampton Parish Council would donate £300 to the Cotswold Wardens in recognition of tree works which they had carried out within the Parish. The Clerk agreed to contact Bob from the Cotswold Warden to make these arrangements.</p> <p>Regarding the Down Lane house with gate access directly onto the allotments, it was agreed to write a letter to the property owner's daughter to make it clear to potential buyers that they have no right of way onto the allotments. It was additionally agreed that a further letter could then be sent to the future owner of the property to additionally make them aware of this.</p> <p>Cllr Helps expressed her thanks to Bathampton WI for their Christmas tree decorations and to her husband for decorating the tree.</p> <p><u>Policy & Finance</u></p> <p>There was nothing further to report.</p> <p><u>BPC's Digital Presence</u></p> <p>There was nothing further to report.</p>	<p align="center">DB</p> <p align="center">TP</p> <p align="center">DB</p> <p align="center">DB</p> <p align="center">Clerk</p> <p align="center">Clerk/JH</p>
<p>2021/137</p>	<p>Open Forum</p>	
	<p>There was nothing further to report.</p>	

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2021/138	Date of next meeting. Thursday 21st January 2022, 7:30pm.	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.05 pm	

Signed:

Chair:

Date: