

Bathampton Parish Council

Newsletter May 2023

Chairman's Notes

We have had the results of our Parish by-election and this has been posted on noticeboards. As only 7 people stood for the 9 seats on Bathampton Parish Council the election was uncontested and so no vote will take place. I am delighted that all of the existing Councillors were nominated and so will continue in post. We still have 2 spaces so if anyone else would like to become a Councillor for Bathampton please get in touch or come to a meeting. The May meeting is on Thursday 18 May at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

The Annual Parish Assembly will take place on Wednesday May 31 at 7.30 in the Village Hall. This is a meeting of parishioners and everyone is welcome. It is an opportunity for anyone to raise issues and discuss them with other local people. The meeting is not a Parish Council meeting but it is facilitated by the Parish Council. We will have a speaker from the National Trust to update us on what is happening in The Meadows. We may also have a speaker from Truespeed (of which more below). There will be a chance at the end of the meeting to have a chat with other local people with refreshments.

Truespeed are a local provider who offer ultrafast full-fibre broadband to the door. They spoke at our Annual Parish Assembly a few years ago about the rollout of their network across the South West. They have recently informed us that they now have all the permits in place to start building their network in Bathampton. There may be some disruption to local roads during the work but they will provide latest information on <https://one.network/> and will advise residents who may experience disruption in advance of the works.

Well done to all who made the recent Bathampton Art Show such a success. The event was very popular and a great chance to view and buy art produced by members of the three art groups that meet in the village hall and to eat homemade cake – what could be better.

We now have Faresaver operating the number 11 bus to and from Bath. The new timetable came into operation in April and we hope it offers better choices for travelling by bus by spreading the D1 and 11 services more evenly during the day. You may also have spotted a new service (D2X) operating between Bath and Bathampton and then on to Frome. The service mostly operates from the same stops as the D1 (although very early morning ones start from Dorchester Street rather than the bus station). We have pointed out to WECA that the service is aimed at journeys out of Bath in the mornings and into it in the early evenings – whereas most of our traffic is the other way. None the less it does provide another few buses which might help the evening peak. And if you do fancy a cheap day out in Frome (or Bradford on Avon) the National Fare Cap scheme – which caps adult bus ticket prices at £2 will continue until 30 June (£1 for children).

You will have seen posters around the village about a coronation event on 8 May and there is more information in this newsletter. Many thanks to the Village Show Committee for setting this event up and I hope you all enjoy it.

Moirá Brennan

Village Hall

The hall is available for private events. If you want to book an event, contact Katie at bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com. Prices for parties are from £36 for a 3 hour booking.

A new Qi Gong class has started in the hall on Wednesday evenings. By the time this newsletter arrives the first set of 4 lessons will have started but if you would like to find out more you can contact Emily on HealthyQiGonginBath@outlook.com. Other exercise classes are detailed in the What's on section of the newsletter.

Mr Wilkins' Shilling Northwest Clog Morris Dancing – a new addition to our WhatsOn

This takes place in the village hall on Thursdays 8 to 10 pm. They are a friendly and welcoming group of all ages dancing traditional English Morris and are keen to encourage new members to join. For further details check the What's On guide or contact mws_morris@hotmail.com

Bathampton WI Table top sale

This will take place at the Methodist Church on Saturday 17th June from 10am to 12 noon. **Cash only**

Hedges and junctions

Now that trees and hedgerows are coming into leaf, it's that time of year to ask residents with hedges, trees and shrubs growing next to paths or junctions to check that they are not impeding paths or affecting sight lines. It is particularly important to check that pedestrians, cyclists and drivers have as clear a view as possible when trying to cross or exit roads safely. Thank you, in anticipation of your help in this matter.

Planning

Lin King and George Ardrey

BANES continues to consider the planning application from Bath University, who want another all-weather multi-purpose sports pitch with fencing and lighting. Previous applications are being reviewed as part of the process. We have supported the National Trust and Bath Preservation Trust in calling for a complete review of lighting on the site. Whilst we have no objection to the new pitch in principle, the University is in an AONB and should try to blend in with its surroundings. We objected to the proposed fence which would be 8m high and we particularly object to the lighting. Currently, even before any new lighting is added, the glow from the University can be seen from many miles away and causes problems for local wildlife.

Highways

Tony Purpuri

highways.bathamptonPC@gmail.com

Road Safety

Following the consultation last year on pedestrian safety at the canal bridge, we are in the process of planning the next steps. We are looking for additional volunteers to support the writing of the Liveable Neighbourhood application. Specifically we are seeking support for:

- Tynning Road
- Holcombe Lane/Vale
- Mill Lane
- Hantone Hill
- Warminster Road and Trossachs

If you are interested in helping with any of these specific areas, please email the address above. We are planning to meet on the 16th May to progress to the drafting stage.

Speedwatch

Bathampton Speedwatch is active and monitoring/recording vehicle speeds at 3 sites within the village (2 sites on Warminster Road and Bathampton Lane). The number of sessions the group can run is limited by the number of volunteers. If you are interested in improving road safety through the village please email us at the address above.

Footpaths, Flooding and Litter

David Beard

footpaths.bathamptonPC@gmail.com

Despite the cold winter weather and the wet spring weather, Bathampton's parish footpaths appear to be in surprisingly good shape. A quarterly audit was completed in week commencing 17th April, during which, the 11 miles of parish footpaths were investigated for any infrastructure problems requiring repair or maintenance. Five priorities were identified

1. Three fallen trees on path BA1/24 along the northern perimeter of Bathampton Down.
2. A broken gate on path BA1/07 (the path crossing the field to the south of the Kennet and Avon Canal) at its junction with Meadow Lane.
3. A broken bridge on BA1/03a as it crosses a ditch in a field to the west of New Leaf Farm.
4. Brambles on path BA1/08, the path linking Warminster Road and Bathampton Lane.
5. Vegetation restricting the width of the pathway on BA1/25 between Dry Arch and the Kennet and Avon Canal at the swing bridge.

Our thanks to the Cotswold Volunteers and to BANES Public Rights of Way team for their efforts in helping to resolve these issues. If you have noticed any other problems with local footpaths, please let us know via the footpaths email address.

Local litter picking work continues with a team of volunteers. We are still seeking a volunteer to join our group and take on the Hantone Hill area and the eastern end of the A36 around Dry Arch. If you are able to help, please let us know and we can provide equipment and support. On a related matter, local dog walkers are requested to dispose of waste bags in the rubbish bin located at the junction of Mill Lane/ Church Close instead of the in seating area in front of The George or in Jubilee Gardens, next to the canal.

Climate and Ecology Emergency

Jan Helps and Lin King

Tree planting at Holcombe Vale

Trees have now been planted by CURO who will look after them for the next two years as they establish. They have been planted near the existing trees in order to increase the size of the groupings. We have also asked CURO to consider introducing more trees in and around St Nicholas Court as and when more funding becomes available.

WESTlocal –

This is a new £2 million fund from the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) aimed at helping communities design and then run their own version of new transport in their patch. Maybe the challenge is driving children to school, getting older residents to the shops, or workers to their workplace.

Any proposed scheme must be run on a not-for-profit basis. The ideas must be locally designed and new - they can't simply keep schemes going that are already in place. Expert advice and support will be made available every step of the way by WECA to help all those looking to set up a new transport scheme in their efforts. Look here for all the details <https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/transport/westlocal/>

If anyone is interested in working on a proposal for Bathampton, please contact one of the Councillors or come along to the Parish Assembly on 31 May to discuss your idea.

Bathampton Primary School

Lin King (Governor)/Naomi Boyce (Headteacher)

Ofsted verdict 'Good' - Pupils are happy and benefit from 'shared ambition' of leaders

Bathampton Primary School has come through its first Ofsted inspection since 2010 with flying colours. The inspectors rated the 191-pupil school, which joined Bath & Wells Multi Academy Trust in 2018, as Good in the categories of quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management and early years provision, stating that pupils were happy and safe and enjoyed learning.

The Head Teacher said "We are very pleased with this report, which shows that the school is providing a good all-round education under the current inspection framework. The inspectors recognised that while we have high expectations for both children and teachers, which will continue as we strive to ensure even greater success in the future, our school is also a happy and welcoming environment where wellbeing is given priority."

Councillors		Parish Clerk (Liz Daly): 07980 627391 bathamptonparishclerk@gmail.com
George Ardrey	424270	Newsletter Editor and What's On Jan Helps can be contacted on Telephone: 01225 336656 Email: newsletter.bathamptonPC@gmail.com
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Lin King	460998	
Tony Purpuri	335978	

Website bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk You can also find us on Facebook (Bathampton Community) and Twitter (Bathamptonpc)

What's On in Bathampton

Organisation	Times	Organiser	Contact
Art Groups Village hall	Monday 1.30pm Monday 6.30pm Thursday 9.30am	Brent King	07967167300
Bathampton Village Show	bathamptonvillageshow.co.uk bathampton.show@gmail.com	David Mayo	07779 54 59 56
Beavers	Monday 6 – 7 pm	Louise Madden	427682
Bell ringers	Mondays 8pm Sundays 10.15am	Candy McCabe	465564
Bridge Club Village hall	Monday 1.30 – 4.30 pm	Ken Jefferies	460800
Brownies	Wednesday 5.45 - 7.10 pm	57thbrownies@girlguidingbath.org.uk	
Cricket Club	Tuesday & Sunday	Stephen Dalley Smith	460395
Cubs	Tuesday 6.30 – 8pm	Louise Madden	427682
Dance, Ballet and Modern Curtis School of Dance	Friday pm – call for times Village hall	Deborah Curtis	01761 437004
Dry Arch Growers. Bathampton community co-operative	Thursday mid morning and pm (while light) Sundays 11 – 3pm	Alex Robertson	07793056448
Guides	Thursday 7.00-8.30pm	Christine Vine	834700
Chair Keep Fit Standing Keep Fit Village Hall	Wednesday 3pm Wednesday 4pm	jackiebrangwyn@yahoo.co.uk	840850
Luncheon club for retired people Miller Room	Last Thursday in Month 12 – 1.30	Sara Fudge Jane Shepherd	460196 466455
Mr Wilkins' Shilling North-west Clog Morris Dancing Village Hall	Thursday 8 - 10 pm	www.mrwilkinsshilling.org.uk mws_morris@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/mrwilkinsshilling	
Outdoor Fitness Classes Bathampton recreation ground	Thursday 9.15am Friday 9.15am	Nikki Andrews	07717 175 149
Pilates (mixed gender) Village Hall	Tues 7.15 - 8.15pm	Renu Khosla Renu.physio@hotmail.com	07815868252
Playgroup Village Hall	Mon, Tues, Wed, Friday	Lisa Nash bathamptonplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk	07716 600269
Scouts Scout HQ	Friday 7.30 to 9.30pm	www.bathamptonscouts.org join@bathamptonscouts.org	
Scottish Country Dance Village hall	Thursday 1.30 to 4.30pm	Jane Hammond	833411
Senior Table Tennis Scout HQ	Tues mornings 10.00-12.00	David Plumbridge George Malcolm	429979 07789 961848
St Nicholas Church	Sundays 10.45am. Other times see stnicholasbathampton.org.uk	Jonty Frith - minister Kay Rees – office office@stnicholasbathampton.org.uk	338055 442311
Table Tennis Scout HQ	Every Saturday in Autumn and Spring 6 – 8pm	Ray Bennett	866880
WI Bathampton Village Hall	First Saturday of the month 10-12am.	Enquiries to bathamptonwi@gmail.com	Or leave note in Café 25 for WI
£5 for non members			
Yoga Village hall	Friday 12.30 – 2.00	Suzy Lovegrove suzy.lovegrove @lovegrove.com	07980008672

This guide is also available on the Parish Council website.