

# **Bathampton Parish Council**

## **Newsletter August 2023**

### **Chairman's Notes**

Along with other Bathampton Parish Councillors and a few BANES Councillors I was fortunate to have the chance to walk around Bathampton Meadows with Joanna, the National Trust project manager for the Meadows. It was great to hear about the work they have been doing to understand how local people use the area and what improvements they would like to see. We also saw the work that has been done to improve the hedgerows on the "sheep field" and Joanna pointed out an oak tree which is over 800 years old. Just imagine what has happened in its lifetime. Thank goodness it's not standing in the middle of a giant car park !! We also met Sarah Dann, the community ranger who looks after the Meadows, along with a team of volunteers.

On a less positive note we have been experiencing a lot of graffiti in the village recently and it was really sad to see the children's play area being targeted. BANES Clean and Green team did an amazing job of cleaning the graffiti off the play equipment and signage – but they shouldn't have to do it.

Volunteers from the village have compiled a questionnaire to help us understand the challenges to getting around the village – particularly on foot and by bike. There is information of various ways to access the form under the Highways section. I encourage you to take 5 minutes to let us know about the road safety issues that concern you.

We have also asked WECA to have a look at our bus timetables again. Having changed the 11 timetable to stagger the times of buses with the D1 when they tendered the service in April, there seems to have been a change to the D1 service which means that between 11.30 and 4.30 the two buses run a minute apart going into the Bath.

There will be no Parish Council meeting in August but we will be back in September. We still have two spaces on the council so if you would like to get involved get in touch.

### **Moira Brennan**

#### **Village Hall**

Over the summer we are planning to replace the windows in the Village Hall. Hopefully this will improve energy efficiency. Sadly, the old windows were rotten and beyond repair. We have also agreed with Truespeed that they will install Wi-Fi in the hall at no cost. Hopefully this will improve users' experience and make it possible to use the hall for events that rely on access to the internet.

The hall is available for private events. If you want to book an event, contact Katie at [bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com). Prices for parties are from £36 for a 3 hour booking (including time for you to set up and clear up).

#### **Village Agent – Katy Lunn**

We are delighted to have a WERN village agent operating in Bathampton. Village Agents have been supporting people to maintain their independence in areas south of Bath for over 13 years. Anyone over 18 can access their free and confidential service. In these difficult times your village agent can help you to find support with financial concerns, help with mobility, social isolation and much more. You can self refer or, with their permission, seek help for friends or family. You can call 01275 333700 or email [denise.perrin@nhs.net](mailto:denise.perrin@nhs.net) or fill in a form on [WERN.org.uk/banes-village-agents](https://WERN.org.uk/banes-village-agents).

#### **Highways**

**Tony Purpuri**

**[highways.bathamptonPC@gmail.com](mailto:highways.bathamptonPC@gmail.com)**

The road safety group continue to progress with understanding the road safety issues in the village, with a view to seeking funding to implement some solutions. A survey is available for residents to express their views on road safety issues in the village. An electronic version is published on the Parish Council website (<https://bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk/highways-canal>), and hard copies will be available at Café25 and at the Parish Council stand at the village show. You can return them to Cafe 25 or by email to [highways.bathamptonPC@gmail.com](mailto:highways.bathamptonPC@gmail.com).

We also continue to engage with Highways England regarding safe crossing points on the A36 as an outcome of their Severance Study. If you would like to find out more, please get in touch or find me behind the barbecue at the village show.

## **Canal**

**Rob Bash**

The Canal and River Trust (CRT) refuse compound at Bathampton has been a matter of debate for many years and the problems associated with it have been a focus of Bathampton Parish Council more recently due to the issues of vermin and the general state of the compound. It has been a difficult matter to progress due to a whole raft of reasons, not least funding limitations of the CRT to regularly empty the site, unauthorised fly-tipping that exacerbates the situation and different ownership of the land, rendering agreement on "improvement" works more complicated. However, we are actively working with BANES and CRT to find a resolution to the issues at hand, whether that results in development of the site into a better quality, vermin-proof compound or its removal or something else. The reality is that the Parish Council has no legal authority over the site and, as such, we are limited to advocating our point of view firmly and repeatedly to the parties involved (BANES and CRT), which we continue to do.

## **Bathampton Primary School**

**Lin King and Tony Purpuri**

### **Bathampton Primary School is looking for School Governors from the local community**

There has long been a Parish Council representative on the governing board of Bathampton Primary School. Lin has been this link for the last 14 years but has now exceeded the time allowed and has reluctantly had to stand down. Tony has enthusiastically stepped up and is looking forward to the new school year, and hopefully to seeing some other new governors. The school says –

We are a small governing body that needs a breadth of skills to help support and oversee the school.

If you are looking for a way to give back to your local community and have either an education background or more general management, finance or fundraising skills, we would love to hear from you.

Governors meet each month rotating between remotely in the evening and in school. Full training is given.

If you are interested, please contact Tony or Lin to find out more.

## **Bathampton Meadows Alliance**

**Lin King**

You may have donated funds to or supported the Bathampton Meadows Alliance (BMA) to fight the proposed Park&Ride on the Meadows. Now we are sure that all of land is safe in the hands of the National Trust we needed to decide what to do with the unused funds. A working group was set up and consulted major donors, main campaigners and parish councils and concluded that probably the only fair thing to do was to transfer the funds to the National Trust to be used on the Meadows. It was always the intention to consult the wider BMA group before proceeding, so in May the BMA Working Group wrote to all those who had generously contributed their time and/or money to the cause of saving Bathampton Meadows, to consult on what they would like done with the remaining funds from the campaign.

The funds to be distributed are a little over £14,000. The consultation opened on the 12th of May 2023 and closed at 5pm on Monday 26th of June 2023.

To summarise, the results of the consultation are -

- 98% of respondents said that the money should be spent on Bathampton Meadows
- A similar number said that the money should be given to the National Trust for this purpose.

The BMA Working Group will take the following actions

- It will offer the National Trust the BMA funds as a donation.
- It will review the draft agreement with the National Trust to ensure it meets the criteria respondents asked for.
- It will ask the National Trust to take into consideration the suggestions made in the consultation when allocating the BMA funds, and to make public how the funds are spent.

Full details of consultation results can be found at the following <http://bathamptonmeadowsalliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/consultation-responses-final.pdf>

### Hedges and junctions

We have many challenging junctions within the village which make sight lines difficult for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. If you live next to a junction, we really appreciate your continued efforts to keep hedges and trees tidy so that these junctions and road crossings are as safe as possible. Thank you.

### Climate and Ecology Emergency

Jan Helps and Lin King

### Bright Green Home

Bright Green Homes funding enables owner occupiers or private rented households in BANES to install measures such as insulation, low carbon heating systems and renewable technologies if they meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Currently on Electric, Oil, LPG or Solid Fuel heating (homes with gas central heating are not eligible).
- Energy Performance Certificate rating of G, F, E or D.
- Annual household income of £31,000 or lower (although there are some postcodes where the income criteria don't apply).

The BANES website has further information on how to apply.

### Green Open Homes - Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 November ([www.greenopenhomesbanes.org](http://www.greenopenhomesbanes.org))

The open homes event, is being led by Bath & West Community Energy (BWCE) in partnership with BANES, Buro Happold, Bath Preservation Trust and Transition Bath. It aims to showcase a variety of housing types, including listed buildings that have introduced a range of solutions from low-cost DIY methods such as draft proofing and smart power controls to more extensive options, such as wall insulation and triple glazing.

Visitors will be able to see examine the technology and ask questions of the homeowners to learn about different solutions, the installation process and the prospective energy savings to gain an understanding of how they could improve the energy performance and sustainability of their own homes.

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| <b>Councillors</b>   |  | <b>Parish Clerk (Liz Daly): 07980 627391</b><br><b><u><a href="mailto:bathamptonparishclerk@gmail.com">bathamptonparishclerk@gmail.com</a></u></b><br><br>Newsletter Editor and What's On<br>Jan Helps can be contacted on<br><br>Telephone: 01225 336656<br><br>Email: <a href="mailto:newsletter.bathamptonPC@gmail.com">newsletter.bathamptonPC@gmail.com</a> |
| George Ardrey  | 424270   |  |
| Rob Bash   | 07919210122  |  |
| David Beard  | 336722   |  |
| Moirá Brennan  | 313503   |  |
| Jan Helps  | 336656   |  |
| Lin King   | 460998   |  |
| Tony Purpuri   | 335978   |  |
| <b><u>Your BANES Councillors</u></b>                                   |  |  |
| Kevin Guy  | 07365916114  |  |
| <a href="mailto:Kevin_guy@bathnes.gov.uk">Kevin_guy@bathnes.gov.uk</a> |  |  |
| Sarah Warren   | <a href="mailto:Sarah_warren@bathnes.gov.uk">Sarah_warren@bathnes.gov.uk</a> |  |

Website [bathamptonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://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<br>Village hall  | Monday 1.30pm<br>Monday 6.30pm<br>Thursday 9.30am  | Brent King   | 07967167300                     |
| Bathampton Village Show   | <a href="http://bathamptonvillageshow.co.uk">bathamptonvillageshow.co.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:bathampton.show@gmail.com">bathampton.show@gmail.com</a> | David Mayo   | 07779 54 59 56                  |
| Beavers   | Monday 6 – 7 pm  | Louise Madden  | 427682                          |
| Bell ringers  | Mondays 8pm<br>Sundays 10.15am   | Candy McCabe   | 465564                          |
| Bridge Club<br>Village hall   | Monday 1.30 – 4.30 pm  | Ken Jefferies  | 460800                          |
| Brownies  | Wednesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm   | <a href="mailto:57thbrownies@girlguidingbath.org.uk">57thbrownies@girlguidingbath.org.uk</a>   |                                 |
| Cricket Club  | Tuesday & Sunday   | Stephen Dalley Smith   | 460395                          |
| Cubs  | Tuesday 6.30 – 8pm   | Louise Madden  | 427682                          |
| Dance, Ballet and Modern<br>Curtis School of Dance                  | Friday pm – call for times<br>Village hall   | Deborah Curtis   | 01761 437004                    |
| Dry Arch Growers.<br>Bathampton community co-operative              | Thursday mid morning and pm (while light)<br>Sundays 11 – 3pm  | Alex Robertson   | 07793056448                     |
| Chair Keep Fit<br>Standing Keep Fit<br>Village Hall                 | Wednesday 3.15pm<br>Wednesday 4.15pm   | <a href="mailto:jackiebrangwyn@yahoo.co.uk">jackiebrangwyn@yahoo.co.uk</a>   | 840850                          |
| Luncheon club for retired people<br>Miller Room                     | Last Thursday in Month<br>12 – 1.30  | Sara Fudge   | 460196                          |
| Mr Wilkins' Shilling North-west Clog Morris Dancing<br>Village Hall | Thursday<br>8 - 10 pm  | <a href="http://www.mrwilkinsshilling.org.uk">www.mrwilkinsshilling.org.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:mws_morris@hotmail.com">mws_morris@hotmail.com</a><br><a href="http://www.facebook.com/mrwilkinsshilling">www.facebook.com/mrwilkinsshilling</a> |                                 |
| Outdoor Fitness Classes<br>Bathampton recreation ground             | Thursday 9.15am<br>Friday 9.15am   | Nikki Andrews  | 07717 175 149                   |
| Pilates (mixed gender)<br>Village Hall                              | Tues 7.15 - 8.15pm   | Renu Khosla<br><a href="mailto:Renu.physio@hotmail.com">Renu.physio@hotmail.com</a>  | 07815868252                     |
| Playgroup<br>Village Hall   | Mon, Tues, Wed, Friday   | Lisa Nash<br><a href="mailto:bathamptonplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk">bathamptonplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk</a>  | 07716 600269                    |
| Qi Gong<br>Village Hall   | Wed 7.45   | Emily<br><a href="mailto:HealthyQigonginbath@outlook.com">HealthyQigonginbath@outlook.com</a>  |                                 |
| Scouts<br>Scout HQ  | Friday 7.30 to 9.30pm  | <a href="http://www.bathamptonscouts.org">www.bathamptonscouts.org</a><br><a href="mailto:join@bathamptonscouts.org">join@bathamptonscouts.org</a>   |                                 |
| Scottish Country Dance<br>Village hall                              | Thursday 1.30 to 4.30pm  | Jane Hammond   | 833411                          |
| Senior Table Tennis<br>Scout HQ                                     | Tues mornings 10.00-12.00  | David Plumbridge<br>George Malcolm   | 429979<br>07789 961848          |
| St Nicholas Church  | Sundays 10.45am.<br>Other times see<br><a href="http://stnicholasbathampton.org.uk">stnicholasbathampton.org.uk</a>                                      | Jonty Frith - minister<br>Kay Rees – office<br><a href="mailto:office@stnicholasbathampton.org.uk">office@stnicholasbathampton.org.uk</a>  | 338055<br>442311                |
| Table Tennis<br>Scout HQ  | Every Saturday in Autumn and Spring 6 – 8pm  | Ray Bennett  | 866880                          |
| WI Bathampton<br>Village Hall<br>£5 for non members                 | First Saturday of the month<br>10-12am.  | Enquiries to<br><a href="mailto:bathamptonwi@gmail.com">bathamptonwi@gmail.com</a>   | Or leave note in Café 25 for WI |
| Yoga<br>Village hall  | Friday 12.30 – 2.00  | Suzy Lovegrove<br><a href="mailto:suzy.lovegrove@lovegrove.com">suzy.lovegrove @lovegrove.com</a>  | 07980008672                     |

This guide is also available on the Parish Council website.