

Bathampton Parish Council

Newsletter November 2023

Chairman's Notes

I mentioned last month that there had been several cases of graffiti-ing in the village. I am very sad to say this has continued and we have had to involve the police. We have posted pictures of some of the damage done to the play equipment and bus stops on our social media (Bathampton Community on Facebook). The name of the offender is very clear in the pictures, so I am hopeful that someone will be able to have a quiet word in their ear. It would be much better to stop it now than let it continue to be a police matter. My thanks to the Parish Councillors that cleaned up the latest attack on the play area and we are also reporting items that need more work to rectify the damage, eg in painted areas of the bus stop, to the BANES team. If you see any more of this vandalism please report it online at Fix-My-Street.

It is nice to offset news of this very anti social attack on our community with memories of the fantastic 2023 Village Show. The number of entries was the most received for many years and the excellent weather meant the show was very well attended. Thanks as ever to the Village Show Committee who work all year round to raise funds to support the show and to them and all the volunteers and stall holders who worked so hard in the heat to make it all happen on the day.

Moirá Brennan

Village Hall

bathamptonvillagehall@outlook.com

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 (including time for you to set up and clear up).

The new windows are in and make the hall look much brighter inside. If you want to do something locally then the hall has lots of activities from art groups to keepfit, yoga and pilates. There is more information in the What's On section. If you would like to hire the hall for a regular activity then we have a session available on Wednesday evenings. Just email us at the address above.

Truespeed

A number of residents have asked when Truespeed will be installed in the village. The plan was for civil works to start late summer/early autumn, however, there has been some delay and these works are expected to start in December with full connection by March 2024.

Highways

Tony Purpuri

School patrol crossing Could you be a local hero?

Bathampton Primary School urgently requires a crossing patrol to make the walk to school SAFER for families. If you love working outdoors and enjoy helping and meeting people then a job helping local children get safely to school could be exactly what you're looking for.

Duty times are 8:20-9:00am and 3:05-3:35pm term time only (5 hours 50 mins per week). However, we would also consider a flexible arrangement to prioritise the morning or a job share to achieve full cover. Pay is £8.84 per hour with paid holiday too.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Tony Purpuri for further information.

Tier Scooters

You will have noticed the new green scooters and electric bikes, operated by Tier, in the village and throughout Bath. There have been a number of concerns raised by residents and local organisations on the impact of these scooters, especially around how they are being parked. Of particular concern is by the Bathampton Surgery, where scooters and bikes are frequently being left in the middle of the pavement, blocking access to the surgery and the defibrillator, or being parked in the bike racks which

are provided for traditional pedal bikes. You can report poorly parked equipment via chat bot in the Frequently Asked Questions section on the Tier website. You will need to make a note of the number on the item which allows Tier to find it and reposition it.

The scooters and bikes are an important part of reducing the reliance on cars and it will be the minority of users who leave the Tier equipment in inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous positions. There are a number of options we are pursuing in order to try to guide users on how to park the scooters/bikes, and as part of the new contract, BANES/WECA have the ability to fine Tier if they fail to enforce restrictions and limitations.

However, a last resort would be to remove parking at the Surgery altogether, leaving the sites by the scout hut and St. George's Hill. If you do use the Tier equipment, please be considerate of pedestrians when parking them, whether it's at the surgery or at the other sites in Bathampton.

If you have further concerns please contact me on highways.bathamptonPC@gmail.com.

Road Safety

Thank you to everyone who commented on the village road safety survey. We are in the process of analysing the information and summarising the comments.

The next step is to meet with BANES to articulate these concerns, supported by this evidence, and discuss the high priority issues. We are working closely with the Ward Councillors to seek a solution, funding routes and to understand timings of any improvements to safety.

Flooding and drainage

David Beard

October's Storm Babet caused surface water flooding on the A36 Warminster Road at Bathampton, highlighting a need for urgent drainage improvements along this route. In response, Highways England confirmed plans to upgrade A36 drainage in the current financial year, having now completed engineering surveys between St George's Hill in Bathampton and the Viaduct at Limpley Stoke. Construction will begin in December 2023/January 2024 and last for several months. Works along the route will be completed in sections during daylight hours, using temporary lights to control one-way traffic flows, thus avoiding road closures.

We would like to thank the ground maintenance team at King Edwards School playing field for clearing the gully at the bottom of Dark Lane; this should help road drainage and reduce local flooding. On a related matter, the Environment Agency has designated Bathampton a "red" or high-risk flood zone, and local motorists are advised not to park their cars so that wheels block street drainage grills. If you notice any Bathampton street drains that are blocked with autumn leaves or other debris, please make a report on Fix-My-Street <https://www.fixmystreet.com>.

Playground Project

Liz Daly

The Parish Council agreed some time ago that any surplus funds left unspent at the end of a financial year would be allocated to the Playground Project. For the year to 31st March 2023 £4,968 has been allocated to Playground funds. In addition £22 was raised from map sales at the Village Show.

The Playground Project fund currently stands at £42,886 which is making excellent progress towards raising the much-needed funds to complete phase one of the Project.

A revised application to the National Lottery is underway to hopefully submit before the end of the year to help acquire the remaining funds to progress the Project.

We still welcome donations and if you wish to contribute please contact the Clerk directly on bathamptonparishclerk@gmail.com or on 07980627391.

Climate and Ecology Emergency

Jan Helps and Lin King

Bright Green Homes

Bright Green Homes funding enables owner occupiers or private rented households 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.
- Live in BANES, Bristol or North Somerset Council area.
- Annual household income of £31,000 or lower (although there are some postcodes where the income criteria doesn't apply).

The BANES website has further information on how to apply.

Green Open Homes - Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th November

Green Open Homes BANES will take place in and around Bath on the 4th and 5th November. This is a great opportunity to see first-hand how various energy efficiency measures work, which businesses were used, what the process was like and how much the measures cost.

The weekend will feature homes spanning Georgian listed, Victorian, modern and art deco that have incorporated energy efficient features including heat pumps, wall and floor insulation, secondary and triple glazing, solar panels and other low cost DIY energy saving measures. 17 homes are opening in Bath and 5 in the Chew Valley. For details of Green Open Homes, case studies and resources click on the map on the website to plan your visits. Visit to share, learn and do!

Visit the Green Open Homes website to find out more. www.greenopenhomesbanes.org

Bath Urban Treescape and Bathscape Landscape Partnership

are excited to announce the launch of **Bath's first urban tree trails**. Designed by a team of tree and Bath enthusiasts, the four tree trails through the city of Bath and the council ward of Twerton, are supported by free paper maps and a website. The team wish to encourage BANES residents, Bath workers and visitors to explore the city through its trees, noticing the city's many amazing trees and the benefits they bring to us all. Each trail has around 22 trees; the tree locations are marked on the map and a paragraph of information is provided about each tree. Suggested activities for children and families to enjoy are included in the trails.

To access the trails, please visit the website: <https://www.bathurbantreescape.com/> and/or request paper maps via the contact page on the website or email the team at hello@bathurbantreescape.com and they will be happy to deliver them.

Parish Councillors		Parish Clerk (Liz Daly): 07980 627391 <u>bathamptonparishclerk@gmail.com</u>
George Ardrey	424270	Newsletter Editor and What's On Jan Helps can be contacted on Telephone: 01225 336656 Email: newsletter.bathamptonPC@gmail.com Your BANES Councillors Kevin Guy 07365 916114 or Kevin_Guy@bathnes.gov.uk Sarah Warren Sarah_Warren@bathnes.gov.uk
Rob Bash	07919210122	
David Beard	336722	
Moirá Brennan	313503	
Jan Helps	336656	
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 6.00 -7.30 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
Chair Keep Fit Standing Keep Fit Village Hall	Wednesday 3pm Wednesday 4pm	jackiebrangwyn@yahoo.co.uk	840850
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 175149
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 vgsurgey@gmail.com	07788117875
£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.