

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024.  
Bathampton Village Hall, 7.30pm.**

**Present:** M. Brennan Chair (MB), L. King – Vice Chair (LK), J. Helps (JH), G. Ardrey (GA), R. Bash (RB), D. Beard (DB) & Liz Daly (Clerk).

**Four members of the public in attendance & Ward Cllr Kevin Guy.**

**The meeting started at 7.30pm.**

		<b>Actions</b>
		Actions struck through are complete
<b>2024/034</b>	<b>Welcome:</b> Cllr Brennan (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair noted that the meeting would be recorded for minuting purposes only. The Chair introduced Cllr Kevin Guy to the members of public present and asked the members of public to note if they were attending to discuss a particular issue. These were noted.	
<b>2024/035</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> T. Purpuri (TP). The Council resolved unanimously to accept the reason for absence.	
<b>2024/036</b>	<b>Declarations of interest:</b> None.	
<b>2024/037</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b>	
	The Minutes for the meeting of Bathampton Parish Council held on the 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting.  The Minutes were unanimously APPROVED and would be signed by the Chair at the end of the meeting.	<b>MB</b>
<b>2024/038</b>	<b>Public Participation</b>	
	To address concerns raised by members of the public present, Kevin Guy was invited by the Chair to give an update on the Liveable Neighbourhood Scheme for Sydney Road.  An in-depth discussion was had where members of the public and Councillors present asked Cllr Kevin Guy questions and raised their concerns regarding the trial. It was additionally highlighted by the public and Parish Councillors that the communication process by BANES prior to the scheme being agreed had been extremely poor and neighbouring Parish Councils had not been consulted with.  Cllr Kevin Guy highlighted that during the six-month trial there will be an online interactive feed where members of the public will be able to submit views on the scheme and highlight issues such as increased congestion and significant delays to their journeys. This site would also include analysis on traffic volumes and air quality data.  The Chair asked Cllr Kevin Guy to make sure the online feed link was well advertised prior to the scheme commencing, and the Parish Council agreed to promote the link via all available channels.  Cllr Kevin Guy noted that after the six-month trial, the data collected, and feedback received would be assessed to determine whether the scheme would be made permanent. It was highlighted that if the impact outweighs the benefit, the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) would be removed, or it could be removed before the six-month period if the scheme was causing large scale congestion, a significant increase in air pollution or danger to road users.  Cllr Beard queried whether BANES would consider installing PM 2.5 air monitoring equipment alongside the NO2 monitors. Cllr Kevin Guy noted that the equipment should be available for use and asked Cllr Beard to email the Liveable Neighbourhood team directly to put in this request.  In response to a question raised from a member of public, the Chair noted that once the trial was in place, the Parish Council would discuss further and then potentially agree a formal response to submit to BANES.	<b>KG / All</b>          <b>DB</b>

<b>2024/039</b>	<b>Presentation by Cllr Kevin Guy regarding the BANES draft Local plan</b>	
	<p>Cllr Kevin Guy highlighted the importance of the Local plan and its ability to help protect villages such as Bathampton against speculative development. Kevin Guy noted that the 5% increase in housing within Bathampton was over 20 years but gives the Parish Council and residents more say over where that new housing goes. A discussion was had, and questions were raised.</p> <p>Following a question by the Chair, Cllr Kevin Guy reported that central Government have no funding for new larger highways projects.</p> <p>Cllr Kevin Guy reported that due to on-going environmental concerns and poor management of the Canal &amp; River Trust (CRT) compound bin on Tynning Road, BANES had put legal pressures on the CRT which meant that any planning permissions received from the CRT to improve the site were unlikely to be granted. In view of this the CRT made the decision to close the site.</p> <p>It was reported by Kevin Guy that the CRT had attempted to remove the bin but were stopped by residents who protested to its closure. It was further noted that a date for its removal was unknown but that the CRT had a legal obligation to provide alternative sites for the boating community and return the area back to its original state. It was further noted that the CRT contract with Biffa for refuse collection had now ended.</p> <p>Cllr Helps raised concern regarding the facilities available to the boating Community and the distance they would need to travel to dispose of their rubbish following the removal of the CRT compound bin.</p> <p>Cllr Kevin Guy highlighted that a BANES member of staff was consulting with the boating community to help ensure that they receive the facilities they need and that they make sure any concerns or views are passed onto the CRT. It was however highlighted that the responsibility for the provision of facilities to the boating community lies with the CRT.</p> <p>Cllr Kevin Guy agreed to pass on the details for the BANES member of staff to Bathampton Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllr Brennan thanked Cllr Kevin Guy for his time and with no further questions he left the meeting. One member of public also left the meeting.</p>	<b>KG</b>
<b>2024/040</b>	<b>Review of actions carried forward from previous meetings</b>	
	<p>In view of the timings of the meeting, the Chair asked all Councillors and the Clerk to review their actions carried forward and to notify the Clerk of any that had been actioned and which could be removed.</p>	<b>All</b>
<b>2024/041</b>	<b>Finance</b>	
	a) <u>Financial Report for March 2024</u>	
	This had been circulated previously.	
	<u>Table 1</u>	
	<p>The Clerk referred to the Clerks report which had been circulated prior to the meeting which reported a cash movement of £2,487.90 during February (an increase due to the receipt of donations for the Playground Project) and £12,529.65 for the year to date.</p> <p>The Chair noted that a substantial surplus for the year was expected. This surplus had been increased further by the receipt of donations for the Playground Project.</p>	
	<u>Table 2</u>	
	Transactions from the 1 <sup>st</sup> February up to the to the 29 <sup>th</sup> February were noted.	
	<u>Table 3</u>	

	<p>Expenditure totalling £234.60 and the salaries totalling £1,056.57 were approved for payment.</p> <table border="1"> <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>21.03.2024</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Jan - March 2024 (QT4)</td> <td>£170.20</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£170.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.03.2024</td> <td>Clerk Expenses</td> <td>IONOS (Jan, Feb, March 2024)</td> <td>£12.00</td> <td>£2.40</td> <td>£14.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.02.2024</td> <td>CiLCA</td> <td>3 month extension</td> <td>£50.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Sub Total</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£234.60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Payee	Details	Net	VAT	Gross	21.03.2024	HMRC	Jan - March 2024 (QT4)	£170.20	£0.00	£170.20	21.03.2024	Clerk Expenses	IONOS (Jan, Feb, March 2024)	£12.00	£2.40	£14.40	21.02.2024	CiLCA	3 month extension	£50.00	0.00	50.00			Sub Total			£234.60	
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	<p>b) <u>Clerk's Report</u></p>																															
	<p>The Clerk referred to the Clerk's report covering everything from the previous meeting (15<sup>th</sup> February 2024), which had been circulated prior to this meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the additional information requested by Charity Bank following their receipt of the applications would be sent over to them shortly, which should then hopefully enable the accounts to be set up.</p> <p>The Council agreed for the Clerk to sign and return the contract back to BANES for the 2024 grass cutting of the Recreational ground and allotments.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to her report which detailed strimmer options within the £300 budget and for a more robust option exceeding budget. Following a discussion it was agreed to purchase the Husqvarna Aspire T28-P4A and an additional battery to keep within the £300 funding allocation, received from BANES.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the correspondence received as detailed in her report.</p>																															
<b>2024/042</b>	<b>BANES draft Local Plan</b>																															
	<p>The Council agreed that whilst the Parish Council are supportive of Infill, they do not feel it necessary at this stage to nominate sites for housing development within the village. It was additionally noted that the response to the draft Local Plan should highlight that the plan overestimates how connected Bathampton is to Bath.</p> <p>Cllr King agreed to put a response together in view of the discussion and would circulate the suggested response by email for Council for approval.</p>	<b>LK</b>																														
<b>2024/043</b>	<b>Annual Residents meeting</b>																															
	<p>The Chair noted that the meeting would take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>It was agreed that rather than inviting guest speakers to the meeting, the Parish Council would provide residents with a general update on council business and an update on local issues.</p> <p>The Chair invited a member of public to speak who highlighted an issue with a hedgerow of a privately owned field which was overgrowing the public footpath. The member of public would email the details to the Parish Council.</p> <p>The remaining three members of public left the meeting.</p>																															
<b>2024/044</b>	<b>Canal &amp; River Trust (CRT) Compound bin</b>																															
	<p>There was nothing further to report (in addition to the discussion under agenda item <b>2024/039</b>).</p>																															
<b>2024/045</b>	<b>Road Safety Consultation</b>																															
	<p>Following an overview from Cllr Beard regarding the findings of the 2023 Bathampton road safety consultation, it was agreed that the conclusion needs to be revisited and re-written in view of the comments circulated to all Councillors, by Cllr Purpuri, prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair noted that it was a great piece of work, and it would be a useful document to share with National Highways.</p>	<b>DB</b>																														

	The Chair referred to an update received from Cllr Purpuri prior to the meeting which reported that BANES have confirmed that funding has been allocated for road safety work on the Canal Bridge and Mulberry Kidz narrowing, and they were in the process of setting up a meeting with the safer routes to school team to discuss options.	
<b>2024/046</b>	<b>Share &amp; Repair Cafe</b>	
	<p>Following a discussion on publicising the Plant sale and Share &amp; Repair Café, it was agreed that Cllr King, Cllr Beard (on behalf of the Village Show Committee) and Cllr Helps would co-ordinate on the poster and Cllr King and Cllr Beard would put together the 300-word article for the Local Look magazine to promote the joint event with the deadline being the 12<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>Cllr King additionally agreed to speak with the Share &amp; Repair Café to ask their network to publicise the event.</p> <p>It was agreed to promote the event in the next Parish Council newsletter and to ask for volunteers. Cllr Beard would try and find out from a nearby resident if they knew who volunteered with the sewing at the last event.</p> <p>Regarding refreshments for the Share &amp; Repair volunteers, Cllr Beard would revisit the costs. The Chair agreed to split the invoice for the Hall between the Village Show Committee and Parish Council.</p>	<p><b>LK / DB / JH</b></p> <p><b>LK/DB</b></p> <p><b>LK</b></p> <p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>MB</b></p>
<b>2024/047</b>	<b>Policies</b>	
	The Parish Council’s standing orders, Financial Regulations and Councillor Code of Conduct policies had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The Clerk noted that there were no new NALC updates to the models currently in place. The Council proposed no changes, and both policies were re-approved.	
<b>2024/048</b>	<b>Handyman Cover</b>	
	<p>Following an email circulated by the Clerk to inform Councillor’s of Douglas Hunter commencing in the role of temporary Handyman, starting 11<sup>th</sup> March, the Clerk highlighted the tasks which Douglas has been working on. It was noted that Douglas had been invited to the April Parish Council meeting to meet all Councillors.</p> <p>It was noted that the Handyman work schedule had been updated and a contract had been put in place which would be sent to Douglas with his March payslip.</p>	
<b>2024/049</b>	<b>Ongoing Items</b>	
	<p><b><u>Climate Emergency</u></b> There was nothing further to report.</p> <p><b><u>Safer routes to school</u></b> There was nothing further to report.</p>	
<b>2024/050</b>	<b>Group Reports</b>	
	<p><b><u>Planning &amp; Conservation</u></b> Cllr King referred to the planning report circulated prior to the meeting. The proposed responses to each application were discussed as follows:</p> <p>Application 24/00629/TCA – Elmsleigh, Bathampton Lane. Various tree works in conservation area. A ‘No Objection’ response was proposed.</p> <p>Application 24/00717/FUL – 43 Hantone Hill. Integration of existing garage and car port into internal living space of house and two storey side extension. The planning group suggested a ‘No Objection in principle’ response but to note that onsite parking should be improved and to ask for an improvement in the appearance of the single storey element.</p>	

	<p>Regarding 21/02767/VAR and the issue with the pavements and surrounding area following building works taking place, Cllr Helps noted that BANES planning team had passed her concerns over to the BANES team responsible for pavements to investigate. The Council agreed that something needs to be done to improve the pavement but would await further information from Cllr Helps.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to an application received earlier in the day for 5 Hantone Hill. The Clerk noted that she had requested an extension from BANES for response. It was agreed by the Council that if a response deadline should fall before the April Parish Council meeting, the Council would agree a response via email.</p> <p>The Council unanimously agreed with the suggested responses, and these would be sent to BANES by the Clerk following the meeting.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
	<p><b>Highways</b> Cllr Bash referred to the application for speed detection equipment and highlighted that the Council need to agree a location which would then be stated on the application form. Following a discussion, it was agreed to place it near to the triangular field to capture traffic flow coming out of Bath.</p> <p><b>Footpaths</b> Cllr Beard reported that BANES have budget available to clean up the ditches on the two bridleways and to clean out the drain at the bottom of the bridleway, opposite the Down Lane junction.</p> <p><b>Leisure &amp; Amenities</b> Cllr Helps reported that she would look at the Holcombe Vale trees and report any failed trees to CURO so that replacements could be arranged.</p> <p><b>Policy &amp; Finance</b> There was nothing further to report.</p> <p><b>BPC's Digital Presence</b> There was nothing further to report.</p> <p><b>Canals</b> There was nothing further to report.</p>	<b>RB</b>
<b>2024/051</b>	<p><b>Open Forum</b> The Chair noted that the deadline for content submission for the May Parish Council newsletter was the 19<sup>th</sup> April, being the day after the April Parish Council meeting. Items for inclusion were noted to allow Councillors time to consider or prepare updates for inclusion.</p>	<b>All</b>
<b>2024/052</b>	<b>Date of next meetings.</b> Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2024.	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.36 pm	

**Signed:** .....

**Chair**

**Date:** .....