

**Minutes of Bathford Parish Council Meeting
Monday 18 April 2005, Parish Rooms, Church Street, Bathford**

Present: Councillor Shirley Beazer (Chair)
Councillor Stan Cherry (Vice Chair)
Councillor Peter Ardley
Councillor Maureen Breeze
Councillor Wendy Chambers
Councillor John Lloyd
Councillor Richard Wickham

Also Present: Ruth Holding (Clerk)
Steve Mackerness (see item 5)
1 member of the public

1. Public Five Minutes

1.1. No matters were raised.

2. Apologies

2.1. Apologies were received from Councillor Sally Broadway and Councillor Andy Ginn.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

3.1. The minutes of the last meeting were **agreed**, subject to the following amendments:-

3.1.1. Item 612 – Delete “It was agreed that the Parish Council would make available funds for this study” and replace with “The Council agreed to pay for the planning consent application.”

3.1.2. Item 630 – replace “write” with “contact”

3.2. The minutes were signed as a true record of the proceedings.

4. Matters Arising

4.1. Item 605/570 Mud on Warleigh Lane – following contact with District Councillors to press for action and repeated representations from Councillor Maureen Breeze, the mud had been partially cleared from Warleigh Lane. The job was expected to be completed once B&NES had the appropriate vehicle repaired. The frequency and results of street cleaning in this area would continue to be monitored.

4.2. Freedom of Information Act – the Chair asked the Clerk to chase ALCA for the latest advice about the Freedom of Information Act.

Action: Clerk

5. Co-opt New Non Executive Member

5.1. The Chair read a letter from Steve Mackerness confirming that he was willing to become a co-opted non-executive member of the Planning and Environment Committee. Councillor Jan Hooker proposed and Councillor Stan Cherry seconded. The Council **confirmed** the co-option of Steve Mackerness to the Planning and Environment Committee.

6. Committee Reports

6.1. Amenities Committee

- 6.1.1. Councillor Stan Cherry presented the Amenities Committee monthly report and the following items were considered:-
- 6.1.2. Revised arrangements for collection of allotment rents – the allotment wardens had asked to collect the rents from allotment holders to enable them to keep track of payments and identify early in the season who would be giving up allotments. Under the new system, it was proposed that bills for allotment rents would be issued by the Clerk in September as previously and the rents would then be collected by the allotment wardens and forwarded to the Clerk as soon as possible. The Council **accepted** the revised system for the collection of allotment rents, subject to the wardens issuing proper receipts and ensuring that payments could be matched to the bills sent out by the Clerk.
- 6.1.3. Allotment rent review – last year the revised rents had not been applied correctly and there was some confusion about the amount owed by some allotment holders. Councillor Stan Cherry said that an allotment holders' meeting was to be held on 23 April to discuss rents and rent arrangements. The Council **accepted** that it was appropriate to defer the announcement of revised allotment rents until after that meeting.
- 6.1.4. Scout Hut – the rugby club had queried one clause in the agreement, but it was expected that the document would be signed following the club's committee meeting on 21 April.
- 6.1.5. Playing Field Car Park – Councillor Stan Cherry reported that he had received no reply from Neil Harvey of BANES planning office with regard to a site meeting.
- 6.1.6. Playing Field Benches - Councillor Stan Cherry sought permission to purchase 3 new benches for the playing field from Dartmoor Prison at a cost of £240 each, plus delivery costs of £110 plus VAT. One of the Councillors queried the delivery costs and Councillor Cherry said that this was under negotiation. The expenditure was proposed by Councillor John Lloyd and seconded by Councillor Wendy Chambers. The Council **approved** the motion to purchase 3 new benches.

6.2. Communications Committee

- 6.2.1. Councillor Peter Ardley presented the Communications Committee monthly report and the following items were considered:-
- 6.2.2. Parish Council Website - Councillor Peter Ardley reported that the website www.bathford.net had been launched on 17 April and could now be viewed by the public. Councillor Richard Wickham asked the Clerk to update the e-mail address in the contact list on BANES website.
Action: Clerk
- 6.2.3. Advertising new web address – The Council **agreed** that all correspondence issued in the name of the Parish Council should contain the website address. It was further **agreed** that a notice advertising the new web address would be prepared and a note posted on the Forum in the website created by Kenneth Spencer (www.bathford.org)

Action: Councillor Stan Cherry

- 6.2.4. Development of house style – It was agreed that the Communications Committee should consider the development of a house style for all correspondence and other material issued in the name of the Parish Council.

Action: Communications Committee

6.3. Finance and Administration Committee

- 6.3.1. Councillor Wendy Chambers advised the Council that she would be reporting on the following matters to the Annual Parish Meeting:-

- 6.3.1.1. The Precept for 2005/06 comprised a 5% uplift on the basic precept plus a sum for 2 special projects, firstly the path on the village green and secondly equipment for the parish office;
- 6.3.1.2. the Council had reserves of £21,000, a proportion of which was committed for projects including amenities, the new footbridge and traffic calming;
- 6.3.1.3. the Council would be continuing its search for an alternative location for the Parish Office

6.4. Highways Committee

- 6.4.1. Chair Shirley Beazer presented the Highways Committee monthly report and the following items were considered:-
- 6.4.2. Box Road – The Council noted that the volume/count survey was with the Draft Capital Programme for approval of the resiting of the speed limit to include Box Road Gardens and the result should be known within 2 weeks
- 6.4.3. Warleigh Lane – The Council endorsed the suggestion for a road sign to be sited at approximately the entrance to Warleigh Manor warning large vehicles that road narrows and recommending a maximum weight limit. This sign would be in addition to the existing sign at the Warleigh Lane/A363 junction to remind drivers of the dangers.
Action: Councillor Shirley Beazer
- 6.4.4. Leaning trees on High Street leading to Kingsdown – The Council noted that Alan Sperring had been notified of three dangerously leaning trees and a reply was awaited.
- 6.4.5. Manor Basement – this item is to be removed from the Highways report.
Action: Councillor Shirley Beazer

6.5. Planning and Environment Committee

- 6.5.1. Councillor Jan Hooker presented the Planning and Environment Committee monthly report and the following items were considered:-
- 6.5.2. Planning Applications
- 6.5.2.1. 19 Church Street 05/00955/LBA – the Committee had informed BANES that they had no objection to the work proposed to the rear annex of the building;
- 6.5.2.2. 40 Church Street 05/01034/FUL - the Committee had informed BANES that they had no objection to the work proposed to install solar water heating collectors on the roof of the property;

- 6.5.2.3. 61 High Street 05/00727/LBA - the Committee had informed BANES that they had no objection to the proposed internal and external alterations to create a new bedroom and en-suite bathroom, subject to room sizes meeting building regulations.
- 6.5.2.4. Court Farm 05/0102/FUL – the Committee had informed BANES that they had objections in principle to the proposed new agricultural storage building on the grounds of location and access. The Committee had suggested a site meeting be arranged to which they should be invited to attend.
- 6.5.3. Wall of the Pound – Councillor Jan Hooker reported that John Dando had written to the owners asking why part of the wall had been taken down.
- 6.5.4. Lavington's Yard - Councillor Jan Hooker reported that several large items had been removed from the green field part of the site, but some rubbish remained. It was understood that temporary permission had been granted for storage in the past and Councillor Jan Hooker said that she would obtain a copy to check the whether this permission had lapsed or not.
Action: Councillor Jan Hooker
- 6.5.5. Buffer Zones Around World Heritage Sites – Councillor Jan Hooker announced that work was being done to consider the introduction of buffer zones around World Heritage Sites. More details would be brought to a future meeting.
Action: Councillor Jan Hooker
- 6.5.6. Chapel Row enforcement – Councillor Jan Hooker said that she would speak to District Councillor Tony Cox about enforcement action with regard to the unfinished work at the property in Chapel Row.
Action: Councillor Jan Hooker
- 6.5.7. Councillor Jan Hooker said that the Committee had briefly discussed what planning information should go on the website and would return to this matter at a future meeting.
Action: Planning and Environment Committee

6.6. School Governors Report

- 6.6.1. Councillor Jan Hooker confirmed that the Governors usually met twice per term and they would notify the Parish Council of any matters arising from the meeting which were of interest to the Council.

6.7. Sweeping and Cleansing Committee

- 6.7.1. Chair Shirley Beazer reported that on the recommendation of District Councillor Tony Cox she had contacted District Councillor Ian Dewey about the continuing lack of sweeping and action was now being taken to sweep the path from Ashley Road down to Bybrook Bridge and action taken to remove the mud from Warleigh Lane.

7. **Payments for Approval**

- 7.1. The following accounts were presented and approved for payment:-

7.1.1.	Jefferies Joinery (Notice board)	£760.00
7.1.2.	Misco (Computer equipment)	£491.11
7.1.3.	Misco (Computer equipment)	£742.22
7.1.4.	SWEB (Street lighting)	£ 3.81

7.1.5.	Mr R Wickham (website hosting expenses)	£ 12.00
7.1.6.	Mrs S D Beazer (expenses)	£106.09
7.1.7.	Mrs R C Holding (Clerk's salary)	£233.04
7.1.8.	Somer Housing Trust (room hire)	£ 20.00
7.1.9.	Southern Electric (street light repair)	£ 94.82
7.1.10.	Mr R Millbank (grass cutting)	£300.00

8. Correspondence

- 8.1. Chair Shirley Beazer circulated a letter from the outgoing Clerk, Chris Warner, thanking the Council for his leaving gift.
- 8.2. It was with regret that Councillor Shirley Beazer announced that she had received a letter of resignation from Peter Ardley who was leaving the area. She said that she would be very sorry to see him leave the village and on behalf of the Council thanked Councillor Peter Ardley for his contribution to the work of the Parish Council.
- 8.3. Councillor Peter Ardley said that he would arrange for papers to be handed back to the Council before he left.

9. Items for the Bathford Bulletin

- 9.1. It was agreed that the following items would be notified for inclusion in the Bathford Bulletin:-

- 9.1.1. Thanks to Peter Ardley
- 9.1.2. Call for expressions of interest in becoming a Parish Councillor
- 9.1.3. New website address
Action: Clerk

10. Any Other Business

10.1. Complaint about rise in Bus Fares

- 10.1.1. Chair Shirley Beazer said that she had received a number of complaints about the large increase in the return bus fare from Bathford to Bath. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of complaint to First Bus and the transport department at BANES expressing the Parish Council's objections to this rise.
Action: Clerk

10.2. Items for next meeting

- 10.2.1. Twinning
- 10.2.2. Consideration of questions for cluster meeting
Consideration of questions for Cluster Meeting on Wednesday 6 July 2005 at 6.30pm in the Community Rooms, Mountain Wood, Bathford.

11. Date of next meeting

- 11.1. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7pm, followed by a Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm, on 16 May 2005 in the Community Rooms.