

Bathford Parish Council Communications Committee

Report to Annual Parish Meeting 21 April 2008

In November the Communications Committee split from the Finance committee. This was to allow both committees to focus on their core functions with the finance committee now being able to focus on finance and the communications committee be able to focus on Parish communications.

The first undertaking for the committee was investigate options for 'The Bathford Bulletin'. Of the options looked at and after meetings with interested parties it was decided to bring the production of the Bulletin under the control of the Communications group, which is a committee of interested parties and any member of the Parish who is interested.

To this end we now have an editorial committee that edits the Bulletin in a rota, and a group of proof readers checking for errors. The next stage is to create the Editorial panel. The function of this will be to give guidance on content and editorial decisions.

This Bulletin is now printed professionally. This allows the size and content to be adjusted as demand requires. It will also allow for Colour content and organisations to have full page 'flyers' included at cost.

At this time the financing of the Bulletin is being funded by the Parish Council and it has budgeted for this for the foreseeable future. We are looking at alternative funding methods including sponsorship and advertising.

In line with the launch of the new Bulletin a new website was also launched. This carries stories and articles in greater depth than is possible in the printed version. It also allows the calendar to be published far in advance and avoiding clashes of events.

Other initiatives that are being investigated at this time are relocating the Parish Council notice boards to a more accessible positions and the investigation of the siting of a finger post in a central point in the village directing visitors to locations of interest.

The key aim of the communications committee is to increase and improve communications in the parish and to this end we are always keen to have input from members of the public and are happy to investigate the feasibility of any Idea that is put forward.

Communications Committee
April 2008