

Minutes of Bathford Parish Council Meeting

held on 17th February 2014 at 7.30pm in the Parish Office, Bathford Hill, Bathford

Present:

Councillor Shirley Beazer (Chair)

Councillor Stan Cherry

Councillor David Le Lohé

Councillor John Lloyd

Councillor Maureen Millbank

Councillor Hugh Baker

Councillor Peter Martin

Councillor Richard Wickham

Councillor Wendy Chambers

Clerk: Jon Cooper

1. Public Five Minutes

There were no members of the public present for the start of the meeting. However, at 19.35 Maggie Oliver a parishioner living on the High Street entered the room. She raised the issue of ownership of a boundary wall and associated insurance. It was suggested that the wall was likely to be her responsibility and should be registered with Land Registry. Having received the information she required she left the meeting at 19.57.

2. Apologies for absence

Councillor Peter Boyce

Councillor Susan Barclay

3. Declarations of interest in any item on the agenda

Cllr Stan Cherry stated that he would not vote on the funding of the sight screens for Bathford Cricket Club.

4. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (20th January 2014)

Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting was proposed by Cllr John Lloyd and seconded by Cllr Stan Cherry. The Council resolved to accept the minutes subject to the following change:

6.1.7) 'of' to be replaced by 'or'.

Following that change being agreed the minutes were signed by the Chair as a true record of proceedings.

5. Matters Arising

Councillors reviewed the list of actions from the last meeting. The following matters arising were discussed:

5 - 9.3) Cllr David Le Lohé met with BANES, Stefan Chiffers, regarding landscaping around the footbridge. It was agreed that due to the flooding risk cobbles would be preferential to planting on the North side and BANES said they would look into a proposal for this. It was pointed out on the drawing that the BANES Parks Department have ultimate responsibility for maintaining the area and Stefan Chiffers will raise this with that department.

5 – 11.3) Further discussion was held regarding the best way for the Parish Council to mark, with others, the commemoration of the start of WWI. David Howells from The Bathford Society had produced a document on those who lost their life in the war from the Parish, which he intended to put on their website and it was agreed it would be fitting for this document to be referred to and a list to be included in the July edition of the Bathford Bulletin.

Action: David Le Lohé

An update was also provided by Councillor Wendy Chambers regarding the Jubilee Stone, carving was underway and an improvement in ground conditions due to the wet weather was reported as being required prior to it being placed.

6. Committee Reports

6.1. Amenities

6.1.1. Urgent work to complete a lease for the use of the pavilion by the Cricket Club had been undertaken to support their application for a Sport England grant. It had been agreed the lease would be for 20 years. The lease now needs to go to Land Registry.

6.1.2. Due to flooding, 4 Avonvale rugby matches were reported as having been cancelled.

6.1.3. Following a report of a tree on the playing field blocking access to the rear of 17 Ashley Road, Chris Liversedge of The Garden Business was contacted and undertook the necessary work. He completed this with no cost to The Parish Council, it was requested the Clerk sends a letter of thanks.

Action: The Clerk

6.1.4. It was proposed by Cllr Hugh Baker and seconded by Cllr David Le Lohé that The Parish Council donates £600 to Bathford Cricket Club from the Parish Plans funds for sight screens. The council resolved to make the payment. Cllr Stan Cherry abstained from the vote due to his connection to the club.

Action: The Clerk

6.2. Communications

6.2.1.No Speedwatch sessions had been held due to poor weather.

6.2.2.Cllr Peter Martin proposed a motion to change the text under 'The Bathford Bulletin' on the magazine. Following discussion the motion was withdrawn prior to a vote. It was suggested, amongst other changes, that the Church pages should be moved away from the front 2 as this was causing some confusion into thinking it is a Church publication. It was agreed the best action would be to invite the editor to a communications meeting to obtain her views.

Action: Peter Martin

6.3. Finance and Administration

6.3.1.It was agreed the Finance and Administration Committee would produce a draft agenda for April's APM. The Clerk was requested to send the 2013 APM agenda as a template.

Action: The Clerk & Finance Committee

6.4. Highways

6.4.1.The dislodged finger post at the junction of Church Street and the A363 had been reported to BANES, but no action had been taken by them. A similar situation was reported on the finger post at the top of Warleigh, it had been reported to Wiltshire Council and followed up multiple times but still no action taken.

6.4.2.Advice had been requested from BANES regarding stone walling blocking pavement on the High Street. Concern was noted that the homeowner could be liable for any accidents. David Le Lohé offered to talk to the homeowner.

Action: David Le Lohé

6.4.3.Peter Clark from BANES Highways promised action on the potholes, delays were reported to be due to the booking system used by them.

6.4.4.A request had been received to replace the damaged planter on Dovers Park. It was proposed by Cllr Shirley Beazer and seconded by Cllr Stan Cherry that The Parish Council fund this to the value of £35. The council resolved to make the payment.

6.4.5.Ward Cllr Martin Veal had offered to use £5000 of his Ward Councillor Funding for a VAS sign for the Box Road. Discussions on exact position to take place were scheduled to take place. Tracey Turner, a parishioner with a child at Bathford Primary School, was reported as to be planning a 'walking bus' along the Box Road to the school.

6.4.6.Concerns had been raised about the overhanging ivy on the slipway from Dovers Park to the shop obscuring the street light. The Clerk was requested to write to Biggs Construction to request it was cut back.

Action: The Clerk

6.5. Planning

6.5.1. It was reported that Biggs Construction had been granted planning for their plans at the former Tyndale site.

6.5.2. Curo's housing survey results had been received. They identified a possible need for new housing in the village. It was agreed to invite James Read from Curo and a BANES representative to a planning meeting to discuss the next step which may require further survey work.

Action: Cllr Peter Martin

6.5.3. Village assets and views to be protected were reported as on the agenda for a planning committee meeting, before being presented to full council.

7. School Governors representative report

No items were discussed.

8. Correspondence

8.1. Bathford Bulletins had been delivered to the wrong address causing a delay in their delivery. Julie Ticehurst, the editor, had reported via email that she was in discussion with Corsham Print regarding alternative delivery arrangements

8.2. The Campaign to Protect Rural England had sent requests for support in their recent campaigns. It was agreed that Councillors should reply to these on an individual basis, if they wanted to, rather than as a representative of Bathford Parish Council.

8.3. Jacob Rees-Mogg MP had replied offering support regarding the threatened closure of Batheaston Post Office.

8.4. Cllr David Le Lohé had received and shared an invitation to apply for funding on the 'Bath BID' scheme, he was requested to research what opportunities might be available.

Action: David Le Lohé

9. Items to report

9.1. 2013's APM minutes were distributed and The Finance Committee will produce a draft agenda for 2014. It was confirmed that The Bathford Community Shop manager, Jane Thomas, would be invited to speak along with Cllr Peter Martin on the Placemaker Plan and The Rural Exception Policy in relation to Bathford. The Ward Councillors would also be invited to talk. Invitations for any groups wishing to display would be placed in the Bathford Bulletin along with requests for questions.

Action: The Clerk

9.2. Cllr David Le Lohé reported that following his introduction in the last Bathford Bulletin he had placed 'Walkers are Welcome' declaration of interest notes in the Community Shop, 'The Shed', the hairdressers and The Crown. To date approximately 30 people had signed up. He stated that he was exploring ways of making it self-funding and had contacted other towns applying for the scheme. It was suggested that it should be advertised at the APM and a public meeting would also be held.

10. Items for the 'Bathford Bulletin'

- 10.1. Walkers are Welcome
- 10.2. Invitation for APM agenda written proposals

11. Items for the next meeting

- 11.1. APM agenda and written proposals
- 11.2. Walkers are welcome update
- 11.3. Placemaker plan

12. Payments for approval

- 12.1. Payment of the invoices presented to the council at this meeting was proposed by Cllr Stan Cherry and seconded by Cllr John Lloyd. The Council resolved to make the following payments in February.

Current Account Total – £2785.79

	Description	Sub total	Amount Due
Mr I Suleman	Office rent January 2014 - paid by s/o		£120.00
Mr J Cooper	Clerk Salary		£430.26
Corsham Print Ltd	Bathford Bulletin Printing		£133.00
SLCC Enterprises LTD	Finance Book		£18.20
BANES	Grounds Maintenance - Bathford Recreation Ground 2013		£2,031.91
The Phone C-op Ltd	Telephone and Broadband		£52.42

Wynne Willson Account Total - £48.60

	Description	Sub total	Amount Due
John Lloyd	Grass Seed (replacing cheque 5)		£48.60

Parish Plan Total - £600.00

	Description	Sub total	Amount Due
Bathford Cricket Club	Donation towards purchasing sight screens		£600

13. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 17th March 2014 at 7.30pm in the Parish Office, Bathford Hill, Bathford.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed..... (Chair)

Date.....