

Minutes of Bathford Parish Council Meeting

held on 19th May 2014 at 7.00pm in the Parish Office, Bathford Hill, Bathford

Present:

Councillor Stan Cherry (Chair)
Councillor Hugh Baker
Councillor Susan Barclay
Councillor Wendy Chambers
Councillor David Le Lohé
Councillor John Lloyd
Councillor Maureen Millbank
Councillor Richard Wickham

Co-opted at meeting:

Councillor John Budd

Clerk:

Jon Cooper

Apologies for absence

Councillor Peter Martin

1. Annual Election of Chairman

Cllr Wendy Chambers took the Chair and asked for nominations for the post of Chairman. Cllr Stan Cherry was proposed by Cllr John Lloyd and seconded by Cllr Hugh Baker and unanimously agreed by all present. Cllr Stan Cherry accepted the post and signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman form which was countersigned by The Clerk. There were no other nominations.

2. Annual Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Hugh Baker was proposed by Cllr Stan Cherry and seconded by Cllr Wendy Chambers and unanimously agreed by all present. Cllr Hugh Baker accepted the post and signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office of Vice Chairman form countersigned which was by The Clerk. There were no other nominations.

3. Appointment of Committee members to specific committees.

It was proposed by Cllr Stan Cherry and seconded by Cllr Hugh Baker and unanimously agreed that Committee membership should be as follows:

Highways, Footpaths & Lighting

David Le Lohé
Hugh Baker
Peter Martin
Maureen Millbank
Richard Wickham

Finance & Admin

Susan Barclay
Wendy Chambers
David Le Lohé

Planning and Environment

Hugh Baker
Wendy Chambers
John Lloyd
Peter Martin
Maureen Millbank
Steve Mackerness (co-opted)
Philip Harris (co-opted)
Tony Cox (co-opted)
Shirley Beazer (co-opted)

Amenities

Stan Cherry
Hugh Baker
Wendy Chambers
John Lloyd
Richard Wickham

Communications

Maureen Millbank
Susan Barclay
Wendy Chambers
David Le Lohé
Peter Martin

It was suggested that Chair of each committee should be agreed at its next meeting which should be held within a month.

4. Appointment of representatives to the following committees:

School Governor Liaison – Cllr Susan Barclay.

Parish Hall Management Committee – Cllr Susan Barclay.

Neighbourhood Watch – it would be confirmed if this role was still being carried out by Sam Pearce Kearney.

5. Proposed Co-option of New Councillor

John Budd gave a resume of his background and reasons for wanting to join the Council. He was proposed to be co-opted as a new Councillor by Cllr Hugh Baker and seconded by Cllr Maureen Millbank and unanimously agreed by all present. Cllr John Budd accepted the post and signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office form which was countersigned by The Clerk.

6. Public Five Minutes

Lynn Derrick, the Vice Chair of the Bathford Royal British Legion Club, requested the Parish Council's support in registering the club premises as a community asset. This would allow them to be informed and then have six months to purchase should any attempt to sell the property by its owner. Grants of up to £250K are available for this, making it a viable scheme. Currently the land is owned by Bathford RBL but the building has recently moved into the ownership of the Central RBL organisation who have been selling some clubs around the country for development now their main income stream is remembrance poppies. The future plans of the club were outlined, whereby a rebranding would take place to 'The Village Club' to highlight that it is open to all not just ex-service personnel. A launch day would be announced in due course to highlight this change.

Lynn Derrick left the meeting at 7.35pm

The Parish Council discussed the suggested scheme which was supported in principle. Prior to the discussion Cllr Stan Cherry, Cllr Hugh Baker and Cllr Richard Wickham all declared an interest by being members of the Bathford RBL. Cllr Peter Martin offered to follow up and to contact the village hall. It was suggested this scheme could also be useful to the pub and shop too.

Action: Cllr Peter Martin

The residents of Rock House attended in an attempt to gain more information about the proposed development at Titan Cottage and its effect on the bridleway. Cllr Stan Cherry had researched this prior to the meeting and discovered that BANES had wanted to

tarmac the first 20m of the bridleway but this was not possible without the permission of Rock House as they have a right of ownership over the track as far as their garage. This had led to the sale of Titan Cottage not being completed. It was suggested as they have the rights of access already they await any further contact from BANES or other interested parties.

7. Declarations of interest in any item on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest stated.

8. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (14th April 2014)

Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting was proposed by Cllr Wendy Chambers and seconded by Cllr John Lloyd. The Council resolved to accept the minutes.

(Cllr John Budd left the meeting at 7.55pm)

9. Matters Arising

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

6.2.2) Arrange a meeting with Julie Ticehurst regarding changes to the Bulletin, Cllr Peter Martin arranged for her to attend the June Parish Council meeting where all items can be discussed.

8.4) Research options for using Bath BID funding, Cllr David Le Lohé discovered that we had missed the deadline for applying to this directly but BANES had a proposed list of projects which he would attempt to obtain details to report at a future meeting. It was stated that the funds would not be available until 2016 with any work due to be completed by 2020.

9.3) Update photographs and register of members interests on Parish Council website – Cllr Hugh Baker took photographs for upload at the end of the meeting and Cllr Richard Wickham would update the website.

Action: Cllr Richard Wickham

10. Committee Reports

10.1. Amenities

10.1.1. The play area safety report had been received with the wrong address, Jane Robson from BANES had been contacted and she will reissue a corrected version.

10.1.2. The playing field had been rolled and seeded with help from De La Rue volunteers, letter of thanks to be sent for this assistance.

Action: The Clerk

10.1.3. Following a plot holders meeting, allotment deposits would now be increased to £35 from £25 for new plot holders.

10.1.4. A parishioner had complained about the safety of the play area. While some minor repairs were scheduled no safety issues had been highlighted in the recent report from BANES.

10.1.5. A request had been received from a person interested in purchasing the house backing onto the allotments. She had asked if it would be possible to purchase one of the Parish Council owned allotments for use as a private garden. It was noted there were regulations protecting them, however, it was put to the vote for confirmation of the Parish Council's wishes. It was unanimously agreed and the Council resolved to refuse this request. Clerk to inform the potential purchaser of the decision.

Action: The Clerk

10.2. **Communications**

10.2.1. Cllr Wendy Chambers provided an update on the Jubilee Stone, the diamond was in the process of being inlaid. It was suggested that The Chronicle should be contacted to cover its official placing.

10.3. **Finance and Administration**

10.3.1. Approval for Parish Council spending under the Local Government Act 1972 - for 'a Power of local authorities to incur expenditure for certain purposes not otherwise authorised', was proposed by Cllr Stan Cherry and seconded by Cllr Wendy Chambers. This was unanimously passed and the Council resolved to make the payments in relation to the retirement of Shirley Beazer. Cllr Wendy Chambers reported that a security chain for the gift was still to be purchased under this authority.

10.3.2. The Clerk was requested to investigate internet banking options which retain the security of 2 Councillors being required to authorise payments.

Action: The Clerk

10.4. **Highways**

10.4.1. Cllr Wendy Chambers had arranged a meeting with Denise Hart from BANES to try to establish responsibility for the trees on Warleigh Lane and Ferry Lane. A number of these are overgrown and forcing large vehicles into the middle of the road.

10.4.2. It was reported that sections of Box Road was scheduled to be closed for five days from 9th June for resurfacing by BANES.

10.5. Planning

- 10.5.1. BANES were reported as attempting to move to electronic planning applications to save money, it was noted larger applications could be more difficult to assess purely on a screen.

11. School Governors representative report

There were no items to report.

12. Correspondence

- 12.1. Bathford Flower Show requested a donation towards the allotment prizes, an agreement in principle was reached, a formal vote would be placed on next month's agenda.
- 12.2. Western Power Distribution had provided a 'power cut kit' with items deemed to be useful in such a situation.
- 12.3. Shirley Beazer's resignation letter had been received and reluctantly accepted.

13. Items to report

- 13.1. The traffic calming point at the top of Bathford Hill had been blocked by a skip.
- 13.2. The stone wall on Bathford Hill continues to repeatedly be built and rebuilt.
- 13.3. The base for the Box Road bus shelter had been completed and the shelter itself was scheduled to be installed imminently.
- 13.4. Energy certificates now required for public building over 250m² however, none are currently owned by the Parish Council.

14. Items for the 'Bathford Bulletin'

- 14.1. New Chair and Vice Chair of Parish Council.
- 14.2. Co-opton of John Budd as a Councillor.
- 14.3. Inform Julie Ticehurst of intention to list those fallen during WWI from the Parish in the July edition.

15. Items for the next meeting

- 15.1. Year End Accounts and Governance Statement

16. Payments for approval

16.1. Payment of the invoices presented to the council at this meeting was proposed by Cllr Stan Cherry and seconded by Cllr Hugh Baker. The Council resolved to make the following payments.

Current Account

	Description	Sub total	Amount Due
Mr I Suleman	Office rent - paid by s/o		£125.00
Cash	Petty Cash for flowers and electricity (Paid in advance of meeting)		£150.00
Cllr Wendy Chambers	Shirley's Gift	£99.99	£255.79
	APM Food	£8.20	
	Engraver plate for stone	£147.60	
Nash Palmer	Plants		£24.65
Office Depot	Printer Paper & Laminating Pouches		£50.84
EDF Energy	Manor Basement Electricity		£6.60
Cllr Richard Wickham	Web hosting		£22.99
Roger Millbank	Grass cutting for village		£180.00
Corsham Print	Bulletin Printing		£133.00
SLCC	Ilca Training Course Fee		£118.80
J Cooper	Clerk's Salary		£433.00
Phone Co-op	Telephone & Broadband		£24.98
Broker Network Ltd	Insurance Renewal		£818.62
Society of Local Council Clerks	SLCC Membership		£101.00
Bathford RBL	Shirley's Leaving Event		£187.78
Total			£2633.05

Wynne Willson Account

	Description	Sub total	Amount Due
Tom Ledbury	Mowing of Wynne Willson Playing Field		£235.20
Roger Millbank	Grass cutting for 'rec'		£210.00
Total			£445.20

17. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 16th June at 7.30pm in the Parish Office, Bathford Hill, Bathford.

The meeting closed at 9.06pm

Signed..... (Chair)

Date.....