

**Minutes of Bathford Parish Council Meeting held in The Parish Office, Bathford Hill,
Bathford on 19th January 2015 at 7.30pm**

Present:

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

Clerk: Jon Cooper

1. Public Five Minutes

Alex Simpkin and Anthony Carroll, both residents of Morris Close, attended the meeting to highlight a problem that mail had regularly been incorrectly delivered to Morris Close and Morris Lane, with one getting the other's items. This had led to inconvenience and the near loss of valuable items. Alex Simpkin had gained the support of all residents of Morris Close to amend the name of the road to Bathampton View. This had been confirmed as an acceptable change by Lyn Parfitt, BANES Street Naming Officer, and had the support of Batheaston Parish Council and the local Ward Councillors.

Bathford Parish Council's support of the road name change from Morris Close to Bathampton View was proposed by Cllr Stan Cherry and seconded by Cllr Hugh Baker. The Council resolved to support the amendment. The Clerk was requested to inform Lyn Parfitt of their decision.

Action: The Clerk

2. Apologies for absence

Councillor John Budd

3. Declarations of interest in any item on the agenda

No declarations of interest were stated.

4. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (17th November 2014)

A number of typographical errors were raised and corrected. Once corrected, acceptance of the minutes from the last meeting was proposed by Cllr Wendy Chambers and seconded by Cllr Hugh Baker. The Council resolved to accept the minutes.

5. Matters Arising

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

6.1.5) Place new dog waste signs – Cllr David Le Lohé had put up five new signs, metal ones had been placed by Avonvale Rugby Club, on the green near Bathford Manor and on Birdcage Walk where two further laminated signs had also been situated.

6. Committee Reports

6.1. Amenities

6.1.1. Bathford Cricket Club had received a grant from Sport England which would help to purchase items for the sports pavilion.

6.1.2. The logs from the felled trees on the playing field were to be removed when the ground was firmer to avoid damage to the field.

6.1.3. Avonvale Rugby Club was reported to be undertaking work at the end of the rugby season to improve the area in front of the Scout Hut. Bathford Parish Council would provide the necessary materials for this.

6.1.4. Several councillors reported that they had received complaints about a large inappropriate structure that had been erected within the allotments. The Amenities Committee will discuss the best course of action at their next meeting.

Action: Amenities Committee

6.2. Communications

6.2.1. The Jubilee Stone had been put into position with a corresponding photograph and article circulated to The Bath Chronicle, The Bathford Bulletin, The Wiltshire Times and The Local Look. A second engraved diamond was being prepared in order that there would be one on both sides of the stone.

6.3. Finance and Administration

6.3.1. The proposed budget for 2015 – 2016 was circulated. No changes since the last meeting had been requested; therefore the required precept remained at £16,884. Cllr Wendy Chambers proposed and Cllr David Le Lohé seconded that the 2015 – 2016 budget be confirmed. The Council unanimously resolved to approve the budget. Clerk to return the precept form to BANES.

Action: The Clerk

6.3.2. Amendments to the Standing Orders of the Parish Council were discussed to make provision for the use of internet banking. Standing orders and direct debits would retain the security of two authorised members being required to approve any payments. Cllr Wendy Chambers proposed and Cllr Hugh Baker seconded that the Standing Orders be amended. The Council unanimously resolved to approve this change. Clerk to amend the Standing Orders as agreed.

Action: The Clerk

6.3.3. The Clerk met with Tracey Benson from Curo at Bathford Manor. A fire alarm contractor had forced access to the basement corridor so the locks had needed to be changed and the Parish Council could no longer gain entry to the archive room. New keys were obtained but Tracey Benson stated that Curo are reviewing arrangements like this. The Parish Council would await any further information from Curo but have a licence that has been in place since 1975.

6.4. Highways

6.4.1. Cllr Stan Cherry reported that the chevron road sign for the bend on the approach to Bathford from Kingsdown was currently facing the wrong way.

Action: Cllr David Le Lohé

6.4.2. A new volunteer litter picker for Eastwoods had been recruited. Further litter issues of fly tipping were reported at the lay-bys near Sally in the Woods and on the Box Road, as well as instances on the A363 near The Crown.

6.4.3. The bus shelter for the Box Road had been installed although it had already been vandalised with the glass scratched. The footpath along that stretch of road was reported as being overgrown and covered in vegetation.

6.4.4. The VAS on A4 Box Road had been installed. Following representations BANES had agreed to investigate the possibility of placing an extra socket nearer to Eastwoods so that there would be the facility to move the VAS between the two locations

6.4.5. The owner of the land around the Pound Wall had erected gates and fencing. It was suspected that planning permission would be needed for this and access would be required by the Environment Agency. The owner, speaking to Councillor Martin, had also seemed to question the validity of access to the footpath alongside the train line although this has been in use since 1840 and is a designated Public Right of Way. The wall had still not been repaired with the owner claiming that the stone had been stolen and that he would purchase new materials and that he planned to address the Parish Council at a future meeting to outline his plans. Planning control had been notified and confirmed that they would be visiting the site in the near future.

6.4.6. The Real Time Information feature was scheduled to be installed on the Dovers Park bus stop next to the stone shelter soon so that it could be viewed through the glass window. Cllr David Le Lohé was in contact with BANES about

reusing the existing location nearer the current timetables although BANES stated that their intended position had been agreed previously with the Parish Council. Clerk was requested to locate the correspondence agreeing to this.

Action: The Clerk

6.4.7. It was proposed by Cllr Peter Martin and seconded by Cllr Andy Ginn that the footpath connecting Meadow Park to Box Road by the Sports Clinic be given a name to avoid confusion as to its location. The Council unanimously resolved to approve this. A consultation requesting residents suggested names for the path would be published in the Bathford Bulletin.

6.4.8. Cllr Wendy Chambers reported the mirror opposite Warleigh Lane was covered in vegetation again.

6.4.9. The garden wall on the end of Church Street was reported to be covered in ivy which was blocking the sight lines when pulling out onto the A363.

Action: Cllr Maureen Millbank

6.4.10. Cllr David Le Lohé said that the previously proposed Walkers are Welcome scheme would not be pursued for Bathford as it was felt that the village was too small, not enough businesses would benefit, there had been some concerns raised about parking and no individuals outside the Parish Council had come forward to run the scheme. However some of the schemes recommendations are currently being followed with improvements to footpaths and over time a number of recommended walks should be written and published on the website. Cllr David Le Lohé to communicate this via the Bathford Bulletin.

Action: Cllr David Le Lohé

6.4.11. Cllr John Lloyd thought that the problem of water on the road alongside Sally in the Woods causing patches of ice to form in the cold weather resulting in dangerous driving conditions still remained. Cllr David Le Lohé said that as in his written report BANES had done work there which was thought to clear the situation; however he will investigate again. A similar problem was also reported in Upper Shockerwick.

Action: Cllr David Le Lohé

6.4.12. The recent Parish on Line mapping seminar attended by Councillors showed many updated benefits of the system. Cllr Richard Wickham quoted the example of the Environment Agency having a number of free tools publically available online highlighting flood risks and water levels.

6.5. Planning

6.5.1. The applications at 11 Garstons, 26 Ashley Road, 106 High Street and 4 Titan Barrow had all been approved by BANES, despite the latter of these having been objected to by the Parish Council.

6.5.2. Cllr Peter Martin provided an update on the Placemaker Plan. He was due to meet Julie O'Rourke of BANES on the 28th January to highlight the areas to be suggested for protection under the Green Space Designation. Suggested areas to be included in this were the village green, the area in front of Bathford Manor and the rugby pitch opposite The Crown. As the rugby pitch field was owned by De La Rue it was suggested that they should be contacted first to obtain their agreement.

Action: Cllr Peter Martin

6.5.3. No areas had currently been designated for future development in Bathford.

7. School Governors representative report

7.1. The next Governors meeting was scheduled for 3rd February and Cllr Susan Barclay was hoping to attend.

7.2. Mr Stone, the Headteacher of Bathford Primary School, had been due to meet three councillors on the 9th January. Upon arrival they were informed this meeting was not to take place due to staff sickness. A new date would be organised.

Action: Cllr Susan Barclay

7.3. The School had enquired about help with funding towards a gate to the lower field. Mr Stone had been informed this request would need to be in writing. He had informed the Clerk he intended to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss this issue.

8. Correspondence

8.1. BANES had requested responses to a consultation on amplified music in Bath City Centre. As this does not directly affect Bathford, the Parish Council would not forward a response however, councillors were made aware of the consultation should they want to respond individually.

8.2. Deborah White from the Avon Local Councils Association requested that the Parish Council send a pro forma response to a local government financial settlement consultation. Whilst the response was sent on behalf of Bathford Parish Council, it was felt the timescales were inappropriate given that the email was received the day before the deadline for contributions.

9. Items to report

9.1. Cllr David Le Lohé reported that the Avon Wildlife Trust will be employing a contractor, with heavy equipment, to remove larger trees at Brownes Folly Nature Reserve sometime during the next few months in addition to their normal Monday Voluntary Work Parties.

10. Items for the 'Bathford Bulletin'

No further items were proposed for inclusion in The Bathford Bulletin.

11. Items for the next meeting

- 11.1. Election Procedures
- 11.2. Planning for 2015 Annual Parish Meeting

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 Hugh Baker. The Council resolved to make the following payments.

Current Account

Description	Amount Due
Mr I Suleman - Office rent (paid by s/o)	£125.00
J Cooper - Clerk's Salary (November)	£433.33
J Cooper - Clerk's Salary (December)	£442.00
Corsham Print - Bulletin Printing (December)	£133.00
Corsham Print - Bulletin Printing (January)	£133.00
The Phone Co-op (December)	£28.46
The Phone Co-op (January)	£32.28
SSE - Manor Electricity	£38.08
Office Depot - folders & printer paper	£24.35
Simon Hodgson - shop Christmas tree	£30.00
EDF Energy (September to January)	£107.60
Bathford PCC - Youth Club donation	£1,000.00
Hugh Baker - mileage expenses	£55.00
The Manchester Rubber Stamp Co Ltd - Jubilee Stone engraving*	£159.60
Total	£2,741.70

*This payment was amended from the sheet that was circulated at the meeting showing the payment would be made to Cllr Wendy Chambers. The payment was made directly to the supplier.

Wynne Willson Account

Description	Amount Due
R J Sully & Son - Rolling of playing field	£96.00
Total	£96.00

Allotment Account

Description	Amount Due
R J Sully & Son - Hedge trimming of allotment hedge	£96.00
Total	£96.00

13. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 16th February 2015 at 7.30pm in the Parish Office, Bathford Hill, Bathford.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed..... (Chair)

Date.....