Batheaston Parish - Annual Meeting of Electors

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors in Batheaston Parish on Tuesday 10th May 2022 in the Rhymes Pavilion

1. Introduction and Welcome

Cllr Hannah Squire who is Parish Council Chair chaired the meeting.

She made clear that it is not a Parish Council meeting, but that it is traditional for the Parish Council Chair to chair this meeting.

She noted that the turn-out this year, 11 residents, in marked contrast to last year which had reached the limit of 100 people attending (it was held online due to lockdown restrictions in place at the time).

2. Update on Parish Council Activity

Parish Councillors updated the meeting on the Playground Refurbishment. The current phase had had to be undertaken to ensure that the Council accessed nearly £19,000 of Section 106 funding held by Bath and North East Somerset Council. The focus of the work has been on urgent repairs and safety issues and is expected to conclude in early June.

The Council then expects to begin work on the next phase of refurbishing the Playground and will welcome ideas and participation of all residents.

A number of the ca. 25 street lights have been repaired and upgraded over recent months, including those around the playground, and in the Riverside. The Clerk mentioned that he is currently procuring new electricity contracts to both reduce cost and the carbon cost. It was noted that BANES are reluctant to take responsibility for Parish Council lights.

There was an update from the Riverside Working Group, which is one of the "jewels in the crown": the Secret Garden and the new Forest Garden, which Grow Batheaston has established, are very much appreciated by residents and visitors alike. The Working Group are looking at options to make better use of the Toilet Block, although there are constraints on what is allowed.

3. Upcoming events

Cllr Squire said that planning is underway for a Street Party on the High Street and in the Riverside on Sunday 5th June to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of HRH Queen Elizabeth II.

Others mentioned the "Meadowfest" for the Friends of Batheaston School on 21st June, and the Church Fete on 25th June.

4. Council Budget and the Precept

The Clerk gave a very brief overview of how the Parish Council is funded, and where the money goes.

The Chair thanked all for coming and closed the meeting.

Richard Maccabee, Parish Clerk