

Batheaston Parish Council

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Batheaston Parish Council held at 7pm on Tuesday 9th March 2021

Present: Councillors Hannah Squire (Chair), Derek Greener, Alison James,
James Jeffery, Andrew Lea, Tamsin May, Catherine McCarthy,
Alexis Pavlou, Sue Peachey.

In attendance: Richard Maccabee (Clerk).

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. There were no apologies.
 - 1.1. Cllr Squire **noted the resignations** of Cllrs Denny, Skarset, and Vandesteen. She expressed great regret at these resignations of Councillors, who had great potential to contribute and in the case of Cllr Vandesteen had worked tirelessly over the past couple of years.
2. There were **no declarations of interest**.
3. **Public Participation.**
 - 3.1. Grow Batheaston
 - 3.1.1. A representative of Grow Batheaston gave an update on their plans to establish a Community Store. They have secured funding from the Plunkett Foundation. She indicated that they plan now to purchase a mobile unit.
 - 3.1.2. She reiterated their request for a Councillor to be appointed as liaison person for Grow Batheaston.
4. **Minutes of previous meetings**
 - 4.1. **Council approved** the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 26th January 2021.
 - 4.2. **Council approved** the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 23rd February 2021.

VILLAGE MATTERS

5. **Riverside Area**
 - 5.1. Cllr Lea presented a draft terms of reference for a Working Group for the Riverside.
 - 5.1.1. He described how important this space is for the village, and how this will become even more the case in the future, as the National Trust takes over oversight of the Bathford Meadows.
 - 5.1.2. Some of the previous developments and ideas were discussed.
 - 5.1.3. It was noted that Cllr Lea is already leading the extremely important Playground Working Group. Cllr James volunteered to lead the group.
 - 5.1.4. Cllrs Lea and Greener volunteered to join the group.
 - 5.1.5. **Council approved** an amendment to the terms of reference to replace Cllr Lea with Cllr James as lead.
 - 5.1.6. **Council approved** the amended motion.



6. Climate Emergency

- 6.1. Cllr Peachey gave a verbal report on ideas generated from an informal meeting concerning Climate Emergency and related matters on 16th February 2021.
- 6.1.1. The Council could seek to establish a Car Club, to help to reduce travel by car.
 - 6.1.2. A car charging point could be installed, ideally in a central location.
 - 6.1.3. In respect of parking problems; they propose to liaise with the owner of the car park behind the George and Dragon public house to provide more car parking space.
 - 6.1.4. The Parish Council could establish residential car parking permits for some parts of the village.
 - 6.1.5. To purchase a thermal imaging camera to be used to advise residents of draughts and other problems regarding insulation of homes.
- 6.2. Councillors commented:
- 6.2.1. It was noted that there was significant overlap with Parking, and the possibility of the two Working Groups collaborating on these issues of overlap.
 - 6.2.2. Another opportunity to reduce the Council's carbon footprint is to convert our streetlights to latest LED technology, which is more efficient.
 - 6.2.3. Cllr Lea commented that he is in discussion with BANES Council about the provision of electric bikes. He also indicated that it may be possible in future for the coverage of electric scooters to be extended to the Parish.
- 6.3. **The Council resolved** to support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill ("CEE bill").

7. Elmhurst Playground

- 7.1. Cllr Lea introduced the proposed Terms of Reference for a Working Group for the Batheaston Playground Community Group.
- 7.1.1. He indicated that he envisages significant involvement from members of the community. The document identifies two stages for the Working Group as follows.
 - 7.1.2. The first part will be the time-limited project to upgrade the Playground.
 - 7.1.3. The second stage is much longer term. This entails widespread community involvement in the on-going general maintenance of the Playground, and in directing and supporting the continuing development of the facility.
- 7.2. **Council approved** the Terms of Reference for a Working Group for the Batheaston Playground Community Group.

8. Communications and Engagement

- 8.1. Cllr May gave a verbal report on behalf of the Communications and Engagement Group
- 8.1.1. She commented that the Council now has a new website, and encouraged Cllrs to provide content.
 - 8.1.2. She indicated that work is yet to be done to improve the use of the Council's social media accounts.



8.1.3. There is the possibility of providing and distributing a newsletter, perhaps along the lines of the bulletin produced by Bathford Parish Council.

8.2. **Council resolved** that all Councillors will contribute information and news, and support the full establishment of the Communications Channels.

8.3. **Council approved** Cllr May to oversee the development of a newsletter to be distributed to all households as soon as is practicable.

8.3.1. Council considered a motion to nominate a Councillor to liaise with Grow Batheaston regarding its Community Store initiative, to determine its feasibility.

8.3.2. **Council approved** a motion to amend the motion, to extend the scope of the role to encompass all aspects of collaboration with Grow Batheaston: "to nominate a Cllr to liaise with Grow Batheaston".

8.3.3. **Council approved** Cllr Pavlou to liaise with Grow Batheaston.

9. Budget Options

9.1. This item was deferred as Cllr Vandesteen had resigned since the agenda was distributed.

10. Grants to Community Groups

10.1. Cllr McCarthy presented a motion to award a grant of £500 to the Cotswold Wardens.

10.2. **Council resolved** to award a grant of £500 to the Cotswold Wardens.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

11. To receive a report from Finance Committee meeting of 9th February 2021

11.1. This item was deferred as Cllr Vandesteen had resigned since the agenda was distributed.

12. **Council resolved** to nominate Cllr Jeffery to join the Finance Committee

13. **Council resolved** to elect Cllr Greener as Chairman for the Finance Committee.

STANDING ITEMS AND REPORTS

14. Planning Applications

14.1. To review the following planning application from Bath and North East Somerset Council:

14.1.1. Council resolved **not to oppose** Planning Application 21/00761/FUL

14.2. **Council noted** the following decision on planning applications have been notified by Bath and North East Somerset Council

14.2.1. To permit Planning Application, 21/00110/FUL.

14.2.2. **Council noted** that it had resolved not to oppose this application.

15. Clerk's Report

15.1. The Clerk apologised that he had not been able to submit a written report. He commented that:

15.1.1. He intended to call an Annual Parish Meeting, as requested by a group of residents for the evening of Wednesday 24th March 2021.

15.1.2. He also noted that the recent resignations had direct impact on the Panel for the Complaint against the Council. He noted however that since the number of Councillors had reduced from 5 to 3, and was thus still an odd number, that it could go ahead.

16. Chairman's report.

16.1. Cllr Squire indicated that she had nothing to add to her comments made at the start of the meeting.

17. Ward Councillors' Update.

17.1. No Ward Councillors were present.

Meeting Closed 8:07pm

Upcoming Meetings:-

Finance Committee Meeting, on Tuesday 9th March 2021
Parish Council Meeting, 7:15pm on Tuesday 23rd March 2021
Council meetings are open to the public, and members of the public are welcome to join and may speak by invitation.

Signed by Cllr Hannah Squire, Chair of Council:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hannah Squire'.A small, stylized handwritten mark or signature in black ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page.