

Batheaston Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of Batheaston Parish Council
held at 7:15pm on Tuesday 30th November 2021, at the Rhymes Pavilion.**

**Present: Councillors Hannah Squire (Chair of Council), Peter Bryant,
Shannon Carr-Shand, Peter Lewis, Catherine McCarthy,
Alexis Pavlou, Sue Peachey.**

In attendance: Richard Maccabee (Clerk).

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. There was no **public participation**
2. There were **no apologies for absence**.
 - 2.1. **Cllr Squire noted** the resignation of Cllr James and thanked her for the work that she had done for the community.
 - 2.2. She welcomed **new Councillors**, Shannon Carr-Shand and Peter Lewis.
3. There were no **declarations of interest** from Councillors.
4. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**
 - 4.1. The Clerk again apologised for the delay in providing the draft minutes of the meeting of Council held on 23rd March 2021 and asked that this item be **deferred**.
 - 4.2. **Council approved** the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 15th November 2021.

VILLAGE MATTERS

5. Playground Working Group

- 5.1. **Council received** a report from the Clerk outlining the detail of the first phase of enhancement, including the contract with the approved supplier.
 - 5.1.1. He commented that the supplier is confident that installation will be completed in January.
- 5.2. Cllr Pavlou gave a verbal update regarding subsequent phases of the project to improve the Playground, which has not started in earnest, awaiting the detail of the first phase. Now that this has been finalised, work will start on the three strands: Design group, which Cllr Bryant will lead, collaborating with a group of residents; Procurement and Communications.

6. Riverside Working Group

- 6.1. **Council noted** that there is now no lead Councillor for this Working Group, as Cllr James has resigned.
 - 6.1.1. Cllr Squire suggested that this group could be combined with the Car Park Working Group. It was agreed that this should be considered in the New Year.
- 6.2. **Council approved** an agreement for the establishment of a Forest Garden in the northern quadrant of the Secret Garden.

7. Parking Working Group

7.1. **Council received** a report from the Clerk on progress of actions agreed at the Council meeting of 14th October 2021.

7.1.1. He noted that specialist consultants, recommended by BANES, have offered to have an initial call with Councillors, to advise on the process of progressing the actions. The Clerk will arrange.

Clerk

7.1.2. It was noted that the lights on the Car Park are not functioning correctly. The Clerk is addressing this with BANES and Volker Highways.

8. Grow Batheaston Liaison (Cllr Pavlou)

8.1. Cllr Pavlou gave a short verbal report on collaboration with Grow Batheaston. The main point to note that it is going through the process of registering as a charity.

9. Highways

9.1. Cllr McCarthy gave a verbal report on Highways matters. She highlighted:

9.1.1. BANES are commencing a "Liveable Neighbourhood" project is commencing for the area around Morris Lane and Bannerdown. A similar project is expected to follow for the Elmhurst Estate.

9.1.2. There has been a particular problem with the build-up of leaves on pavements in the centre of the village since the Handyman has been on leave. Now that he is back at work, he is addressing these as a matter of priority.

9.1.3. She was pleased to report that the drain had been fixed very quickly at Seven Acres Lane.

9.2. **The Clerk** noted that it is hoped that the streetlights on School Lane, Muddy Lane and around the Playground will be upgraded and repaired in the next couple of weeks. He and Cllr McCarthy have been in frequent contact with Officers at BANES and Volker, to impress upon them the urgency of this work.

FINANCE MATTERS

10. Community Grants

10.1. **Council deferred** consideration of the award of a grant to Batheaston Youth Club, which was not received in time for the meeting.

11. Audit Action Plan

11.1. **Council deferred** a report from the Clerk.

12. Finance Update

12.1. **Council received** a verbal report from the Clerk, indicating that broadly speaking finances are following the budget.

12.1.1. It was noted that the cost of the upgrade of the streetlights around the Playground (item 9.2, above), was not specifically budgeted but had been anticipated as one of the contingency items.

12.2. **Council received** a report from the Clerk outlining the process for the preparation of the Precept for 2022/23.

12.2.1. The clerk noted that the deadline for submission of the Precept figure to BANES meant that the Council would need to approve definitively its figures at its January meeting.

12.2.2. It was noted that the paper did not refer to the preparation of a budget. The Clerk will add this to the briefing paper.

Clerk

12.3. Council approved a proposal to establish a dedicated reserve fund for the Playground Project. The Clerk will action this.

Clerk

GOVERNANCE MATTERS

13. Co-option Policy

13.1. Council deferred a new policy for Co-opting Councillors.

14. Human Resources (HR) Committee

14.1. The Clerk commented that the Committee will meet for the first time on 14th December.

14.2. A suggestion was made that it should consider a small bonus for staff to mark Christmas, and to thank them for their work and perseverance during another difficult year.

Clerk

STANDING ITEMS AND REPORTS

15. Planning Applications

15.1. Council reviewed planning applications from Bath and North East Somerset Council.

15.1.1. It was noted that Application Number: 21/04075/FUL had already been permitted by BANES

15.1.2. Council resolved not to oppose the following applications:

Reference Number: 21/04427/FUL

Reference Number: 21/04428/LBA

Reference Number: 21/04946/TCA

Reference Number: 21/05017/FUL

Reference Number: 21/05018/LBA

Reference Number: 21/05201/TPO.

15.2. Council noted decisions on planning applications notified by Bath and North East Somerset Council, as follows:

Reference Number: 21/03889/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

Reference Number: 21/04018/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

Reference Number: 21/04126/TCA; Decision: No Objection

Reference Number: 21/03092/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

Reference Number: 21/04102/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

Reference Number: 21/04058/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

Reference Number: 21/01342/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

Reference Number: 21/04269/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

Reference Number: 21/04075/FUL; Decision: PERMIT

15.3. Council noted that an appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the enforcement notice 21/00091/UNDEV, concerning the erection of a building without planning permission at Parcel 0096, Ramscombe Lane, Batheaston.

15.4. Council noted that the appeal to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the refusal of planning application reference, 21/00411/FUL, at Eagle Farm House Northend Batheaston has been dismissed.

16. Clerks Report

16.1. The Clerk gave a short verbal report.

16.1.1. **Council approved** the proposal of a competition for children at the Primary School to design a new logo for the Council, and to instruct the Clerk to liaise with the headteacher, to bring a proposal to a future meeting of Council.

Clerk

16.1.2. **Council deferred** proposals for a tree survey.

17. To receive an oral report from the Chairman.

17.1. Cllr Squire noted that she and the Clerk had attended a meeting of village groups, which had been a useful opportunity to share information, and that she hopes will be the basis for closer collaboration.

17.1.1. **Council noted** the plan for switching on the Christmas lights on Saturday, 4th December at 6 pm.

17.1.2. Cllr McCarthy outlined the plans to include mince pies and mulled wines.

17.1.3. The Clerk will add an agenda item for the next meeting regarding the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with a view to establishing a Working Group to coordinate celebrations.

Clerk

Meeting closed at 8:49

Upcoming Meetings: -

7:15pm, Tuesday 18th January 2022

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:

Date: