Batheaston Parish Council – Council Meeting 28th July 2022
Clerk's Report

Summary

This has been another exceptionally busy month, with a large number of incidents arising, and quite a high level of contact from residents. As reported in the Finance Report, I have devoted quite a lot of time to improving financial processes, with the aim of starting the year (albeit 4 months late!) on a sound footing.

Playground Project

A separate report is provided at Item 8.2.

A child was injured on the skate ramp on 22nd July. A piece of loose metal lodged under her fingernail, and she needed hospital treatment to have it removed. The ramp was not included in the recent urgent upgrades, as it had received a green traffic light / low risk rating from the respective external inspectors (quarterly and annually). I will seek professional advice on the possibility of carrying out repairs, pending its replacement as part of the Project (see paper under Item 8.2)

Facilities

We have had a number of incidents regarding our facilities in the past month:

- There have been problems accessing the Changing Rooms in the Basement of the Rhymes Pavilion, as the door sticks, and cannot easily be opened. I will be seeking a reasonably long-term resolution to this long-standing problem, but it reinforces the need for us to review the future of this building, as has been mentioned before.
- The door of the garage that we rent from CURO broke, and could not be closed securely. This is used to store expensive power tools and other equipment and was therefore in need of urgent repair. CURO offered a date in September to undertake the repair, so I had to seek a separate repair, which I was able to do using a local company. I will speak to CURO about this long lead time for an urgent repair.
- The Car Park Barrier has been dislodged. This was repaired only last month, so we may need to look at alternative options.

My training and External Meetings

I have embarked on my training, with a session covering the requirements of the first 12 modules from Deborah White of ALCA.

I attended a Parish Liaison Meeting with BANES Officers on 13th July 2022. This was the first time I have had a chance to meet these officers in my tenure (since December 2019), and proved a very useful opportunity to put names to faces, and also to raise some of our current issues.

Richard Maccabee, Parish Clerk
27th July 2022