

**Batheaston Parish Council**

**Minutes of a Meeting of Batheaston Parish Council  
held at 7:15pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
at the Rhymes Pavilion.**

**Present: Councillors Alexis Pavlou (Vice Chair of Council),  
Evie Gray, Catherine McCarthy, Sue Peachey, and Kate Skelton.**

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

In the absence of Cllr Squire, the Vice Chair of Council, Cllr Pavlou, chaired the meeting.

1. **Public participation** regarding matters on the agenda.
  - 1.1. Two members of the public were present to observe the meeting.
2. **Council received** apologies for absence from Cllrs Bryant, Butt, Hallam, Lewis, and Squire.
3. There were no **declarations of interest** from Councillors.
4. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**
  - 4.1. **Council approved** the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
    - 4.1.1. The Clerk will duly publish these minutes.

Clerk

**COMMUNITY MATTERS**

5. **Playground Working Group**
  - 5.1. **Council approved** the final budget for the Phase 2.
  - 5.2. **Council resolved** to allocate the remaining funds to the next phase of renovation of the Playground.
  - 5.3. **Council deferred** the item to assign the Community Infrastructure Levy funds for 21/05561/FUL Victory Gardens, Bannerdown Drive to the Playground Project, to ensure that other possible infrastructure investments were properly considered.
  - 5.4. **Council noted** that the Working Group will progress with plans for the next phase of the refurbishment project.
    - 5.4.1. Cllr Skelton indicated that the Working Group is considering how to undertake the next phase of renovation. She commented that she hopes to replicate the success of the community consultation processes that were so successful.
    - 5.4.2. She indicated that a Working Group meeting will be held soon with a view to planning for these activities.



## 6. Highways

- 6.1. The actions the Council is taking regarding speeding in the village.
  - 6.1.1. Cllr McCarthy is setting up a Community Speedwatch Group; she has 3 members including herself, and needs one more volunteer.
  - 6.1.2. The 3 volunteers have undergone training provided by the Police.
- 6.2. **Council noted** the upcoming review of the two pelican crossings in Batheaston.
  - 6.2.1. The Clerk will circulate dates for a meeting onsite to review the sites.
- 6.3. **Council noted** a summary report of the streetlights that the Parish Council maintains, and the cost of providing lights.
- 6.4. **Council resolved** to request that Bath and North East Somerset Council adopt the 5 lights (including at High Bannerdown, which is being reinstated) that the Parish Council maintain and that are on the Public Highway.

Clerk

Clerk

## 7. Rhymes Pavilion Working Group

- 7.1. **Cllr Peachey** reported back from the Working Group, indicating that the first step is to undertake the survey of the building, to assure its health and safety.
  - 7.1.1. The Clerk indicated that he had received a quote from a surveyor that date, and **requested an emergency motion to approve the spend, £700.**
  - 7.1.2. The Chair accepted the request, and the **Council approved** the motion.

Clerk

## 8. Establishing a Charity

- 8.1. **Council received** a report from Clerk in Cllr Bryant's regarding progress towards the establishment of a charity.

## 9. Riverside

- 9.1. **Council received** a verbal report from the Clerk, in Cllr Lewis's absence.
- 9.2. **Council approved** expenditure of up to £7,500 to carry out repairs to the Secret Garden walls and arches.

Clerk / Cllr Lewis



## 10. Car Park

10.1. Cllr Peachey, the Working Group lead, reported that there had been no substantial developments.

10.1.1. It was noted that there has been less congestion in the car park since the introduction of the 3 hour limit on parking.

10.1.2. It was noted that the since the boom was damaged and removed there has been some use of the car park by campervan including overnight.

## 11. Suffragettes Memorial

11.1. Cllr McCarthy reported that the art work will be completed this week, and will be installed by volunteers over the next month or so.

11.1.1. The memorial will be opened before the Village Art Trail, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October.

## GOVERNANCE MATTERS

### 12. D-Day Party

12.1. **Council resolved** to create a Working Group to develop plan for a Party to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, and **nominated** Cllr Squire to prepare a Terms of Reference for approval at the next Council Meeting.

12.1.1. Councillors suggested that Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024 would be the ideal date. This should be confirmed at the next meeting, subject to Cllr Squire's agreement, and consultation with others in the village.

Cllr Squire

## FINANCE MATTERS

### 13. Finance Operations Matters

The Clerk apologised that he had not been able to complete the two reports on the agenda, due in part to a system problem. He asked that the items be deferred.

13.1. **Council deferred** approval of the transactions undertaken in July and August 2023.

13.2. **Council deferred** approval a report of finances for the first 5 months of the financial year, and to approve any actions arising, including the proposed timetable for setting the budget for 2024/25.

13.3. **Council approved** re-appointment of Paul Russell to undertake the Internal Audit for the current year, at a cost of up to £300 (excl. VAT).

Clerk

13.4. **Council approved** re-procurement of the Council's Insurance, seeking quotes from at least 3 suppliers.



Clerk

## STANDING ITEMS AND REPORTS

### 14. Planning Applications

14.1. **Council reviewed** the following planning applications from Bath and North East Somerset Council and resolved not to oppose the following planning applications:

14.1.1. Reference Number: 23/03148/TCA

14.1.2. Reference Number: 23/02903/TCA

14.1.3. Reference Number: 23/02812/TCA

14.1.4. Reference Number: 23/03335/FUL

14.2. **Council noted** the following planning applications have been notified by Bath and North East Somerset Council since the last meeting:

14.2.1. Application Number: 23/02046/LBA Decision: CONSENT

14.2.2. Application Number: 23/02184/LBA Decision: CONSENT

14.2.3. Application Number: 23/02327/TCA Decision: No Objection

14.3. **Council noted** that the first of these decisions was made without there being time for a Parish Council comment. The other decisions accord with the Council's response, which was in all cases not to object.

### 15. Clerk's Report

15.1. **Council received** a report from the Clerk.

15.1.1. The Clerk reported that the Expression of Interest for up to £250,000 to refurbish or replace the Rhymes Pavilion that he had submitted to the Governments' Community Ownership Fund has been approved. The Council can now submit a formal application, to the current round which closes on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

15.1.2. He will convene a meeting of the Rhymes Pavilion Working Group.

Clerk

15.1.3. Councillors discussed the need for more transparency and communication, and discussed a number of ideas to achieve this, which will be followed up in future meetings.



## **16. Chair's Report**

- 16.1. Cllr Pavlou thanked the members of the public for their attendance, and hoped that they had enjoyed the meeting.

**Meeting closed at 8:34pm**

### **Forthcoming Meetings:**

Council Meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Council meetings are open to the public, and members of the public are welcome to join and may speak by invitation.

DRAFT UNAPPROVED

