

## Batheaston Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Batheaston Parish Council held  
at 7:15pm on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023, at the Rhymes Pavilion.

Present: Councillors Hannah Squire (Chair of Council),  
Peter Bryant, Peter Lewis, Catherine McCarthy,  
Alexis Pavlou, Sue Peachey and Kate Skelton.

### PROCEDURAL MATTERS

#### 1. Public participation regarding matters on the agenda.

- 1.1. Ref 13.1.3, Planning Application Reference Number: 23/00867/FUL.
- 1.2. The applicant attended to speak in support of this planning application. He explained that he has lived in Northend for the past 20 years. This is a re-submission, following an unsuccessful application last year (22/01295/FUL), which the Council had opposed.
- 1.3. He noted some misunderstandings that had arisen in the previous discussions and clarified these points.
- 1.4. There will be no additional parking required for the work
- 1.5. The additional accommodation is annexed to (not ancillary to) the main house; it will not constitute an additional dwelling.

Chair brought forward this item for discussion at this point:

13.1.3 Reference Number: 23/00867/FUL  
Application Type: Full Application  
Site Location: 11 Northend Batheaston BA1 7EE  
Description of Proposal: Conversion of existing garage to form  
accommodation annexed to main residence.

13.1.3.1 Councillors welcomed these clarifications, which addressed their previous concerns.

13.1.3.1 Councillors **resolved not to oppose** the planning application.

The Chair thanked the member of the public for their attendance and contribution, and resumed the agenda at Item 2.

**2. Apologies for absence** were accepted from Cllr Wesley Hallam.

**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 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023.

## VILLAGE MATTERS

### 5. Playground Project

- 5.1. Cllr Skelton introduced a report from the Working Group regarding the tender process and a recommendation for the approved supplier. She noted that there had been 3 valid quotations received, all of which were of a high quality.
- 5.2. This item – to exclude members of the public from the discussion of the quotations – was not required as there were no public present.
- 5.3. **Council received** a confidential report from the Working Group giving the scoring of the published criteria for assessment of the tenders.
- 5.4. **Council approved** the contract for the replacement of the under-5's play area, which was awarded to Creative Play.
  - 5.4.1. The Clerk will duly sign the contract.
  - 5.4.2. The Working Group, led by Cllr Skelton, will progress the project with representatives of Creative Play.

Clerk

Cllr Skelton

### 6. Rhymes Pavilion

- 6.1. **Council received** an update from the Clerk on discussions with other organisations regarding the future operation of the Rhymes Pavilion.
- 6.2. Councillors discussed the question of setting a deadline for deciding whether to close.
- 6.3. **Council approved** the formation of a Working Group to take forward plans for the Rhymes Pavilion.
  - 6.3.1. It was agreed that initially all Councillors will join the Group.
  - 6.3.2. The Clerk to circulate a draft Terms of Reference, for adoption at the next meeting.

Clerk

### 7. Establishment of a Charity

- 7.1. **Council discussed the item to nominate** at least two Councillors to support Cllr Bryant as the lead, and the Clerk in establishing a Charity, with the provisional name "Batheaston Recreations", to operate and enhance the recreational and leisure facilities of the Council, and then to take on the role of trustee or other form of oversight role as required.
  - 7.1.1. Councillor Bryant introduced the item, and indicated that he had done some investigation into the ideal structure, and favours a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, but he and the Clerk will seek expert advice to confirm this view.
  - 7.1.2. The provisional name was discussed, but without a resolution. This will be decided at a future meeting.

7.1.3. All Councillors present agreed to be nominated to take part in this group.

7.1.4. The Clerk to circulate a draft Terms of Reference, for adoption at the next meeting.

Clerk

## 8. Highways

8.1. **Council received** a report from Cllr McCarthy

8.2. **Council approved** the removal of the Streetlight on the triangle at High Bannerdown, at a cost of approx. £1,000.

8.2.1. The Clerk noted that the only alternative to this course of action would be repair of the existing light, at a cost of £1,600, which Council had provisionally rejected at its last meeting.

8.2.2. Cllr McCarthy noted the “Dark Skies” initiative of the Bath Preservation Trust, called “Earth Hour”, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm.

8.3. **Council approved** funding of £340 for 17 hanging baskets for the High Street, and £100 for plants for the 6 large green barrels.

8.4. **Council approved** funds of up to £200 for replacement plants for the stone planters in the Riverside Park, and to replace the bay trees on the Batch and Penthouse Hill.

8.5. Councillors had no response to make to the Consultation on Cotswolds National Landscape Draft Revised Neighbourhood Plan Position Statement.

## 9. Riverside

9.1. **Council received** a verbal update from Cllr Lewis on the activities of the Riverside Working Group

9.1.1. He noted that a large number of applications for bathing designations have been refused recently by DEFRA, due to lack of footfall (usage). He is of the view, however, that the key objective can still be progressed which is to provide information and alerts regarding sewage in the river, with the collaboration of Wessex Water.

## 10. Coronation Party

10.1. **Council received** an update from Cllr Squire and the Clerk regarding preparations for the party to be held on the afternoon of Sunday 7th May, at the Riverside.

10.1.1. Notes will be circulated following the recent group meeting.

10.1.2. The Clerk reported that applications for the Event licence and road closure are in progress, and are now urgent.

## FINANCE MATTERS

### 11. Grants to Community Organisations

- 11.1. **Council approved** a grant of £500 to the Twinning Association.

### 12. Finance Operations Matters

- 12.1. **Council approved** the transactions undertaken in February 2023.
- 12.2. **Deferred:** Council resolved to instruct the Clerk to commission tree surgery as recommended in the report provided by BANES' Tree Experts, up to a cost of £1,200.

## STANDING ITEMS AND REPORTS

### 13. Planning Applications

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

13.1.1. Reference Number: 23/00799/TCA  
Application Type: Tree Works Notification in Con Area  
Site Location: 288 High Street Batheaston BA1 7RA  
Description of Proposal: T1 (Thuja)- Reduce height by 4m, shape over top. T2 (Lime)- Repollard back to historic locations, removing approx. 9m of growth. T3 (Tulip)- Cut back to boundary, removing 1-2m from lateral branches on western side of tree.

13.1.2. Reference Number: 23/00826/FUL  
Site Location: 34 Northend Batheaston BA1 7ES  
Description of Proposal: Construction of a detached double garage on an existing hard parking area.

13.1.3. Reference Number: 23/00953/TCA - taken earlier

13.1.4. Application Type: Tree Works Notification in Con Area  
Site Location: 169 High Street Batheaston BA1 7DW  
Description of Proposal: Goat Willow (T1) - Section-fell to ground level. Treat stump with EcoPlug Max to prevent regeneration. Cherry (T2) - Light thin to reduce end weight by removing between 10-20% of smaller diameter growth whilst maintaining form. Smaller diameter crossing branches to be removed.

- 13.2. **Council noted** the following decisions on planning applications recently notified by Bath and North East Somerset Council:

13.2.1. Reference Number: 23/00244/FUL – Permit

13.2.2. Council noted that this conforms with the Parish Council's comment.

## 14. Clerk's Report

14.1. Council received a report from the Clerk, including these items:

14.1.1. Council noted that the Clerk will invite the interim chair of the recently reformed Avon and Somerset Neighbourhood Watch Association to the Annual Meeting of Electors on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023.

14.1.2. Council noted the further information about the forthcoming elections to the Council, and the fact that the Clerk is happy to help Councillors and any residents to submit their nomination papers.

## 15. Chairman's Report

15.1. **Council received** an oral report from the Chairman.

**The meeting closed at 9:08 pm**

**Forthcoming Meetings:**

Council Meeting, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023

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: