

**Minutes of a Meeting of Batheaston Parish Council
held at 7:15pm on Tuesday 13th January 2026
at the Rhymes Pavilion**

**Present: Cllrs Alexis Pavlou (Chair of Council),
Peter Bryant, Peter Lewis, Catherine McCarthy,
and Sue Peachey**



PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. **Council accepted** apologies for absence from Cllrs Butt, Gray, Skelton and Squire
2. There were **no declarations of interest**.
3. There was **no public participation** regarding matters on the agenda.
4. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**
 - 4.1. **Council approved** the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 9th December 2025.

GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5. Budget and Precept for 2026/27

- 5.1. Council received a report from the Clerk outlining the current position and forecast for the end of the 2025/26 financial year.
 - 5.1.1. He summarised that the current expectation is that the Council will accrue a surplus of £21,000 for the year, although this is dependent on Council decisions regarding discretionary items in the remaining months of the year.

6. Council received the Clerk's projection of operational income and expenditure for 2026/27, and the options for setting the Precept.

- 6.1. He set out the structure of the presentation of the budget, including assumptions about discretionary items.
- 6.2. Councillors discussed the need to limit householder rises to inflation, currently running at 3.8%.

7. Council approved the outline budget and a Precept of £141,100 for 2026/27.

- 7.1. The Clerk will submit the form to B&NES.

Clerk



WORKING GROUPS

8. Highways Transport and Planning Working Group

8.1. Council received a verbal report from Cllr McCarthy.

- 8.1.1. She highlighted that Council has received more complaints about parking, including on pavements, blocking pedestrians, on Northend. Cllr McCarthy will follow up with the residents who have lodged concerns.

Cllr McCarthy

- 8.1.2. Cllr McCarthy also reported that she and the Clerk had met B&NES Cllr Warren and officers to view pinch points on Catherine Way, where badly parked vehicles obstruct buses on occasions. B&NES Officers are aiming to propose changes to restrictions.

- 8.1.3. Finally she noted that agreement had been reached regarding extending parking restrictions by one car length on Northend (near to School Lane). B&NES will propose this for public consultation in due course.

8.2. **Council resolved** to allocate up to £2,000 to clear vegetation and to repair the Parish Council's streetlight on West View Road.

- 8.2.1. The Clerk will progress

Clerk

- 8.3. **Council noted** that work has been commissioned to repair the Parish Council's streetlight on Victoria Gardens at a cost of £310, and that the Council are seeking the advice of B&NES Officers regarding the request for an additional light.

9. Nature and Environment Working Group

9.1. **Council received** a verbal report from Cllr Lewis.

- 9.1.1. He noted that the work to prune the Mulberry tree, with the objective of saving it after last year's damage, had been approved by B&NES, and is due to happen the following Friday, 16th.

- 9.1.2. The Clerk is preparing a Planning Application for the stone masonry repairs to the wall of the Secret Garden (some of which is listed).

- 9.1.3. Contactless payment has been added to the toilet door mechanism, and the door repaired.

9.2. **Council approved** a proposal to develop a plan to create a Woodland Walk along St Cathrines Brook, in collaboration with Grow Batheaston.

9.3. **Council noted** the workshop on 3rd February, part of the Energy in your Community project seeking to establish renewable energy resources in the area.

9.4. **Council approved** £7,000 to conduct recommended tree surgery



- 9.5. **Council noted** that the Clerk is in the process of submitting a planning application for the stone masonry in the Secret Garden.

10. Communication and Community Working Group

- 10.1. **Item deferred** in Cllr Skelton's absence.

11. Batheaston Sports Foundation

- 11.1. **Council received** a progress report

12. Item to approve nominations of trustees to the Batheaston Sports Foundation.

- 12.1. **Item deferred**; no nominations have been received.

- 12.2. The Clerk reported that one is expected soon.

13. Summer Party 2026

- 13.1. **Council approved** the Terms of Reference for a Project Group to organise a party on the Riverside on 6th June.

STANDING ITEMS AND REPORTS

14. Planning Applications

- 14.1. **Council resolved not to oppose** to the following Planning Applications to Bath and North East Somerset Council:

14.1.1. Reference Number: 25/04750/FUL

14.1.2. Reference Number: 25/04689/FUL

14.1.3. The Clerk reported that since issuing the agenda a decision had been made by B&NES for Reference Number: 25/04655/TCA: "no objection".

- 14.2. **Council noted** that application reference, 25/02637/FUL, for the Barn, Bailbrook Lane Lower Swainswick, will be considered by the Planning Committee of Bath and North East Somerset Council on 21st January and members of the Planning Working Group intend to speak.

- 14.3. **Council noted** the following decisions have been notified by Bath and North East Somerset Council since the last meeting.

14.3.1. Application Number: 25/04699/TCA Decision: No Objection

14.3.2. Application Number: 25/04698/TCA Decision: No Objection

14.3.3. Application Number: 25/04591/TCA Decision: No Objection

- 14.4. **Council noted** that these decisions accord with the responses of the Parish Council.



15. Clerk's Report

15.1. Council received a report from the Clerk.

15.1.1. He reported that the main item would be critical emergency response. Councillors suggested that there might also be a presentation on Batheaston Sports Foundation.

16. Chair's Report

16.1. **Cllr Pavlou** encouraged Councillors to start preparing for the party early.

Meeting Closed at 8:38pm
Forthcoming Meetings:

Parish Council Meeting, 13th January 2026

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

Signed: -  Parish Clerk

Date issued: 21st January 2026