

**Minutes of a Meeting of Batheaston Parish Council
held at 7:15pm on Tuesday 21st April 2026
at the Rhymes Pavilion**



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

In the absence of Cllr Squire, Cllr Pavlou chaired the meeting

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. **Council accepted** apologies for absence from Cllr Butt, Gray, Lewis and Squire
2. There were **no declarations of interest** from Councillors.
3. **Public participation** regarding matters on the agenda.
 - 3.1. A resident attended to speak in relation to Item 7.4, the Charmydown Barn Planning Applications.
 - 3.1.1. She expressed her sincere thanks for the efforts of the Council to object to the application.
 - 3.2. Alison Harper, a trustee of Grow Batheaston, attended to support their grant application, Item 6.1.
 - 3.2.1. She outlined the purpose of the application, to allow the artists' workshops to be offered without charge.
 - 3.2.2. Council brought forward the item.
- 6.1 To approve a grant of £1,000 to Grow Batheaston to support the annual Art Trail.
 - 6.1.1 Councillors expressed concern that they did not have a complete picture of the finances of the Art Trail.
 - 6.1.2 **Council deferred** the application, and asked the Clerk to liaise with representatives of the Art Trail Committee to clarify the details of application.

Clerk

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings

- 4.1. **Council approved** the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 23rd March 2026.

5. Finances

- 5.1. **Council noted** the position of finances at the end of the financial year 2025/26.



5.2. **Council approved** the plans for the Internal Audit and Annual Governance and Accountability Review for 2025/26.

5.3. **Council noted** the following exceptional or unbudgeted financial commitments.

5.3.1. An outstanding invoice and income relating to the Batheaston Times, which the Clerk noted would result in a net small income (approx. £200).

COMMUNITY MATTERS

6. Community Grants

6.1. Item taken earlier

WORKING GROUPS

7. Highways Transport and Planning Working Group

7.1. Draft Local Plan

7.1.1. **Council received** a consultation report from Bath and North East Somerset Council setting out proposed changes to the Housing Development Boundaries (henceforth "Settlement Boundaries").

7.1.2. **Council approved** a response to the consultation.

7.2. WECA Consultation on Bus Services

7.2.1. **Council received** a report from the Clerk on the consultation being undertaken by the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) on all aspects of the bus service.

7.2.2. **Council approved** a response to the consultation.

7.3. **Council received** a verbal report from Cllr McCarthy.

7.3.1. She commented that she had been asked to expedite the parking review to support the planned purchase of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

7.3.1.1. Councillors agreed that this will be a complex and contentious matter that cannot be rushed, particularly given the other responsibilities that she and other members of the Working Group have.

7.3.2. **Council approved** a further £280 for the West View Road light (to supplement the £2,000 previously approved).

7.4. **Council noted** the considerable effort of the group and the Clerk to object to Planning Applications at Charmydown Barn (see 12.3 below)

7.4.1. They asked the Working Group and Clerk to compile the basis for a formal complaint for consideration at the next meeting.

Cllr McCarthy / Clerk



8. Nature and Environment Working Group

- 8.1. In Cllr Lewis' absence, the Clerk commented that he would wish to express thanks for the efforts of members of Grow Batheaston and local company Future Positive Agency for clearing a considerable amount of litter from St Catherine Brook.
- 8.2. **Item withdrawn:** to approve a statement of the Parish Council's position and role in the Energy in your Community project, as the paper had not been submitted.
- 8.2.1. Council noted planned activity to support residents in saving energy as part of the "Energy at Home" strand of the project.

9. Communication and Community Working Group

- 9.1. Cllr Skelton gave a verbal report giving an overview of recent activity including the Annual Village Meeting and the email updates to about 250 residents.

10. Batheaston Sports Foundation

- 10.1. Cllr Bryant, the Chair of the Trust, gave a brief verbal progress report.

11. Summer Party 2026

- 11.1. **Council approved** the plan for the party on the Riverside on 6th June.

STANDING ITEMS AND REPORTS

12. Planning Applications

- 12.1. Council noted that no Planning Applications have been notified by Bath and North East Somerset Council since the last meeting.
- 12.2. Council noted the following decisions have been notified by Bath and North East Somerset Council since the last meeting.
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| 12.2.1. Application: 25/04663/FUL decision: | PERMIT |
| 12.2.2. Application: 26/00528/TCA decision: | No Objection |
| 12.2.3. Application: 26/00608/TCA decision: | No Objection |
| 12.2.4. Application: 26/00680/VAR decision: | PERMIT |
| 12.2.5. Application: 23/00429/FUL decision: | PERMIT |
| 12.2.6. Application: 23/00430/LBA decision: | PERMIT |
- 12.3. **Council noted** that these decisions accorded with those of the Parish Council, with the exception of 23/00429/FUL and 23/00430/LBA. These relate to the same development at Charmydown Barn, which the Council had strongly opposed.



12.4. **Council noted** that the appeal regarding the refusal of 25/03113/FUL was dismissed.

13. Clerk's Report

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

13.1.1. **Council approved** the schedule for meetings from September to December

13.1.2. He noted the Open Afternoon at the Secret Garden this coming Saturday, 25th April and hoped that Councillors could attend and provide refreshments.

14. Chair's Report

14.1. **Council received** a verbal report from the Chairman.

Meeting closed at 8:25pm

Forthcoming Meetings:

Parish Council Meeting, 12th May 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: 24th April 2026