

Batheaston Parish Council

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Batheaston Parish Council
held in The Rhymes Pavilion on Tuesday 13th May 2008 at 7-15 pm**

Present :- Cllrs D Lavington(Chairman), J Beresford-Smith, P Blanking, L Brass, A Creed, P Davis, K Eardley, S Fremantle, *M Johns*, L Kingsley, D Nokes, V Pecchia, D Robins, A Wright and M Townley (Clerk)

Apologies : Cllr . J Abbott,

In attendance: None

C-137 Election of Chairman

Proposed	L Brass	}	RESOLVED –	That, as there were no other nominations, Cllr D
Seconded	M Johns			

C-138 Election of Vice-Chairman

Proposed	D Lavington	}	RESOLVED –	That, as there were no other nominations, Cllr D Robins
Seconded	D Nokes			

C-139 Co-option of Councillors

(a) If there is vacancy on the full Parish Council then this vacancy will be advertised on the notice boards and the nominations considered and a co-option completed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Proposed	D Nokes	}	RESOLVED –	That, Vito Pecchia is appointed as a Parish councillor for
Seconded	L Kingsley			

(b) Co-option of residents with expertise is permitted – without advertising

Proposed	D Lavington	}	RESOLVED –	That, Chris Routh be invited to serve on the PEC for the
Seconded	D Robins			

C-140 Amendment and Adoption of Standing Orders.

(a) Standing Orders Amendment: - *Batheaston Parish council expressly adopts paragraph 12 (2) of the government's code-of-conduct issued 3rd May 2007, deletes paragraph 30 of its Standing Orders and replaces it with paragraphs 10 to 14 of that code-of-conduct.*

Proposed	D Lavington	}	RESOLVED –	That the Orders be amended and that these amended
Seconded	A Wright			

C-141 Composition and Membership of Committees

General Purposes Committee	(7) =	P Davis, S Fremantle, D Lavington, D Nokes, V Pecchia, D Robins, A Wright
Highways Footpaths & Lighting	(7) =	P Davis, K Eardley, M Johns, L Kingsley, D Lavington, D Robins
Planning & Environment Committee	(7) =	J Beresford-Smith, P Blanking, L Brass, A Creed, D Lavington, V Pecchia, D Robins, C Routh

C-142 Council's Representations on Other Bodies

B'ton Leisure Association (BLA)	J Beresford-Smith, P Blanking, M Johns.
Youth Club	A Creed
B'ton Neighbourhood Group (BNG)	M Johns, L Kingsley
CPRE	D Nokes
Brave 2	P Davis
Primary School	Pending invitation from the Schools Governing Board
ALCA	The Clerk
Youth Consultative Group (YCG)	D Lavington, P Blanking, L Kingsley, S Fremantle
Bath Preservation Trust	D Robins

C-143 Bank Account and Audit Requirements.

Proposed	S Fremantle	Seconded	L Brass
RESOLVED – That any two of the Chairmen of the Standing Committees, the Council Chairman and Vice-Chairman are authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Parish Council.			
(Unanimously) Until the new Committee Chairmen are all elected – and their signatures deposited at the Bank – the existing signatories of D Lavington, P Davis, S Fremantle must continue.			

C-144 Authorisation of Regularly Occurring Amounts

Proposed	S Fremantle	}	RESOLVED –	That the Council authorises payments of the following items
Seconded	A Wright			

(a) Wages and Salaries at rates approved by the Parish Council, and payments to the Inland Revenue

(b) Contracts made by the Parish Council = Street Lights Maintenance & Power; Water Rates; Garage Rental; Electricity Accounts; Highways Maintenance equipment; Telephone Accounts, Toilet Facilities.

(c) Administration costs = Audit Fees; Stationery; Postage; Photocopying; Office Rental; Travel Expenses; Toilet materials & Power; Cleaning Supplies.

(d) Items of Petty Cash not exceeding £50-00

C-145 Minutes of Meeting held 18th March 2008

Proposed	P Blanking	}	RESOLVED	- That the Minutes be formally approved as presented.
Seconded	M Johns			

C-146 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

- (a) 'Protest' letters about mis-use of Colerne storage facilities sent.
- (b) Response received from the B&NES solicitor about Code-of-Conduct interpretations.
- (c) A separate letter from the Solicitor also advises that any complaints will now be dealt with by B&NES and not the Government's Standards Board.

C-147 Receipt of Standing Committee Reports

General Purposes – 25th March 2007

- (a) The Clerk's NVQ has been delayed because of the Accounts audit preparations.
- (b) Completion of the Governance papers is being finalised.
- (c) Draft papers had been issued to all Councillors concerning the Village Hall project, in response to a letter of 3rd May from its trustees. The trustees had hoped for a decision at this meeting, that the Council would provide up to £25,000 for further exploratory work. Unfortunately several Members felt that they had not been given sufficient time to read and digest the draft papers. After much discussion, it was unanimously agreed that it would be premature to grant such money at this time or to indicate support in any way for any specific village hall project. It was consequently agreed that a reply should be sent to the Batheaston New Village Hall Trustees explaining the Council's decision and the need for further information (including the response from residents to applicable questions in the Vision Plan; potential utility in relation to costs; consequently the appropriate size of any new Hall; location of any new Hall; financial implications etc). The Council also agreed to consider the best ways of working on its Village Hall policy, including the suggestion of establishing a sub-committee of the Council to deal with this major issue. It was felt that all Members of the Council must be kept fully informed of the work and that formal reports should also be presented at each meeting of the full Council. The meeting authorised the GPC to draft a reply to the trustees and to provide hard copy to all Councillors for comment within a week of the GPC meeting before issue.. It requested the GPC to consider how best to take this work forward.
- (d) It was agreed that the Minutes hereby formally record the Council's deep appreciation of the unpaid and industrious work of the Batheaston New Village Hall Trustees and their Steering Group precursors.

Proposed D Nokes } RESOLVED - That the Report be accepted as presented.
Seconded D Lavington } (Unanimously)

Highways, Footpaths & Lighting – 1st April 2008.

- (e) The aspirations for a River Footbridge – or reopening of the Footpath - recorded.
- Proposed L Brass } RESOLVED - That the Report be accepted as presented.
Seconded A Creed } (Unanimously)

Planning & Environment - 8th April 2008

- (f) The Westerleigh Farm application will be going to Committee.
- (g) Quotations available for the Anti-climb painting of the toilet block roof.
- (h) The Gardening sub-committee have met with the Gardener. Very good work and no plants required at the moment. Bulbs to be purchased and planted in the Autumn. Removal of all the 'destroyed' statues requested.
- (j) DL will attend a formal opening of new Somer homes in West Harptree. A similar formal opening of the new Somer homes at Avoncourt is anticipated. DL

Planning & Environment - 29th April 2008

- (k) Proposed new dormers at Overmist CANNOT affect the "openness of the Green Belt"
- (l) The Local Development Framework has issued 2 papers – details in the minutes.
- (m) Meeting attended in Bathford to consider affects of Planning Needs in the Green Belt.
- (n) The closing of First Buses 228 service to Colerne set for 29th June. Wilts CC and B&NERS are collaborating and Faresavers will take over this route. Timetable attached to these Minutes – and issued to BREDAC.

Proposed J Beresford-Smith } RESOLVED - That both Reports be accepted as presented.
Seconded P Blanking } (Unanimously)

Highways, Footpaths & Lighting – 6th May 2008.

- (o) Much correspondence received from a Bannerdown Road resident about the Barnfield Way mini-roundabout. Being resolved by B&NES.
- (p) The proposed traffic-calming measures in the high Street were reviewed and many alterations requested. An additional speed bump is requested by the Police towards the Victory Gardens gateway. The police will also not accept the Bannerdown Road reduced limits at this time – but accept all the side roads/Estate etc. is feasible.
- (q) The footbridge proposal is being delayed with queries from the Environment Agency (EA). This Council has proposed a site visit with the EA to help resolve.

Proposed A Creed } RESOLVED - That the Report be accepted as presented.
Seconded D Nokes } (Unanimously)

C-148 Presentation of Unaudited Accounts

(a) March & April 2008

The unaudited figures have NOT been reviewed by the GPC but indicate an increase of £480 in Income and a reduction of £430 in Expenditure.

Proposed S Fremantle } RESOLVED - That the Accounts be accepted as presented.
Seconded A Wright } (Unanimously)

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- (c) Audit – Accounts 2007 - 08
 All Accounts data for 2007-08 are now prepared and this Meeting approved issue to the Internal Auditor.
 (Passed to the Int. auditor Wednesday 14th May). To be completed by mid-June. Then opened to all
 residents before sending to external auditors – Mazars – by 31st July 2008.
 This Council's dismay at the higher Audit costs - expressed to the Audit Commission on 7th February– has
 not been adequately answered. A written reply will be requested. **MT**
 This reply - when received - will be forwarded for comments to ALCA/NALC.

C-149 BLA Report

- (a) Proposing to seek funds for exploratory works on the Playing Field – boreholes etc. Before committing, the
 BLA needs assurance from the BPC to go ahead, and also a consideration to extend the lease from 2019
 to 2030. Review by GPC next week.

C-150 Youth Consultative Group Update

- (a) Minutes issued to all Councillors and self-explanatory.
 (b) Next YCG meeting is set for Wednesday 4th June at 4.00pm in The Rhymes Pavilion.
 Attendance is open to all Councillors.

C-151 Park & Ride Application

- (a) Steering Group met 28th April and next meeting set for 19th May 08 at 4.30pm
 (b) B&NES officers are still "completing" their investigation.
 (c) The BPC's offer to present new evidence, necessary for an evidence-based study, has been noted by Cllr
 Haeberling in an answer-phone message. Acknowledged. by DL
 (d) At recent meetings involving B&NES, they have identified a P&R on the A36. At least one local Parish
 council is to declare objections

C-152 Parish Vision Plan Progress

- (a) Printed questionnaires collected today and will be passed to all distributors Wednesday 14th May.
 (b) Intention is to issue to all households before Friday 23rd May. Assistance with more Distributors is desired

C-153 Chairman's Report

- (a) External Reviews of B&NES progress (Comprehensive Audit Assessment) are planned for 20th May. **DL**
 DL will attend. **SF**
 (b) Financial assistance requested by "Vitalise". Passed to GPC for consideration.
 (c) Magazine from the Bath Preservation Trust received and passed to DR.
 (d) A one-day conference on "Issues facing local Authorities" set for 26th June. Volunteer requested. **ALL**
 (e) Calor Gas is running a "Village of the Year" competition. Details passed to DR.
 (f) Magazine received from the CPRE. Passed to DN

C-154 Clerks Report

- (a) Notes of the Annual Village Meeting issued to all Councillors
 (b) Publications received on "Adult Social Services & Housing"
 (c) The Garden Waste/Cardboard collections on Fridays now move to a Monday. Next collection is Friday 16th
 May, the next to be Monday 26th May.

C-155 Press Release

Nothing at this time.

C-156 Date of next Meeting :-

Tuesday 17th June 2005 at 7-15 pm in The Rhymes Pavilion

Chairman.....*[Signature]*.....Date...17/6/2008