

Batheaston Parish Council

**Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held
in The Rhymes Pavilion on 10th March 2015 at 7-15 pm**

Present : Cllrs S Fremantle (Chair), J Beresford-Smith, K Eardley, P Fear, K Hawkins, V Pecchia & M Townley (Clerk)
Attending: Mr B Johnson

G-541 1. Public Participation – Mr Johnson

Was representing Ms C Bond who had written requesting funds for the planned “Fete de Musique” on 11th/12th July. Planning is well in progress and will repeat the success of the last Fete – held in 2006 – and will span the Twinning visit from Oudon, France.

Grants and fund raising events are being pursued towards the estimated costs of £16,000.

This Meeting had many queries and determined to recommend the request for £2,500 to the full Council.

Mr Johnson was asked if he could provide an advertisement, by Friday 18th March, for inclusion in the BPC’s Annual Report Bulletin.

He was thanked for his many answers to all queries and he then left.

The Meeting also noted that the BPC might be suspected of discrimination or cronyism if it advanced public money without establishing criteria for such advances. It would recommend that the Council invite the Clerk to advise the forthcoming new Council to formulate such criteria.

G-542 Apologies

Advised : Cllr J Heffer

Not advised : Cllr L Brass

G-543 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Eardley is a Committee member for the Twinning committee and also an authorised signatory for the “Fete de Musique”.

G-544 Minutes of the Meeting held 20th January 2015

Proposed P Fear } RESOLVED that - The Minutes be accepted as a true record.
Seconded J Beresford-Smith }

G-545 Matters Arising from above Minutes

(a) Nothing raised

G-546 Accounts October/November 2014 - Unaudited

(a) Accounts cleared by the Internal Auditor – Cllr J Heffer – and figures relate to Budget

	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	JAN	FEB	To Date	
Income	716	1644	1997	1700	1168	676	1268	735	566	556	556	(851)	Loss
Expenditure	1678	5327	8756	12226	15468	17070	21576	26333	3873	7171	1549	36367	Saving

Differences Income = Loss of £2566 as Gardening Payments were cancelled after the budget was set

Expenditure = Wages (£5000) = No Gardener; Pavement (£10,000) = Not yet incurred; Neighbourhood Plan (£15,000) = not yet incurred; Memorial Wall (£4000) = not yet incurred

(b) Special Payments

Buildings Survey £1400; ALCA Subs £457; BLA Donation £750; Youth Club donation £1750; Youth Club 2nd Evening £6000; Garage Rental £342; “Fete de Musique” £2500

Proposed S Fremantle } RESOLVED that - The Accounts for January/February and the Special

Seconded V Pecchia } Payments be recommended to the full Parish Council

G-547 Accounts “Transparency Act” – legal requirements

(a) The Government requires that all Payments above £100 and 1 penny must be posted for all residents.

(b) The Act is not clear on when this notice is required, as Cheque is ‘raised’ or ‘actioned’. Waiting ALCA advice.

(c) This Meeting agreed that a simpler version of the month’s Accounts to be prepared and issued – as per attached.

G-548 Works Pensions – legal requirements

(a) The Government now requires that all Employers have a “Works Pension” scheme in being for 1st June 2016.

(b) Details of the Pension Requirements are still being arranged and further papers are promised.

(c) Meanwhile – under threat of fines – each employer must declare, by 28th February 2015, who will be the Pensions Administrator. The Clerk has volunteered and this Meeting agreed this action.

G-549 Toilet Block / Car Park Update

(a) The cost of the Buildings Survey, by David Mills Ltd, has risen to £1400 (from estimated £500).

The additional monies are recommended for full Parish Council approval under Special Payments.

(b) The BPC’s solicitor has revised the Lease’s Heads of Terms and the proposal accepted by this Meeting.

(c) The revised Lease to be formatted to BPC standards and then forwarded to B&NES for comment.

(d) A meeting with B&NES will be arranged when B&NES has considered the above BPC proposal.

**MT/SF
VP/PF**

G-550 Annual Report Bulletin

- (a) Must be issued to all households in week commencing Tuesday 7th April – for review at the Annual Village Meeting set for Thursday 30th April.
- (b) Deadline for all contributions has to be Friday 20th March.
- (c) Contributions from GPC/PEC and NPC still required.
- (d) There is still a shortage of distributors – for review at next week’s BPC Meeting.

SF/LB/PF

G-551 Petitions

The revised paper – issued in December – was considered and agreed for recommendation to the full Council.

G-552 Timetable – May 2015 to May 2016

Draft considered and the recommended changes are as attached to these Minutes

G-553 Election 7th May 2015

- (a) The B&NES Electoral issued the timetable this Monday 9th March and a precis has been sent to BREDAC and the BPC website.
- (b) Candidates must live within 3 miles of the Batheaston Parish.
- (c) Candidates must be Proposed and Seconded.
- (d) Nomination papers are now available with the Clerk, who can also issue the email versions.
- (e) **Completed Nomination papers MUST be hand-delivered to the Guild Hall, High Street Bath by noon of Friday 9th April 2015.**

G-554 Any Other Business

- (a) Nothing raised

G-555 Press Release

- (a) The recently formed residents’ “Batheaston Forward” Group is determining its constitution and role in the Village. They are meeting in the Rhymes Pavilion and the BLA is charging for each Meeting. This Meeting recommended that the BLA be invited to waive the charges for the first 5 sessions. **BLA**
- (b) The recent AGM of the VPA did NOT record Batheaston’s disagreement concerning the nebulous designs for an A36/A46 link road.
The VPA Chair has reiterated these ‘misconceptions’ in a letter to the Bath Chronicle. The printed issue of this letter to be determined.
(Was to be published next week but the reporter is now reviewing with VP)
- (c) KH reported that HGV traffic on Bannerdown road has increased some 10-fold.
- (d) Arrangements for the village Centre Meeting this Saturday 14th March are going well.

MT

G-556 Date of Next Meeting

Proposed for Tuesday 28th April 2015 (to be confirmed)

Chairman.....Date.....