

Batheaston Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Village Centre Committee held in
The Rhymes Pavilion on Tuesday 13th March 2012 at 7-15pm**

Present :- Cllrs K Hawkins(Chair), J Beresford-Smith, P Blanking, K Eardley, D Gledhill, V Pecchia, D Robins,
V Trenchard & M Townley (Clerk)
Apologies : Cllr S Cast
In attendance: Cllr M Tabb

V-107 Declarations of Interest
None declared.

V-108 Minutes of Meeting held 10th January 2012
Proposed P Blanking } RESOLVED - That the Minutes be formally approved as presented.
Seconded D Gledhill } (Unanimously)

V-109 Matters Arising

- (a) PF a bulletin on "communications".
- (b) Barnfield Way pothole repairs in progress

V-110 Status of River Avon Bridge

(a) New Crossing Footbridge

The bridge designers have finally met (2weeks ago) with Development Control Planners.
The bridge has reverted to a steel design crossing the longest stretch of the River Avon, requiring extra-long ramps. Because of this resiting from original proposal the Environmental Agency will require the Flood Modelling to be renewed.
B&NES claim that a Planning Application will be issued "in a few weeks".
VP is urging more "positive responses" from both Cabinet Members and senior B&NES Officers – with reminders of earlier promises.
This Meeting agreed to recommend to the BPC that this Council issues its own Planning Application – for the site and location established some 9 months ago.

(b) Funding

The funding for the Crossing Bridge is confirmed and "ring-fenced" by B&NES.

V-111 Pavement at Shops

(a) Scheme Approval

The recent Cluster Meeting confirmed that monies for the Pavement improvement had been "omitted by B&NES".

There is an alternative "Public Realm" available for grants and our vision plan designs have been passed to the cabinet member to ascertain if eligible.

Solicitors are reviewing the 'Disabled Discrimination Act' as there might be a case for bringing a civil action against – a successful 'action' by the Ramblers Association which won repairs to the River Footpath.

Should we use an existing "Disabled Living Association" to fight this action?

This prosecution possibility to be an Agenda item at next week's BPC meeting.

MT

(b) Grant Application

Grant Application registered, acknowledged & decisions due early in New Year. Result to be urged. **VP/MT**

V-112 Pedestrian-Priority – High Street

(a) "Town Teams"

Paperwork for a Government initiative to grant monies to approved "Town Teams" just received. Applications must be submitted by noon Monday 30th March 2012.

Possibility of using the application details as V-111(b) above to be investigated.

VP

(b) HGV Traffic

The recent Cluster Meeting reiterated this Council's opposition to HGV traffic t5hrought the high Street and Bannerdown Road is not acceptable. Also additional "clear" signage is required at the Bathford/Bypass roundabout. Protest/reminder letter to be drafted to A Clarke.

KH

(Bannerdown Road will be closed for 2 weeks starting next Monday 19th March.

Somehow the HGVs will find alternative routes to Colerne Stores !!)

V-113 Jubilee Event 2012

(a) Sub-Committee Proposals

A programme of events has now been established and a draft will be available for next Tuesday's full Council meeting. Desirable that the Programme be available to print in Bulletin no 29 by 23rd March. **JB-S/PB**

The Saturday party at the G&D car park will not be one of the Events and an alternative "Music" night is being planned for Sunday evening in the B&NES Car Park/Gardens.

A Sunday lunch planned for the St Johns field area.

A "Balloon Glow" on Solsbury Hill is now looking very feasible.

Some form of memorial at each of the "gateways" is being considered – wood sculpture, trees etc.

Sponsorship requests (to permit prizes, Tea Parties etc.) in preparation - for issue this week.

(b) Councillors Participation

Has been poor up to date. When programme available volunteers to help will be requested

(c) Hanging Baskets

2 years ago there were 11 Baskets hung and tended by this Council's handymen.

Need to order these baskets now in time for hanging before end of May. Additional Baskets were agreed and potential sites to be identified and advised. **PB/VT**

- (d) Free Trees for Jubilee planting
All Councillors asked to advise on potential planting sites, maybe along the River Avon bank?

ALL

V-114 Place-Making

- (a) Planning Policy Proposals
The Government Inspector has almost completed his Inquiry and will report later this year.
- (b) Programme for the LDF
B&NES has completed its consultation on proposed 19 x Gypsy/Travellers sites.
Meetings were attended on "Focus Groups" – Parish Councils well represented but not for Bath residents.
- (c) Media Training
A second Training session is pending volunteers from Councillors – KE, PF & VT have responded, but more participants desirable. Will offer session in the Spring.

V- 115 Standing Orders

- (a) Agreed that the existing Terms of Reference are to be modified to include an "authorised expenditure":_
"To have delegated authority to authorise expenditure up to £500 per project, provided they were approved and included at the Precept Meeting, or subsequently approved by the Parish Council"

V-116 Any Other Business

- (a) None raised

V-117 Press Release

- (a) Nothing at this time

V-118 Date of next Meeting: -

Tuesday 1st May 2012 at 7-15 pm in The Rhymes Pavilion

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