

BATHEASTON BULLETIN

FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

ISSUE No 3
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From the Council Chairman:-

It is pleasing to report that your Council continues to work well together as a team, and progress is being achieved in a number of areas, as you will see from the reports included in this Bulletin. We also welcome Chris. Routh to the Council as a co-opted member of our Planning Committee. I feel sure his expertise will be most helpful. The present Council operates through a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Officer (Parish clerk) and three working sub-committees: Highways, Planning and General Purposes. Councillors sit on one or more of these Committees with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council as ex-officio members. Each Committee elects a Chairman and Vice Chairman and makes recommendations to the Main Council for decisions. I would stress that all meetings are open to the public and we are pleased to see you.

Elections 2003

Next year new Councillors will be elected for both B&NES and Parish Councils to serve for a four-year period. We are keen to encourage people from the Village to join the Parish Council and are looking for men and women over the age of 18 years who feel they can contribute to the well being of this Community. The position of a Parish Councillor is not an onerous one and can be both interesting and rewarding. Elections will take place next May so it's not too early for you to be thinking about it. We will be holding a "information/taster" evening on 20th February 2003 but in the meantime if you are interested and would like an informal chat please contact me, David Lavington on 858744 or Mike Townley on 852593.

Affordable Housing

I am pleased to advise you that a housing survey will not be necessary due to new Government guidelines, and it has now been accepted by B&NES that Batheaston needs more affordable houses. We have identified possible small sites which are being investigated by B&NES Development, Highways and Planning Departments

FINA Petrol Station

I'm sure you will have noticed improvements to this site following our battle with the planners. Hopefully we will soon see some landscaping and the site occupied.

Traffic matters

We have made considerable progress with B&NES traffic engineers and others on our proposed plans to change the High Street from a "rat run" and race track into a safer and more village friendly environment. Once this is done then only Bannerdown road remains to be improved.

Anti-Social Behaviour

We continue to investigate ways of tackling anti social behaviour particularly vandalism by youngsters. New Government legislation being proposed and advice from B&NES and the Police is welcomed and we are investigating a number of initiatives at present.

Pavilion Coffee Shop

Finally I would like to pay tribute to Penny Mimmack and her team of volunteers for the excellent work they do in providing a coffee / teasop in The Rhymes Pavilion every Wednesday from 10-00am. to 12 noon. It's well supported and if you haven't been there all I can say is " you don't know what you're missing"

David Lavington – Chairman

Planning & Environment Committee....(PEC)

Planning Applications

Recent Planning Applications have included:

The extension of the Wednesday Market at the George & Dragon Car Park.

An application from Countryside Residential (SW) Ltd. To develop the land at Damson Orchard/Victory Gardens with 6 dwellings and associated garages and highways works, demolition of outbuildings at Victory Gardens and construction of a garage with flat over plus access. This developer would also construct a mini-roundabout to Bannerdown road.

B&NES Council has given permission for change-of-use of the FINA site from Petrol Station to Car Sales. The development is permitted with a number of conditions which will be carefully monitored.

Noise Pollution

Our concerns about the increase in noise pollution from aircraft using Bristol Airport have been noted by the Aviation Authority

Housing Needs

Consultation with B&NES Officers are continuing and certain possible sites within the village are being investigated.

Village Design Statement

Ms. Lindsey Newman, Rural Services Officer will address the PEC on Tuesday 12th November at 7pm We hope to prepare a Village Design Statement which will affect all who live and work in the Parish. Everyone will have the opportunity to contribute to its preparation

Allotments

A new B&NES Officer is now in post. Responsibility for the allotments continues to be with the Local Authority.

Batheaston Gardens

B&NES Property Services are continually working on all walling repairs; consideration is being given to the installation of CCTV cameras to deter vandals who at present stop any progressive work: We have complained about the state of the Toilets, and requested provision of a 'Time-Locked' door.

