

From the Chairman – Cllr David Lavington.....

Now that we enter a period of holidays I do hope the weather will improve so you can have at least a short relaxing break and get away from all the negative portrayal of life as the media sees it!

Councillor moves

Peter and Christine Davis have moved from Batheaston House recently and Peter has therefore resigned from the Parish Council. Peter - and previously Christine - were both active Councillors and supporters of the community over many years. We wish them well in their new home and thank them profoundly for all they did for this village.

We now welcome Kevin Hawkins (previously a co-opted member) as our new Councillor. I am also pleased to advise that Alison Creed has returned to the Council after an illness. It's a pleasure to have her back and we wish her well.

Bathampton Meadows

The battle continues against the Bath Transport package. Having fought against the Bathampton Meadows proposal, we continue to battle on against the Bus Rapid Transit proposals from Newbridge to the Meadows. We continue to press The Secretary of State to call an independent public enquiry into the whole Bath Transport Package. The deeper we become involved in this ill thought out scheme the more holes we discover. Indeed it looks more like the proverbial "colander" and should go back to the drawing board!

Youth & Facilities

We are funding an additional opening of the Youth Club which

now opens on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

The Government has supplied some £33,000 to provide additional facilities in the children's Play Area.

In addition they are giving the school £2 million to provide a new hall, classroom and other facilities.

The Government has also provided money for Julie and Belinda (from the Youth Club) under the NEET project for young people who are: **Not in Employment, Education or Training** See details under Youth Club.

Speed Limits

We have finally achieved making the whole village a 20mph Zone with the exception of Bannerdown. This area will be surveyed later this year to find a suitable means of achieving 20 mph there. The speed tables have worked well in both Northend and Coalpit Road for some time and a recent speed check confirmed this. A check will be undertaken soon to check the speeds in the High Street. Whilst some people don't like speed tables etc physical means are required to prevent irresponsible drivers from speeding in a 20 mph Zone.

Vision Plan

Finally The Parish Vision Plan for the Village has been completed and will be delivered to all households. The word Vision was deliberately added to the title by the Group to stress that this is a Vision of what may or may not be carried out in the future

A big "Thank You" to Vito and all his Team for this excellent work

The Batheaston Parish Council disclaims responsibility for comments and opinions expressed by others in this Bulletin

Planning Applications

In the last quarter we have been consulted about several very significant planning applications. Conversion of the White Hart to 4 dwellings was refused by B&NES council but a revised planning application has been submitted and lies currently with them. A scheme for a detached house and a short terrace of dwellings on land at the bottom of Bannerdown Road which was formerly part of the garden of The Fosse (Fosse Lane) is similarly as yet undetermined. On the other hand permission has been given for the redevelopment for industrial use of Hawker's Yard, subject to a comprehensive range of conditions, including 2 requested by us, namely a restriction on the hours of operation and the withdrawal of the right to change from industrial to storage use. The latter does not normally require planning permission. However, we were mindful of the problem of storage uses at Colerne resulting in heavy goods vehicle traffic on Bannerdown Road and were concerned to avoid any such problem arising in Northend.

Regional forecasts

Publication of the South West Regional Spatial Strategy that determines the number of dwellings to be built and their general location in the B&NES area as a whole is postponed on account of a legal challenge to the East of England RSS

and investigation by the Department of Communities and Local Government into the consequences for the comparable document in all other English regions. Like the 2007 Local Plan the draft regional document has no strategic proposals for large-scale housing development in Batheaston, where it is limited to infilling and redevelopment.

Eagle House

We have supported the replacement of the front door of Eagle House, one of the village's most prominent buildings of architectural and historic interest, with a new one corresponding with the original 18th century design.

Conservation Area

English Heritage's updated list of Conservation Areas 'at risk' includes the Batheaston CA. We understand that this is because no Conservation Character Appraisal has been carried out. This appraisal is to be conducted by B&NES who have no plans at this moment, but will provide some details on the Procedure for consideration by the Parish council and Batheaston Society etc.

Hanging Baskets

On the broader environmental front we have been pleased to restore hanging baskets to the High Street this summer notwithstanding Health and Safety concerns about the robustness of their fixings.

Batheaston Neighbourhood Group

A Cream Tea to thank drivers for their help was held at the Fremantles', Hill Lodge, on 13th July 2009.

Do you know about the Batheaston Neighbourhood Group Lunch Club for Senior Citizens?

This is held at the Hall of the Good Shepherd on the first Monday in the month. Some places are now available. Please contact Janet Jackson on 01225 859843

B&NES Park & Rides Expansion.

In July 2006 the B&NES Authority published their Bath Transport Package and won the first stage of

Bathampton Meadows – despite this site having been rejected 5 times in the past 10 years because of the

funding from the Department of Transport (DfT).

Essentially B&NES proposed: -

- (1) To expand the existing P&R site at Odd Down,
- (2) To expand the existing P&R site at Lansdown
- (3) To create a new P&R site at Lambridge for 758 cars
- (4) To expand the existing P&R site at Newbridge AND introduce a Rapid Transit Bus service from Newbridge through to the new development at Western Riverside then through the centre of the City to the P&R site at Lambridge.

B&NES prepared 4 separate Applications insisted that all 4 had to be approved before B&NES could approach the DfT for the next 2 stages for Government Grants.

There were a number of reasons given for this huge investment: -

- (a) Reduction of congestion in Bath;
- (b) Improvement in air Quality in Bath;
- (c) Savings in passenger times with the new Rapid Transit Bus.

The "new" B&NES cabinet recognised the inadequacy of pursuing Lambridge for a P&R site. Consultants perfunctorily investigated various sites – rejecting Alice Park and then Charmy Down. They chose instead the

environment damage. The consultants refused to accept this Council's offer to pass over all the Charmy Down investigation data.

The Bathavon North Parish Councils + Claverton & Limpley Stoke PCs studied all the application papers and advised all DCC members that:-

- (a) The congestion in Bath will **NOT** be reduced;
- (b) The air quality in Bath will see little improvement.

[Both (a) and (b) are the words of the Application consultants]

- (c) The Rapid Bus saves little time

The Meadows site application was considered by B&NES on 20th May and accepted, subject to approval by the Secretary of State. They did not have time to consider the Newbridge application – deferred until 8th July.

This hearing rejected the Newbridge and Bus Rapid Transit scheme but – performed some shenanigans to defer the decision for the hearing on 5th August.

Is anybody surprised that B&NES managed to get their own way?

If the proposals did what it says on-the-tin this Parish Council would be more acceptable of Bath's needs. But the proposals are useless and being driven through in a very ill conceived manner.

Football Pitch

Many people will have noticed that the football pitch in Coalpit Road has not been used for a couple of years and will be wondering why. There are several problems with the pitch as a result of which the Bath Football League has told us it is not suitable for competitive football. One of the main problems is the closeness of the trees which overhang the touchline on the far side from the road. The trees are due to be reduced in size this summer but it is still almost impossible to fit a full sized football pitch on the field with sufficient "run off" areas for players' safety.

The pitch has also become very uneven and boggy. A report commissioned by the Batheaston Leisure Association (BLA) has

identified what needs to be done to make the field playable but the cost will be over £20,000. Because of the size restrictions it may only be possible to use the field for youth football in future. The BLA hopes to raise the money to reinstate the pitch but there does not seem to be any way of reintroducing adult football on the village's only sports field.

If anyone is interested in helping the BLA to resolve this problem or in helping to organise youth teams in the future please get in touch with Rob Mimmack, chairman of the BLA on 859708. If there isn't any interest in reviving football in the village, it won't happen and there will be pressure to turn the field over to other uses.

So please give Rob a ring On 850708

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS - August 2009

David Lavington	Chairman	1 Wayfield Gardens	BA1 7ED	858744
Judith Beresford-Smith		30 High Bannerdown	BA1 7JZ	859270
Pam Blanking		'Summerhill', 45 Morris Lane	BA1 7PS	858728
Lawrence Brass		298 High Street	BA1 7RA	852222
Alison Creed		1 Coronation Cottages	BA1 7DZ	0797 034809
Kathryn Eardley		106 Northend	BA1 7HA	859055
Sydney Fremantle	Ch GPC	'Hill Lodge' Northend	BA1 8EN	852847

Kevin Hawkins	5 Barnfield Way	BA1 7PW	858389
Margaret Johns	3 Catherine Way	BA1 7NY	859515
Liz Kingsley	12 Stonehouse Lane, Bath	BA2 5DW	830802
Peter Martins (Co-opt to HFL)	17 Northend	BA1 7EE	858406
Mike Willard	61 Northend	BA1 7EG	851153
Vito Pecchia	104 Northend	BA1 7HA	852226
David Robins Ch + PEC	'Woodsome', Bannerdown Rd	BA1 8EG	858036
Chris Routh (Co-opt to PEC)	Fairhaven Coach House, Northend	07957260015	
Veronica Trenchard	203 London Road East	BA1 7NB	852155
Alan Wright	15 Warleigh Drive	BA1 7PT	858817
Mike Townley (Clerk)	'Bailrigg', 9 Eagle Park	BA1 7HS	852593
Marc Plenty (Handyman)	37 Morris Lane	BA1 7PR	
Cyril Coxson (Handyman)	18 Catherine Way	BA1 7NY	
Justin Quinton (Handyman)	19 Uphill Drive, Larkhall	BA1 6PB	
Greg Vere (BLA Warden)	86 Northend	BA1 7ES	
Michael Hunt (Gardening)	"Downleaze", Fosse Ln	BA1 7JT	

District Councillors

<u>Gabriel Batt</u>	210 High Street, Batheaston	BA1 7QZ	859419
<u>Ian Dewey</u>	'Kennet Court', Bathampton	BA2 6ST	460658
<u>Martin Veal</u>	'Victory Gardens', Bannerdown Drive	BA1 7JW	858285

Batheaston Parish Council

Parish Councillor Vacancy

A casual vacancy for Parish Councillor has occurred due to resignation and a new Councillor will be appointed by co-option at the full Parish Council meeting on 22nd September 2009.

Applications are therefore invited and, in the first instance, please phone for more details from the Clerk–

Mike Townley

"Bailrigg"

9 Eagle Park

Batheaston

BA1 7HS

Tel 01225 852593

Email Bailrigg@talktalk.net

Applications should then be in writing and with a brief career resume

The last date for Applications is
midday of Friday 11th September 2009

Mike Townley 22 July 2009

From Cllr V Pecchia (Chairman Of BVP Group))....

Batheaston Vision Plan 2009

In the survey conducted last year, 1271 of you returned completed questionnaires wherein you expressed what you thought and felt about Batheaston. What you said in those returns was the source and inspiration in the preparation of the Batheaston Vision Plan 2009 (BVP), which is being made available, with this bulletin, to every household in our village.

The Vision proposed in this document is not an illusory thing, but a purposeful act to provide an insight and a picture of how things might be, the intention of which to give direction and substance to the future planning and evolution of our village. It reflects as much as possible the concerns and aspirations that you, who live and work here feel, rather than some notion conceived by detached paid professionals and supposed democratic representatives whom we should expect to be looking after our interest. As important is also the intent that the Vision Plan be a frame of reference and yardstick so all of us can measure the value of official policies, proposed change and the development of where we live.

As I write this it has been confirmed that two million pounds is going to be spent over the next 15 months or so, on a new Hall within the site of our Primary School. Such investment in our village for the benefit of future generations is surely to be welcome, but should not our Community have been meaningfully consulted before the event on how, where and what the implications on parking and amenity such development might have on local residents and our village? Is it possible that we who live here cannot make a useful contribution to such development? Can we not seek added value from such projects to benefit the clubs, organisations and

social infrastructure of our Village? Should not our views have been sought on the value we place on our architectural heritage, before the architect placed pencil to paper? The Vision Plan touches on such issues and many more, through it, you, the residents, are invited first and foremost to engage and give voice to your wishes and aspirations and perhaps then together put a stop to piecemeal, disjointed and unacceptable decision making, the bane some say, of current civil administration which seems to pay only lip service to community involvement.

The Vision Plan is a collective statement by the independent and voluntary Steering Group which I was pleased to Chair. It reflects our understanding of your responses in last year's survey and the aspirations you expressed in the public meetings and throughout the consultation process. You are invited to assimilate this collective view but not necessarily required to agree with it, for there is often more than one way of realising a goal; the beauty of human interaction and social relations.

All the background information to the Vision Plan will be made accessible to residents on request, so that should you wish you can formulate and substantiate your own opinions. Such action I heartily encourage and further, would urge you to share with your fellow parishioners and at the very least with your Parish Council so that together we can make a difference.

In the coming autumn a public meeting will be held inviting you to discuss and put your views forward on the Vision Plan' and 'What next'. I and the Steering Group look forward to seeing you then and to hear what you have to say

YOUTH CLUB REPORT

A busy exciting time with lots of news to share with everyone. Julie, Belinda, Hannah and Carl would like to thank the management committee and the Parish Council for their continued support.

Opening times

Club is now open on a Tuesday night thanks to the Parish Council and is proving to be very successful.

NEET Programme

Julie and Belinda are involved in the Not in Education Employment or Training (N.E.E.T.) project on a Tuesday from 4pm until 6pm working with young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training.

We run a programme to help young people in any way we can with interview preparation, filling in job application forms, C.V.s, interview discussions on how to present themselves, build on confidence, self-esteem etc. We can also arrange for other outside agencies such as Connexions to come in and help support our young people. The project will run until October

Activities Programme

With the Club now open 3 nights a week staff and young people have been busy planning a new programme with a variety of exciting activities leading right up to Thursday 6th August.

The programme consists of; Football coaching, Rugby coaching, Cooking workshops, Arts and crafts, Clinic in a box, Sexual health, Healthy living workshops, BBQs, Juggling workshops

Alcohol awareness, Community tidy up project, Cocktail evening and the list goes on. Computers and Internet are always an extremely popular and well-used activity.

Our young people also participated in helping to run a stall at the Village Fete, they all worked extremely hard and we were very proud of them.

Youth Bank

More exciting news, young people from the club have applied to Youth Bank for funding to help refurbish the inside of the youth club. If successful, we will have new leather sofas, curtains, flat screen televisions, coffee table, new kitchen etc. Julie has taken young people to Peasedown Youth Centre for a youth bank interview and we are awaiting their decision!!!

5-a-Side Football

Some of our young people are participating in a 5-a-side football tournament at Percy Boys Club, which is still on-going and they are presently doing very well.

Staff and young people were given a Nintendo Wii through B.&N.E.S., which has proven to be very popular and well used.

Thanks & Holidays

Staff would also like to thank Tracey Pike (B&NES) for her continued help and support.

Club will close for staff to have a well-deserved rest. The last night of Club will be Thursday 6th August and we will return on Tuesday 1st September 2009.