

CLAVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10TH MAY 2011 AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Present:

Councillors: David Batho (Chairman), Richard Wright, Rodger Sykes, Anna Beria, Mark Mackintosh, Chris Jensen

Clerk: Andrea Griffiths

Also present: Members of the public

01/11. Election of Chairman

It was proposed that Cllr. Batho be elected Chairman. All voted in favour and agreed. Cllr. David Batho was appointed Chairman and signed a new Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

02/11. Election of Vice Chairman

It was proposed that Cllr. Wright be elected Vice Chairman. All voted in favour and agreed. Cllr. Richard Wright was appointed Vice Chairman.

03/11. Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

All Cllrs. signed new Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms and Register of Members Interests. Cllr. Jensen was welcomed to the council and given a copy of standing orders, code of conduct and Terms of Reference of committees.

04/11. Co-option of Parish Councillor

It was agreed to ask Clive Abbott if he would consider re-joining the council and lead the planning committee. **Action - DB**

05/11. Apologies for Absence - None

06/11. Declarations of Member Interests - None

07/11. Appointment of Committees

It was proposed to have two committees; Planning & Transport. The responsibilities and Terms of Reference that are already in place to be retained. Cllr. Jensen to join the Planning Committee with Cllr. Beria. Cllrs. Wright, Sykes & Mackintosh are the members of the Transport Committee. It was agreed that Cllr Wright will be Chairman of the Transport Committee.

08/11. Appointment of Members to serve on Outside Bodies

It was agreed that Cllr. Batho would remain as the PC representative on the VPA Committee. Cllr. Mackintosh to attend the University of Bath Residents Forum and Pact Meetings. Cllr. Wright to attend Cluster & Pact Meetings, Cllr. Batho to attend Parish Liaison and ALCA meetings, with one other to be appointed.

09/11. Review of Existing Policies and Procedures (Standing Orders for 2011)

It was agreed that there were only minor changes to Ward Cllrs. to be made to the standing orders. AJG and Cllrs to review Standing Orders & Terms of Reference within six months.

10/11. Consideration of Chairman's Allowance

It was agreed to set the Chairman's Allowance at £100.

11/11. Approval of Year End Accounts & Audit

The accounts for the financial year end 2010/11 were approved and signed by the Chairman and RFO. The year end balance stands at £9,025.

a) The Audit for Mazars was approved and signed by the RFO and Chairman.

b) The Annual Governance Statement was approved and signed by the Chairman and RFO.

It was noted that the cheque signatories are Cllrs. Batho, Wright and Mackintosh.

12/11. Appointment of Independent Auditor

Bill Howe confirmed he would be happy to continue as the Independent Auditor for 2011/12. All agreed to the appointment. Cllr. Batho thanked Bill for his continued support.

13/11. Annual Subscriptions

The subscriptions for the year were agreed as per the attached list.

14/11. Open Forum

David Naylor stated that the yellow lines in Ferry Lane had been re-done. It was noted that Cllr. Wright (and Keith Rossiter of Bathampton PC on our behalf) had contacted B&NES to ensure they 'policed' parking on these lines.

15/11. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 8th March 2011 and Extraordinary Meeting on 7th April 2011

The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

16/11. Correspondence – noted as per the attached list.

17/11. Financial Officers Report

The following cheques were signed at the extraordinary meeting on 7th April:

100073 – A Griffiths – salary (approved March meeting)	£205.48
100074 – R Davis (Saraid)	£100.00

The following cheques were signed:

100075 – M Mackintosh - expenses	£44.40
100076 – VPA - subscription	£100.00
100077 – ALCA - subscription	£20.87
100078 – CPRE - subscription	£29.00
100079 – A Griffiths – salary	£213.73
100080 – D Batho – expenses	£165.66

Receipts: - B&NES 1 st half precept	£1750.00
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It was voted on and agreed to purchase an armed forces flag for circa £20. AJG to ask Paul Burden if it can be put on the Church's flagpole.

Actions

AJG

18/11. B&NES Core Strategy

Cllr Batho reported that the draft Core Strategy, with proposed changes, was submitted by B&NES to the government Planning Inspectorate on 3rd May. The independent examination in public is expected later this year.

Some of the changes proposed in the joint Claverton & Bathampton K&A Canal representation were accepted - the canal will now be shown on the Green Infrastructure network map and mentioned in the accompanying text, thereby giving the canal an improved profile.

19/11. Planning Committee Report

There was nothing to report.

20/11. Transport Committee Report

Village/Claverton Hill – Winter contingency plans – Cllrs. Wright & Mackintosh to draft letter by end of June to B&NES to request salt bags, and express an interest in being considered to purchase a salt spreader for the village. It should also be raised that B&NES should salt Claverton Hill.

RW/MM

A36 Speed Limit – Cllr. Batho has sent a letter to Peter Dawson (B&NES Group Manager Planning Policy & Transport) requesting a cost estimate. Ward Cllr. Ian Dewey wrote to Jacob Rees-Mogg MP and briefed Cllr. Martin Veal (who has been re-elected). It was agreed that the way forward would be to ask Jacob Rees-Mogg MP to intervene with the DfT Minister.

DB

A36 - Highways Agency Road Maintenance – Cllr. Wright confirmed that he is chasing them to cut the grass verges. The re-surfacing is incomplete; Cllr. Wright to investigate reasons and to request the pot hole at the south entrance to the village is filled.

RW

Ferry Lane – Yellow lines noted above in Open Forum.

Natural England Permissive Open Access Land near Pumping Station – Cllr. Mackintosh confirmed that the new sign has now been put up. Arrangements for collection of rubbish collected from land to be checked with B&NES.

RW

B&NES Air Quality Action Plan – This has now been published and is available for viewing on the B&NES website. It was recommended that the Transport Committee review the document.

MM

Joint Local Transport Plan (2011-2026) – The JLTP3 was published at the end of March and is available to view on the West of England Partnership website. It includes the report on 24th September Feedback Event which was attended by Cllr. Batho. There is no indication of an A36 P&R or A36/A46 link road in the vision. It was recommended that the Transport Committee reads the supplementary Freight document as it effects transit on the A36.

RW/MM/RS

Cotswolds AONB Highways Guidelines – These Guidelines were referred to in the JLTP3 and were requested by Cllrs. Batho & Wright at the 23rd February Parish Cluster Meeting. They are the Environmental Guidelines for Highways Works and Management in the Cotswolds AONB and were adopted, in principle, in June 2009. The protocol sets out the respective roles and responsibilities of the Cotswolds Conservation Board and the Highway Authorities (including the Highways Agency) with respect to transport matters in the Cotswolds AONB. It was agreed that the Transport Committee review the document and see if there is anything relevant to the A36 and our area of the AONB.

RW/MM/RS

21/11. Valley Parishes Alliance

Transport – It has been confirmed that the VPA has a position on the Bath Transport Commission. They are one of 3 observer representatives and await the Terms of Reference.

Kennet & Avon Canal:

Defra Consultation – Cllr. Batho reported that Defra has issued a consultation ("A New Era for the Waterways" - deadline 30th June) on the Government's proposal for moving inland waterways into a "New Waterways Charity" in England and Wales. Cllr. Batho and Keith Rossiter (Bathampton PC) will prepare the VPA representation to Defra. The K&A Canal Trust is concerned that this new Charity will have a direct impact on the way it operates and is, therefore, conducting a consultation on possible options for the future of the Trust.

DB

MSSG Meetings – Cllr. Batho reported that, during March, four groups reviewed the canal moorings and towpath between Bath and Devizes (Cllr. Batho and Keith Rossiter - Bath to Dundas and Bleddyn Griffiths from Winsley - Dundas to Bradford on Avon). Detailed reports were submitted and Cllr. Batho attended the 1st April and 9th May meetings.

Moorings maps (21) were discussed & agreed on 9th May. Proposals for management of the canal moorings and towpath will be discussed at the next meeting in June. A VPA position paper was prepared by Cllr. Batho & Keith Rossiter and submitted to British Waterways.

Cllr. Batho reported that the K&A Canal Trust has asked British Waterways to allocate them a dedicated mooring near Ferry Lane Bridge on pumping days. No objection will be raised by the Parish Council.

Bath WHS Management Plan (2010-2016) - Discussions have taken place with Tony Crouch (B&NES World Heritage Manager) and he has agreed to include a map in the appendices to the WHS Management Plan, showing designations beyond the boundary of the site, as requested by Cllr. Batho. UNESCO will comment on the draft plan at their annual meeting in June (19th-29th) and B&NES will then make any required revisions and insert the new map. B&NES have agreed to share the draft map with us before it is inserted.

Website - Mock-up prepared by Cllr Batho and sent to VPA Committee and PC and will be discussed at the next meeting on 16th May.

DB

22/11. Broadband Service

Cllr. Sykes reported that he has contacted B&NES, who have confirmed that they are currently mapping their existing broadband speeds and demand. Cllr. Sykes to meet with B&NES and also to write to the CEO of BT to see what plans they have for low residential rural areas.

RS

23/11. Parish Council website

Cllr. Beria confirmed that Melina Traub has been appointed to develop the site. It was agreed that a logo would not be required at present. All Cllrs. phone numbers and addresses would be listed but only the Clerks email address. All Cllrs. to provide a photograph and any pictures of the village. Cllr. Beria would put the draft site on Google Doc for all to view and edit.

ALL
AB

24/11. Exchange of Information

Cllr. Wright encouraged people to respond to the consultation on the plans for the Recreation Ground in Bath.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Date of next Council meeting: Tuesday 12th July 2011

Future Council meetings: Tuesday 13th September, Tuesday 8th November.

Signed.....
Chairman, Claverton Parish Council

Date.....