

# CLAVERTON ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010, AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

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### **Present:**

Councillors: Chris Jump, David Batho, Richard Wright, Rodger Sykes, Clive Abbott, Mark Mackintosh,  
Anna Beria  
Clerk: Andrea Griffiths

**Also present:** Bill Howe, Sam Hopkins, Karen Batho

### **The meeting opened at 8.30pm**

#### **1. Election of Chairman**

Cllr. Jump proposed Cllr. Batho for Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Wright. All agreed. Cllr. David Batho was appointed Chairman and signed a new Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr. Batho gave thanks to Cllr. Jump for his previous four years as Chairman, his many years on the Parish Council and general service to the Parish community. All present gave thanks.

#### **2. Apologies for Absence - none**

#### **3. Co-option of New Parish Councillor**

All agreed to the co-option of Anna Beria to the Parish Council and welcomed her. Her Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

#### **4. Confirmation that all Parish Councillors papers are in order**

All Cllrs. signed new Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms. Cllr. Abbott signed a new Register of Interest Form. All others confirmed they had no changes to their Register of Interests.

#### **5. Amendments to Standing Orders for 2010**

All agreed to the proposed changes, as per the attached report.

#### **6. Election of Vice Chairman (Under the New Adopted Standing Orders)**

Cllr. Batho proposed Cllr. Sykes for Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Abbott. All agreed. Cllr. Rodger Sykes was appointed Vice Chairman.

#### **7. Declarations of Member Interests**

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any interest they may have in any issue arising at this meeting which might conflict with the business of the Council

Cllr. Abbott expressed a pecuniary interest in Planning Application 01463, North Claverton Down Road stable block.

#### **8. Appointment of Committees**

Two committees were appointed (All were in agreement):

Transport - Cllrs. Sykes, Wright & Mackintosh  
Planning, Services and Communications - Cllrs. Abbott, Jump & Beria

Andrea gave everyone copies of Committee Procedures and all agreed to them.

#### **9. Approval of Year End Accounts & Audit**

Andrea Griffiths' appointment as RFO and Clerk was confirmed. The accounts for the financial year end 2009/10 were approved and signed by the Chairman and RFO. The year end balance stands at £7,321.29.

- 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 agreed that future cheque signatories would be Cllrs. Batho, Jump, Sykes and Mackintosh. **Andrea/Cllr. Jump to verify current signatories** and remove Sam Hopkins and Peter Fanner, if not already done.

**10. Appointment of Independent Auditor**

Bill Howe confirmed he would be happy to continue as the Independent Auditor for 2010/11. All agreed to the appointment. Cllr. Batho thanked Bill for his continued support.

**11. Annual Subscriptions**

The subscriptions for the year were agreed for: ALCA, CPRE, Bath Preservation Trust and SLCC Regular payments for the Parish Newsletter and Village Maintenance were also agreed.

**12. Minutes of Meeting - 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**13. Correspondence** - as per the attached list.

ALCA Councillor Training Courses were agreed: 23<sup>rd</sup> June - Cllr. Batho, 7<sup>th</sup> July - Cllr. Beria

**Actions**

DB/AB

**14. Financial Officers Report**

The following payments were agreed, with cheques to be signed on bank confirmation of account signatories:

100049 - Local Council Administration Manual	£53.60
100050 - ALCA - Updated Subscription amendment	£1.55
100051 - CPRE – Subscription	£29.00
100052 - ALCA - Chairmanship Short Course	£25.00
100053 - AON Insurance Renewal	£381.77
100054 - A Griffiths - Clerks Salary	£139.17
100055 - SLCC - Membership Renewal	£61.00

Cllr. Batho reminded the PC that a cheque for £100 would soon be needed as payment for the annual subscription to the Valley Parishes Alliance (VPA).

A claim has been submitted to HMRC for £421.61 for the last three years VAT. A letter requesting a special dispensation for another £103.59 for 2003-2006 has also been sent to HMRC.

AJG

The Insurance Policy is due for renewal 1<sup>st</sup> June and it was agreed to renew the policy with AON/Allianz. Andrea to investigate other quotes with a view to changing policy should there be significant cost savings (£30 penalty to cancel existing policy).

AJG

Cllr. Batho thanked Andrea for her initiatives regarding VAT recovery and renewal of the Insurance Policy.

Bill Howe thanked the PC for their work during the year.

**15. Planning Committee Report**

Progress with Planning Applications

1. Planning Application – 10/00592 – The Old Rectory (Coach House) – New Greenhouse – site visit completed and application supported.
2. Planning Application – The Coach House (American Museum) – site visit completed and application supported.
3. Planning Application – 10/01463 – North Claverton Down Road – Stable Block revision – no Comment

## Parish Online:

Cllr. Mackintosh reported that the Parish Online map site is a useful facility which clearly shows Parish Boundaries and enables features of use to the PC to be recorded and shared. Copies of varying scale maps were shown. Cllr. Mackintosh to email link to everyone.

MM

It was agreed that it would be useful to establish a list of land/field owners in and around the parish - Cllr. Mackintosh to look into this.

MM

## **16. Transport Committee Report**

### A36 speed limit

Cllr. Batho confirmed Highways Agency (HA) lack of funding for the scheme. It is proposed to further pursue the issue with B&NES (Cllr. Gerrish - Cabinet Member Customer Services) which has an advocacy role. Part funding of the scheme will be explored with the HA and an approach to our MP will be considered. The Police have previously agreed to implement Speedwatch on the A36 - Transport Committee to contact the Beat Officer and PCSO to arrange a meeting in Claverton.

DB

RW

### Kennet & Avon Canal

A British Waterways (BW) proposal for a pilot enforcement patrol was rejected by Claverton and Bathampton PCs in a 21<sup>st</sup> April joint letter. Cllr. Batho attended a User Group meeting in Devizes – BW reported that Government funding is insufficient and Charitable Trust status is being considered. BW also reported poor levels of response to both consultations. Some boaters still oppose proposed local Mooring Strategy steering group (Bath - Devizes). However, BW advise that it is expected to be in place by June. The VPA agreed that Keith Rossiter (Bathampton PC), Cllr. Batho and a nominated representative from Winsley should represent the VPA on the steering group. All Cllrs agreed.

DB

There is a sinking boat on the canal – Cllr. Wright to check that BW know about it. Andrea to check numbers of voters on electoral role from the canal boats.

RW  
AJG

### P&R

Bathampton Meadows P&R - emphasis of VeracityBath effort is on campaigning (UNESCO, Press, CPRE, DfT) and fundraising (leaflets and painting auction). The option of an A36 P&R appears to have been dropped by B&NES - no suitable locations in the valley area (AONB) and Stoke Hill is a problem for more remote sites.

DB

### Joint Local Transport Plan

The consultation period is planned to be June to September. Cllr. Batho recommended we have a presence at the Joint Transport Forum and on the Focus Groups and has already made requests to Peter Dawson (B&NES). Invitations to be followed up.

DB

B&NES Air Quality Action Plan – expected circa July 2010.

Public Realm & Movement Strategy Documents (PRMS) - in print.

### Meeting with B&NES

Cllr. Batho met with Peter Dawson (Head of B&NES Transport) on 21<sup>st</sup> April. Key points - copy of draft JLTP3 (300 pages) provided, no work being done on A36/A46 link road (draft JLTP3 states unlikely before 2026) and paper on Cleveland Bridge HGV ban presented to B&NES Cabinet - strong support, but with the Westbury Bypass cancelled they are struggling to move this forward. Follow up meeting to be arranged.

DB

**17. Valley Parishes Alliance**

All agreed to approve the Constitution document and Positions Paper. The launch will now be on 21<sup>st</sup> June at 12:00 noon at Dundas Aqueduct. The following officers have been elected - Simon Coombe (Limpley Stoke PC) - Chairman, Steve Mackerness (Bathord PC) - Treasurer, Adrian Kennedy (Limpley Stoke) - Secretary.

DB

**18. Consultations**

'B&NES review of Secondary Schools in Bath'. All agreed that, although the proposed changes will have no real impact on the Claverton community, the PC should respond to the consultation. Cllr. Beria to prepare short representation to B&NES - deadline 28<sup>th</sup> May.

AB

**19. AOB**

Addresses in Claverton – Cllr. Sykes was concerned that School Place was appearing in many addresses and causing confusion. Cllr. Mackintosh will look into this. Andrea to check electoral role to see how addresses are listed.

MM  
AJG

Ramblers Anniversary Walk of K&A Canal - A baton relay from Reading to Bristol takes place between 8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the 200 year anniversary of the K&A Canal and the Ramblers 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Cllrs. Jump & Batho to join walk on 13<sup>th</sup> May at Brassknocker Basin.

CJ/DB

Images of Research, University – This exhibition takes place 13<sup>th</sup> May from 4.30pm. Karen Batho agreed to attend.

Website – there are mixed views on whether a site should be created. It was agreed to get feedback from the parish community and review at a future meeting.

Broadband – Cllr. Wright was concerned about the slow speeds in Claverton. Cllr. Sykes recommended that people should pursue the matter with their ISPs.

Woolley Valley Green Belt/AONB Destruction – Cllr. Abbott raised the issue of the problems facing this valley. He proposes to discuss the matter with Chris Beezley (both previously involved in a successful campaign to save Green Belt at the University of Bath) with a view to offering support to the Woolley Valley campaign. Cllr. Batho will mention at 18<sup>th</sup> May Bath Preservation Trust Environs SC meeting.

CA/DB

**The meeting closed at 11.16pm**

**Date of next Council meeting:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010

**Future Council meetings:** Tuesday 14/09/2010, Tuesday 9/11/2010

Signed.....  
Chairman, Claverton Parish Council

Date.....