

Claverton Parish Council
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting Held on 8th July 2015 at St Mary's Church

Present

Councillors: Rodger Sykes, Thomas Sheppard, Mark Mackintosh, Chris Jensen, Glennis Naylor and Anna Beria
 Clerk: Lesley Watkinson
 Other: Members of public including local Ward Councillors Martin Veal and Alison Millar

Open Forum

Representations were made by members of the public. It was noted that there is a new bin at the bus stop which is a great improvement and will make it easier to report when a collection needs to be made. It was further noted that the B&NES Cleansing Team have come out quickly when advised that bin requires emptying.

A member of the public recommend that the Parish Council participate in the B&NES consultation regarding the Housing Development Boundary. Green Spaces is a key issue and especially pertinent in light of recent planning application at The Piggery. A member of public asked cllrs to consider that this proposed building at The Piggery was outside of the Building Development Boundary for Claverton village, that access to it was through the curtilage of a listed building and that the access route was through a noted view point referenced in the Claverton Conservation Plan. He also noted that this building had previously been the subject of an enforcement notice when the previously collapsed roof was replaced, raised and two Velux windows inserted in the roof.

Concern was also expressed that the B&NES administration will go out to consultation on East of Bath Park and Ride. It is of significant concern that the proposed A36/A46 link road is still actively being pursued by the Transport Leader. Although the Park and Ride does not impact directly on Claverton, it is a cause worth fighting for as it will, in all likelihood spur to a Link Road coming up the Valley, a creeping degradation to East of Bath. Cllrs Veal and Millar advised cllrs and members of public present that they did not support either an eastern Park and Ride or an A36/A46 link road.

Two members of public addressed the cllrs concerning Warleigh Weir. Significant illegal and thoughtless parking on Ferry Lane in 'high-season' means that emergency vehicles would not be able to access residential properties at the bottom of Ferry Lane. It is understood by a local resident that Network Rail are considering a bridge across the railway line. Local residents are concerned that a footbridge would create more problems than it would solve, and would present problems for people with bikes and pushchairs, and one resident would prefer a tunnel under the railway. The cllrs were also advised of a need to provide official signage at the Weir to deter antisocial behaviour.

Ward Cllr M Veal advised that the railway crossing at Warleigh Weir is regarded by Network Rail as one of most dangerous crossings in the Southwest of England.

Apologies for Absence - Richard Mould

Declaration of Member Interests - None.

Approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th June 2015.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th June 2015 were agreed as accurate and signed by the Chairman.

	Actions
<p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>Cllr Mackintosh still following up re Thyme Barm. The last report from enforcement was that B&NES are awaiting a proposal from the applicants to address the solar panels.</p> <p>Cllr Beria wrote to B&NES re signage on Claverton Hill and confirmed that Mr Chivers will make a site visit. Cllr Beria also wrote to S Walsh at Highways Agency to ask when new speed limit on A36 at Claverton will be implemented.</p> <p>University has prepared signs advising construction traffic not to use Claverton Hill. Cllr Mackintosh to follow up with the University to find out when the signs will be put up.</p>	MM

	Actions
<p>Receive and Discuss Correspondence</p> <p>The cllrs reviewed the correspondence list for the month, circulated in advance by the clerk. Clerk advised cllrs that took ownership of a Parish Council laptop (donated by B&NES).</p>	
<p>Financial Officer's Report</p> <p>Clerk produced cheque book for cllrs to review. Clerk advised that the June bank statement had not arrived. All cllrs present reviewed. No invoices were presented for inspection and no cheques signed.</p> <p>Clerk advised that the 14/15 Accounts and the Annual Statement were sent to Grant Thornton and subsequently acknowledged.</p>	
<p>Receive Planning Committee Report and discuss planning matters</p> <p>The Planning Committee is keeping in touch with B&NES planning and enforcement departments to keep abreast of their reviews of planning issues in the village.</p> <p>Cllr Mackintosh advised cllrs that there is an enforcement notice relating to Claverton at 'Orchard Fields'. Cllr Mackintosh to investigate further. Cllr Mackintosh to draft a letter to Planning requesting that Parish Council be informed when enforcement case opened relating to Claverton.</p> <p>Cllr Mackintosh reported that the Planning Committee had considered three tree works applications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 15/02743/TCA - 20 Claverton, Ferry Lane 2. 15/02905/TCA - Bassett Barn 3. 15/02942/TCA - The Byre <p>All three represented the removal or pruning of trees which were not considered to be specimens of merit or ones which would detrimentally impact the character of the village. Cllr Mackintosh asked the clerk to respond to the B&NES planning stating that the PC had no objections but deferred to the views of the arboriculture officer.</p> <p>Planning application 15/02914/FUL – Conversion of Former Piggery to a single Dwelling, was presented by Cllr Mackintosh and opened for discussion to the full council given the fact that this application is for the development of a property outside of Claverton's building development boundary, and would impact the curtilage of a listed building. Given the detail of the discussion this is presented as a separate set of planning minutes.</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>LW</p>
<p>Broadband Project update</p> <p>Claverton Hill properties and The American Museum do not yet have access to Superfast Broadband. This is next stage of project. Cllr Sykes and Mr C Jump have provided The American Museum with an update.</p>	<p>RS</p>
<p>Transportation Update, including actions arising re Warleigh Weir</p> <p>New date for postponed stakeholder meeting is 29th July and again Cllr Sykes has offered to host the meeting at St Mary's Claverton. There stakeholder meeting is managed by BNES and is by invitation only. At the meeting ROSPA will talk through their areas of focus. Claverton Parish Council intend to make a positive contribution to the meeting. Cllr Skyes asked another cllr to assist him with work connected to the Weir and Cllr Mackintosh volunteered. Warleigh resident T Parr is a local landowner whose land, which includes islands in the river, is regularly trespassed on. Clerk will keep Mr Parr informed of any developments.</p> <p>A resident has reported that there are trees which require cutting back to improve public safety (between field gate and lay-by. Clerk to draft letter to Highways.</p>	<p>LW</p>

	Actions
<p>Reports and feedback from external meeting</p> <p>Cllr Beria attended VPA meeting on 3rd June. There was a report from site visit. Hinton Charterhouse joined VPA and Bradford on Avon is considering joining. Batheaston not currently attending VPA meetings. VPA will contact J Rees Mogg to express the VPA's concern regarding the A36/46 link road proposals.</p>	
<p>Exchange of Information</p> <p>Clerk advised that contact information on website updated. Cllr acknowledged need to think about how to move forward with website. Cllr Beria will follow up with Melina re costs of updating website including making it mobile enabled. It was noted that user numbers of website are low.</p> <p>Standing Orders urgently require updating. Clerk to complete before ordinary meeting in September.</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>LW</p>

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Future Council Meetings: Wednesday 9th September 2015, Wednesday 14th October (Note that there is no Council meeting in August)

Signed Date

Cllr Chris Jensen, Chairman, Claverton Parish Council

