

SALTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at Saltford Hall, Saltford
on Tuesday 15th April 2014 at 7.15pm

PRESENT:

Councillors - Duncan Hounsell (Chair), Adrian Betts, Harvey Haeberling, Rob King, Kevin Reeves, Robert Taylor, Chris Warren, Jill Williams and Reg Williams

Officer - Tricia Golinski

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 March 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for inability to attend this meeting were received from Cllrs Kim Johnson and Neil McKen.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

4. PUBLIC TIME

There was 1 member of the public present.

John Neil commented, with regard to item 11. HIGH STREET TRAFFIC FLOW, that there is natural traffic calming already in place, and further signs and road markings would not be welcome.

5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair made the following announcements:

- a) B&NES Council is spending £50,000 at Saltford Brass Mill on a major repair and maintenance project repairing the roof and re-wiring the electrics. Work has begun. The aim is that Saltford Brass Mill will be open to visitors by the end of the summer. £50,000 is the biggest investment in Saltford Brass Mill since English Heritage carried out a £170,000 restoration in 1997. Cllr Neil Butters, Chair of B&NES Council, had an official tour of the Saltford Brass Mill on 13th March.
- b) The results of the Saltford residents' informal consultation survey carried out by B&NES Council on the possible re-opening of Saltford Railway Station have been released. 370 questionnaires were returned. 255 (68.9%) wanted a station at

Saltford and 76 (20.5%) did not, with 39 (10.6%) not having a view. 232 (62.7%) said that they would walk to a station and 40 (10.8%) said they would cycle. 43 (11.7%) said they would drive. Of these 43, 23 said they would look to park at a station car-park and 20 said they would look to park in the street. Reasons for using the station included "Going to work" (30.8%), Leisure (36.2%). Replies were mainly from residents aged 35 upwards.

- c) A Railway Station at Saltford as part of the MetroWest project is included in the Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan which is the basis of a bid to Government for a slice of £2 billion pounds for every year from 2015-2021.
- d) B&NES Council will be carrying out "Carriageway Micro Asphalt Surfacing" of Norman Road and Stratton Road as part of the Highway Maintenance Programme for 2014/2015.
- e) 20 mph speed limits in Saltford's residential areas off the A4 are being introduced following the village-wide consultation which was in favour. B&NES Council intends to advertise Traffic Regulation Orders now with potential implementation in June/July. I was concerned that both the lane immediately behind Montague Road, and the part of Manor Road (lane) from the top of Grange Road towards the first T-junction in the Keynsham direction were left out of the original indicative diagram. I arranged a site meeting with B&NES Council's lead officer, Mr Simon Thomas, on the roll-out of 20mph limits on 2nd April. The officers considered response was:

"The length of Manor Road to the rear of houses on Montague Road is rural and is of narrow width and in normal circumstances I would not consider to be appropriate for a 20mph speed limit as it is currently National limit. However the road is also a route that is part of the Strategic Cycle Network and which would benefit from a 20mph limit. In discussion with colleagues, it is felt that it should be included within the 20mph speed limit proposal due for TRO advertisement. With respect to the other section of Manor Road, between Courtney Road and Grange Road, the road has a rural setting with no footways, but has a number of properties along it and again is also National limit. The road is used by a number of school children, walkers and cyclists. Again in discussion with colleagues, it is felt that it should be included within the 20mph speed limit proposal due for TRO advertisement."
- f) It is the intention of the Post Office to keep a Post Office service in Saltford. The Post Office is aware of the Parish Council's interest in this matter. At this stage, the matter is confidential. Once the Post Office has considered the suitability and the business plans of applicants, there will be a 6 week public consultation period and then a further 6 week period when Post Office Ltd would collate all responses and make an announcement accordingly.
- g) On 8th April, I attended the unveiling by Cllr Neil Butters, Chair of B&NES Council, of a montage depicting all the Parishes in North East Somerset. This montage is displayed at the Guildhall, Bath, and is to indicate that the Guildhall serves the communities of North East Somerset as well as Bath.
- h) Thank-you to all the councillors, representatives of outside organisations, and members of the public who attended the Saltford Parish Council Annual Parish meeting on 1st April which included the 2014 Saltford Parish Council Community Awards.

- i) Saltford Parish Council has received a number of emails from local residents following the recent ploughing of the fields south of Manor Road (lane) and west of Longwood Lane. The previous permissive paths have been ploughed up with a loss of amenity to walkers and others. B&NES Council's Footpaths section has been informed of the situation. A letter was sent to the farmer as listed on the land registry. The farmer has replied explaining that the reason for bringing back the permissive paths into the arable rotation is the removal of funding by DEFRA for public access in the Entry and Higher Level stewardship schemes.
- j) The survey of the Churchyard walls takes place on Wed 23rd April.
- k) The Saltford Parish Council internal audit takes place on Wed 30th April.
- l) A letter of thanks has been received from "Golden Oldies" for the financial assistance grant of £180 awarded by the Parish Council.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) **Minutes** – The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 1 April 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- b) **New planning applications** – The Council considered the following planning applications in respect of which Bath & North East Somerset (B&NES) Council had invited comments:

14/01096/FUL - 34 Claverton Road - Erection of single storey rear extension and conversion of loft including installation of dormer - Mr Chris Rainbow

It was resolved that B&NES Council be advised that this Council **objects to** this application as the proposed dormer extending above the roof line would not be in keeping and would be contrary to policy D.4 of the Local Plan.

- c) **Decisions** – The Clerk reported the following applications which had been PERMITTED with conditions by B&NES Council:

14/00873/FUL - 2 Uplands Drive - Erection of single storey rear extension - Mr Lee Bignall

The Clerk reported the following applications which had been REFUSED by B&NES Council:

13/05304/FUL - Parcel 6700 Avon Lane - Change of use of agricultural land to the keeping of horses. Erection of stable block - Ms L Nathan

14/00268/FUL - 556 Bath Road - Construction of permeable surfaced driveway and alterations to ground levels of front garden - Mr S Birchal

- d) **Planning items of urgent information** – Cllr Kevin Reeves noted that the refusal of application 14/00268/FUL - 556 Bath Road implied a possible planning contravention at this site which B&NES should investigate.

Cllr Adrian Betts reported from his attendance at some of the Core Strategy Examination Hearings that the inspector appears to be close to accepting the 13,000 new homes proposed in the Core Strategy. Developers were pushing for an early review of the Core Strategy. In the future some Green Belt land may be 'safeguarded' for development.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) **Monthly Financial Report** – The report was discussed and accepted by Members.
- b) **Schedule of Expenditure** – It was resolved that the expenditure for all items listed in the schedule for the month of April 2014 be authorised and the schedule signed by the Chair.

8. POWERS FOR GRANTS AWARDED 2013/14

The Council approved the powers under which grants were given to local organisations during 2013/14 as follows:

| Date | Organisation | Project | Amount | Power |
|----------|---------------------------------|--|--------|---------------|
| 02.04.14 | Keynsham & District Dial a Ride | Accessible transport for 125 members living in Saltford | £500 | LGRA s.26-29 |
| 15.05.13 | Saltford Community Association | Installation of LED stage lights | £500 | LGA s. 145 |
| 05.12.13 | 1 st Saltford Scouts | Towards the insulation of the Scout Hut | £1,000 | LGA(MP)A s.19 |
| 05.12.13 | Saltford Community Association | Production of bi-monthly SCAN newsletter | £350 | LGA s.142 |
| 10.03.14 | Golden Oldies | Towards setting up a singing group for isolated people in Saltford | £180 | LGA(MP)A s.19 |

Abbreviations:

LGA Local Government Act 1972
 LGA(MP)A Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
 LGRA Local Government and Rating Act 1997

9. TREE SAFETY REPORT

The Council noted the survey report on trees at St Mary's Churchyard, Saltford, carried out by Alan Engley, tree specialist.

The Council agreed to provide a copy of this report to the Parochial Church Council at St Mary's Church.

The Council agreed to seek detailed quotations for all the tree work identified in the survey report, from organisations other than the author of the report.

10. REQUEST TO PUT A GEENHOUSE ON AN ALLOTMENT PLOT

The Council agreed to a request from an allotment tenant to put up a greenhouse on her allotment plot.

11. HIGH STREET TRAFFIC FLOW

Cllr Reg Williams reported that at busy times, there are considerable problems with confrontations between drivers in High Street, Saltford. Cars are parked on the west side of the road, with a few on the east side at the wider end of the road towards Beech Road. This leads to a natural priority for those travelling up the road. However many drivers travelling down the road ignore the parked cars on their side and demand priority, leading to delays and standoff confrontations. The Council agreed to ask that B&NES consider this problem.

12. POTHOLE

It was agreed that members would report to the Clerk any potholes in their area needing attention, by 25 April, to form a list of potholes in Saltford's roads to be passed to B&NES Highways department for repairs.

13. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Kevin Reeves reported that Jacob Rees-Mogg MP attended a meeting of Saltford Business Network on 4 April, and that the Business Network's AGM will be on 21 April at 7.00pm at Saltford Golf Club.

Cllr Jill Williams reported from Saltford Community Association's AGM that it is still fundraising to cover a deficit.

Cllr Duncan Hounsell attended Keynsham & District Dial a Ride's meeting on 2 April.

Cllr Reg Williams attended a meeting of the River Avon Users Consultative Committee on 8 April, at which Alan Aldous gave a presentation on flood risk.

14. ITEMS OF URGENT INFORMATION

Cllr Duncan Hounsell reported that Vanessa Hillier is organising a group of kayakers to collect rubbish from the river banks whilst fund raising for The Youth Adventure Trust. This will be from 9am to 5pm on Saturday 19 April and from 10am to 3pm on Sunday 20 April, between The Riverside Inn to The Jolly Sailor.

Cllr Chris Warren reported that Saltford Environment Group are clearing vegetation on the railway cycle path to restore habitat and open up views, with assistance from other local groups.

Cllr Jill Williams is seeking views on whether there should be a Saltford Festival in 2015, and looking for people or organisations to run events.

Cllr Duncan Hounsell reported that the next Parish Council meeting is the annual meeting at which Chairs and Vice-Chairs are elected, and representatives on

outside bodies may be appointed.

Cllr Rob King reported that there was a problem with the Beech Road/Bath Road/Manor Road traffic lights and sensors, which was being addressed.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Next Council meeting: 6 May 2014

Next Planning Committee meeting: 20 May 2014

Chairman.....

Date confirmed and signed.....