

SALTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at Saltford Hall, Saltford on Tuesday 1st December 2015 at 7.15pm

PRESENT:

Councillors - Duncan Hounsell (Chair), Adrian Betts, Ben Eve, Jon Godfrey, Phil Harding, James Macnaughton, Liz Macnaughton, Kyle Rice and Farida Wilson

Officer - Tricia Golinski

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 3 November 2015 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 Rob Taylor and Chris Warren, and B&NES ward Cllrs Francine Haerberling and Emma Dixon.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Adrian Betts declared an interest in planning application 15/05010/FUL - 66 Montague Road, as he is a close neighbour.

4. PUBLIC TIME

There were 6 members of the public present.

John Andrews spoke in support of application 15/05010/FUL - 66 Montague Road.

Suzanne Sutherland spoke objecting to application 15/05010/FUL - 66 Montague Road.

Alistair Sutherland spoke objecting to application 15/05010/FUL - 66 Montague Road.

5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair made the following announcements:

- Saltford Library re-opens on a Saturday on Saturday 5th December from 9.30am to 1pm with the support of a team of volunteers. Footfall is important to sustain the viability of the library. Do use Saltford Library.
- Saturday 5th December is also "small business Saturday" which reminds us to support the businesses and shops in Saltford.
- Saltford Santa Dash will be held once again on Sunday 6th December at 11am.
- Network Rail is holding a briefing session at St Mary's Church Hall on Tuesday 15th December from 5.30pm to 7:30pm for members of the public about the electrification works locally and arrangements during the temporary closure of Keynsham Station for 9 days from 2nd April 2016 to 11th April 2016. I would

encourage anyone who uses the train service from Keynsham on a regular basis or who lives close to the main-line to drop in to this event.

- I spoke in public time to B&NES Council's Communities, Transport and Environment (CTE) Scrutiny Committee on 16th November on behalf of Saltford Parish Council on the subject of the re-opening of Saltford Station.
- I have been informed by an officer at B&NES that Saltford Station has **not** been included in the Metro West time-table studies being conducted at this time by GWR on behalf of the West of England Local Transport Body. It was stated that Metro West Phase 1 development is the sole focus of the current studies and that the feasibility of time-tabling a station at or near Saltford would be considered at a later date.
- A reminder to everyone to make nominations for the Saltford Parish Council 2016 Community Awards. Details and a simple nomination form can be found on the Parish Council web-site www.saltfordparishcouncil.gov.uk. The deadline for nominations is 12th February.
- Saltford Parish Council put forward the greens in Broadway and Haselbury Grove amongst others for "Green Spaces Designation" by B&NES Council which would have afforded some added planning protection for those sites. Although B&NES Council originally was minded to agree with the Parish Council to give the greens at Broadway and Haselbury Grove this designation, B&NES is now considering withdrawing these sites for this designation following objections by the landowner Curo. The Parish Council has continued to argue for the greens at Broadway and Haselbury Grove to be given the designation. Saltford Parish Council has accepted the revised opinion of B&NES Council that the Wick House allotments should not receive the green spaces designation as that space has adequate protection under Policy LCR5.
- B&NES Council is phasing out the Local Council Tax support scheme from next year. There will be an initial grant reduction of £260 to Saltford Parish Council's budget in 2016/17. The full amount of grant to Saltford Parish Council viz. £1290 will be withdrawn by B&NES Council by 2019/2020.
- B&NES Council has withdrawn free safety inspections of the Parish Council Youth shelter on Saltford Playing fields by the garages.
- Saltford Parish Council will formulate its responses at its January 2016 meeting to the West of England Joint Spatial Plan (Housing) and the West of England Joint Transport Study

6. CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Clerk made the following announcements:

- The **Planning Committee meeting** scheduled for 24 November did not take place as there were no applications requiring consideration at the time.
- **Internet banking** – Four account signatories are now signed up for online banking and are able to authorise payments online. Most payments will now be made by internet banking transfer from now on.
- **Notice boards** – The new notice boards are due to be installed by Signs of Saltford tomorrow (2 December).
- **Saltford Station** – A meeting has been set up with Cllr Anthony Clarke, B&NES Transport Cabinet Member (and perhaps Cllr Tim Warren, B&NES Council Leader) on Thursday 21 January 2016: all councillors are encouraged to attend this meeting.

- Cllr Duncan Hounsell and I attended the **Keynsham Area Forum** special meeting on 24 November. There was a discussion of B&NES Council's budget proposals and financial plans for the next four years; and a presentation from planning officers on the West of England Joint Spatial Plan and Transport Study.
- At our November meeting it was agreed to seek the creation of **off-road parking spaces in Brockley Road**. This would require collaboration with B&NES Council as highways authority and Curo as landowner of the grassed areas. B&NES Council Traffic and Safety team has replied that they are not in a position to contribute due to existing scheme commitments. Curo has replied that they do not have the funds to invest in extra parking, and has suggested that one way for this to happen is for the Parish Council to take over ownership and pursue their own plans with the land.
- Quotations for the work identified in the **churchyard tree report** have been sought from five organisations. These will be considered at our January meeting.

7. REPORT FROM B&NES WARD COUNCILLORS

The Clerk gave the following report from B&NES ward Cllr Emma Dixon: responses to questions posed by Saltford Parish Council about Saltford Primary School proposed new build:

- *When is a planning application likely to be ready for public consultation? We have completed the feasibility schemes and have a preferred option. This design needs to be signed off by the school before we can progress to planning. We expect this agreement this week and anticipate being ready to submit a planning application around the end of the year.*
- *What location and what amount of land in the public open space adjacent to the school will be sought by B&NES Council in order to comply with recommendations for the amount of playing field required by the school? The school requires a full football pitch plus suitable run off from the adjoining land. Sport England guidance on pitch sizes recommends for junior age football pitch minimum of 80 x 50 m plus 3 metre deep run off strip. To allow flexibility for older age range it would be better to increase the area to allow for up to 120 x 90 plus run off strip.*
- *If additional school playing field area is sought within the existing public open space what proposals are there for a) maintaining the security needs of the school and b) maintaining public access? The sports area will be fenced off with a similar fence to that around the play area. Gates will provide access both for maintenance and public although dogs will be requested to be excluded through appropriate notices.*

The Clerk gave the following report from B&NES ward Cllr Emma Dixon: responses to questions posed by Saltford Parish Council about the fenced "badger" area by Claverton Road playing fields:

- *Will the public ever have access again to this area? Only with consent of the school as this has now been transferred to the schools portfolio.*
- *Will this area be considered a permanent part of the estate of Saltford Primary School? Yes.*
- *Is the current metal fencing temporary or permanent? and if temporary, when will it be removed? The current fencing is permanent but there will be a native hedge planted on the school side of this fence.*
- *Has a barrier been placed to a depth at the "badger area" boundary adjacent to the houses in Claverton Road to prevent the badger sett expanding into gardens as*

indicated in a presentation by B&NES officers? Yes. Galvanised weld mesh has been installed below ground on this elevation exactly for this purpose.

- *What is the estimated badger population in the new badger area? Difficult to say but best estimate is between six and eight.*

8. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) **New planning applications** – The Council considered the following planning applications in respect of which Bath & North East Somerset (B&NES) Council had invited comments:
- 15/05010/FUL - 66 Montague Road - Erection of two storey side extension to existing dwelling
- It was resolved that B&NES Council be advised that this Council **COMMENTS ON** this application: We would draw attention to the scale of the proposed extension and the possible loss of amenity and privacy to the occupiers of number 64.
- b) **Decisions** – The Clerk reported that the following application had been WITHDRAWN:
- 15/04392/FUL - 3 Beech Road - Erection of two storey side extension (Resubmission of 15/01056/FUL) - Mr C Harvie

The Clerk reported the following applications which had been PERMITTED with conditions by B&NES Council:

- 15/04102/FUL - 14 Kingston Avenue - Erection of porch to front elevation - Mr & Mrs Oliver
- 15/03221/FUL - 57 Uplands Road - Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension following demolition of existing single storey rear extension - Mr John Critchley

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

- 15/03333/FUL - 554 Bath Road - Erection of a new dwelling following demolition of existing bungalow and garages - Mr A Pozonyi

- c) **Planning items of urgent information** – Cllr Adrian Betts expressed concern about the proposed expansion of Saltford Primary School into an important open green space in the south of Saltford, the only large green space open to residents in the south of Saltford. It was agreed that the Parish Council asks B&NES Council's Planning and Education Departments, the School, and our Ward Councillors that the proposal be subject to the widest possible consultation to ensure that residents have the ability to consider the implications of any proposal on their access and use of this green space.

9. 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 December 2015 be authorised and the schedule signed by the Chair.

- c) **Society of Local Council Clerks membership** – The Council authorised expenditure of £149 to renew the Clerk’s membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks for 2016 (budget heading General Administration).
- d) **Draft budget 2016/17** – The Council considered the draft budget for 2016/17, following an informal discussion during which a precept of £31,672 was proposed. Final agreement of the precept requirement will be made at the January 2016 Council meeting.

10. AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN FOR SALT FORD

Saltford Parish Council had already (at its November meeting) formulated its response to the eleven specific suggestions for action proposed by B&NES Council. The Council agreed the following additional measures which it recommends as action points to be added to its response to the B&NES Council consultation:

- Diesel particulate matter (PM10) should also be monitored regularly.
- Drivers should be encouraged to switch to electric vehicles via incentives such as free residents parking.
- The sensor pads at the Bath Road/Manor Road/Beech Road junction should be programmed so that when a vehicle moves away the activation to the traffic lights is cancelled.
- An Origin Destination survey should be undertaken to better understand the categories of vehicles travelling through Saltford. Simple measures such as a change of directional information in the Bath/Bristol area could direct traffic away from Saltford.
- Better cycling infrastructure should be implemented around Saltford.

11. WAR MEMORIAL

The Council agreed that in view of the information provided by B&NES Council and the Land Registry about the lease and covenants on the war memorial site, no open public discussion about a possible move of the war memorial would be conducted at this time.

12. REPORTS FROM LINK MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Kyle Rice reported from the recent meeting of Saltford Community Association (SCA) that the SCA has secured funding from B&NES ward councillors for youth work in Saltford and is seeking a paid youth worker.

13. ITEMS OF URGENT INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Phil Harding reported that B&NES Council officers are giving regular reports on progress with regard to the moorings in Mead Lane. They are considering a possible trial Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to prevent overnight parking, and are meeting with the Canal and River Trust to review mooring management at this location. They are also reviewing the quotes they had received for the slipway in The Shallows: if the work required is going to be very costly this project will be highlighted via B&NES Council’s Water Space Study Work Programme which will be developed in 2016/17.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Chair's signature.....

Date confirmed and signed...../...../.....

Next Council meeting: 5 January 2016
Next Planning Committee meeting: 22 December 2015