

# SALTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at Saltford Hall, Saltford on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 at 7.15pm

## PRESENT:

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

**Officer** - Tricia Golinski

## 1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 February 2016 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 Councillors Liz Macnaughton, Kyle Rice, Rob Taylor and Chris Warren.

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Adrian Betts declared an interest in item 11. SALTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL CONSULTATION ON ACADEMY STATUS, as he was a member of the school's governing body.

## 4. PUBLIC TIME

There were 2 members of the public present.

## 5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair made the following announcements:

- Out of 51 Parish and Town Councils in the B&NES area, Saltford Parish Council has raised the 4<sup>th</sup> LOWEST precept (tax) for 2016/17 (using a band D property for comparison purposes). Only Charlcombe, Chelwood, and North Stoke have levied a lower Parish precept for a band D property.
- The Chair of B&NES Council, Cllr Ian Gilchrist, is inviting ALL Parish and Town councillors to a reception to be held at the Keynsham Civic Centre on Wednesday 20th April as a thank-you for their voluntary service to the community.
- I will be attending the Annual Civic Reception hosted by the Chair of B&NES Council, Cllr Ian Gilchrist, for Parish Council Chairs to be held at the Roman Baths and Pump Room on 17<sup>th</sup> March.
- The referendum on how B&NES Council is run takes place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Do cast your vote on this issue - either for the current system of choosing the

council leader or in favour of having a directly elected mayor. This issue is too important to be decided by a small turn-out of the electorate.

- The Clerk has asked for an explanation from B&NES Highways why unsightly and unsuitable posts have been erected at the Shallows car-park in a conservation area. Cllr Haerberling has informed me that she has asked for these posts to be removed.
- The month of May marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saltford Parish Council in the modern era having been established in 1991.

## 6. CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Clerk made the following announcements:

- In response to our request for a safety report of the **Norman Road/Bath Road junction**, B&NES Council's Road Safety Officer has said that B&NES is planning a route review of the A4 in the 2016/17 financial year. This will look at all the junctions on the A4 and will include recommendations to improve safety. He will let us know the outcome. With regards to the relocation of the VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign), B&NES has added this request to their minor works program and when funding has been allocated will then be able to carry out this request.
- In response to our request for an **electric vehicle charging point in Saltford**, the B&NES Cabinet Member for Transport will speak to B&NES officers about this, and has asked where we think is the best place to locate a charging point in Saltford. I have suggested one of the B&NES car parks next to Saltford Hall.
- The B&NES Cabinet Member for Transport has replied to our request to consider installing **20mph speed limits and other traffic calming measures** throughout the entirety of the Manor Road and Courtenay Road lanes from Saltford to Keynsham, as follows: "The new B&NES administration will only consider new 20 mph speed limits outside schools, or in areas with a poor safety record as judged by police reports, and then only in urban areas".
- In 2012 the Parish Council submitted an **application for Modification Order to amend Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way** for the path on the edge of St Mary's churchyard from Queen Square to the stile into the churchyard. B&NES Council is now in a position to progress this application, and is asking if the Parish Council has any further evidence to submit by 5 April.
- Please note I will be taking some **annual leave during March and April**: I will be on leave the weeks beginning 7 March, 21 March and 4 April.

## 7. REPORT FROM B&NES WARD COUNCILLORS

B&NES Councillor Emma Dixon reported that:

- She has spoken to the Dog Warden and new signs have been put up to deal with the problem of dog fouling.
- The planning application 15/05808/FUL for a new dwelling on land between Spion Kop and Avon Lea, Mead Lane is likely to go to committee on 6 April and she will speak in support of it at the committee meeting.
- She has spoken to Property Services about the re-surfacing of the tennis courts.
- The Wedmore Road play area is outdated and is due for replacement in 2017/18.
- Saltford Primary School's new building proposals will be on display in the school Library on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March from 3:30pm till 7:30pm. Two separate planning

applications may be made, one for the classrooms and one for the playing field.

## 8. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) **Minutes** - The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 23 February 2016 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:

**16/00662/FUL** - Clevedale The Shallows - Erection of single storey rear extension - Mr N McKen

It was resolved that B&NES Council be advised that this Council **SUPPORTS** this application with the comment: The extension should be constructed with materials and in a nature which is sensitive to the overall appearance of the Conservation Area.

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

16/00224/TCA - St Marys Church Queen Square - T1 - 1x Yew - remove major deadwood, crown lift to 2.5 m over path by and removal of one lateral and pruning stubs. T2 - 1x Lime - remove epicormic and inspect base remove major deadwood. G3 - 1x Lawsons Cypress - remove. T4 - 1x Laburnham - fell. T5 - 1x Oak - reduce end weight on south stem overhanging church by 1.5 m. T8 - 1x Austrian Pine - remove dead torn limb and reduce end weight of two laterals on northeast aspect by 3 m. T11 - 1x Austrian Pine - shorten truncated lateral by 3 m for long term stability - Saltford Parish Council

15/05297/FUL - Saltford Community Centre Wedmore Road - Installation of 40ft x 8ft x 8ft container between the Wansdyke Room and the car park on the Saltford Hall site - Saltford Community Association

- d) **Planning items of urgent information** – Councillor Adrian Betts reported that there was a planning application of which the Parish Council had not been advised by B&NES Council, and that the Clerk will establish the reason why the Parish Council was not consulted and request additional consultation time in order to consider the application and make any comments.

## 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 March 2016 be authorised and the schedule signed by the Chair.

## 10. PARKING ISSUES IN AND AROUND SALT FORD

The Council confirmed that the working party to look at parking issues comprises

Councillors Duncan Hounsell, Adrian Betts, Farida Wilson and Rob Taylor (to be confirmed). It was agreed that the first meeting of the working party will be on 10 March at 10.00 am, and that the target date for the completion of the work of the working party is May 2016.

## **11. SALTFFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL CONSULTATION ON ACADEMY STATUS**

The Council considered Saltford Primary School's Stakeholder Consultation on converting to Academy status and subsequently joining Wellsway Multi Academy Trust, which is out for consultation until 11 March 2016. Councillor Adrian Betts passed on apologies from the Chair of Governors who was unable to attend this meeting. It was agreed that the Parish Council would remain neutral and not send any response, as they feel it is best for the other stakeholders, staff, parents and governing body to make these important decisions.

## **12. PLANNING CONTRAVENTIONS POLICY AND PRACTICE**

The Council reviewed its policy and practice regarding alleged planning contraventions, which was confirmed at the meeting of the Planning Committee on 23 June 2015 and added to the Planning Committee's terms of reference. It was agreed that the policy and practice was working well.

## **13. FAIRTRADE**

The Council agreed that it continues to support the Fairtrade movement, welcomes the existence of the Fairtrade group in Saltford, and will serve Fairtrade products at its functions as appropriate.

## **14. PUBLIC FOOTPATH ACROSS THE TOP OF THE OUTLOOK, SALTFFORD**

The Council agreed to contact B&NES Council and express its concern for public safety on the public footpath on the top of the Outlook, Saltford, from The Batch towards The Craig and the railway bridge, due to the narrowness of the path and the fact that it is on a slippery slope.

## **15. REPORTS FROM LINK MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Duncan Hounsell reported that the Keynsham Area Forum meeting on 17 February included items on: Police update, B&NES Council budget, West of England Joint Strategic Plan, Parish Clerks' survey, and Green Spaces Strategy.

Councillor Duncan Hounsell reported that the Parishes Liaison meeting on 24 February included reports from B&NES Council on various issues.

Councillor Phil Harding reported from Saltford Environment Group:

- During Fairtrade Fortnight (29 February - 13 March), Saltford Fairtrade Group will have a stall outside the Co-op and a raffle at the Co-op counter.
- Phil Harding, as SEG's Chairman, met with local MP Jacob Rees-Mogg on 6 February regarding the West of England Joint Spatial Plan, and discussed the reasons for not permitting Green Belt development.
- A litter pick was held by Saltford School's Green Team with assistance from SEG

Salford Wombles on 25 February for the 'Clean for the Queen' initiative.

#### **16. ITEMS OF URGENT INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Adrian Betts reported from the first meeting of the West of England Joint Spatial Plan Working Group on 18 February.

#### **17. PUBLICITY**

The Council agreed items to include in the Parish Council's page of SCAN and ideas for the next Parish Council e-newsletter.

#### **18. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

The Council passed a resolution that in accordance with Standing Order 1 c, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

#### **19. SALTFRD COMMUNITY AWARDS 2016**

The Council agreed the recipients of the Parish Council Community Awards 2016 and authorised expenditure of £440 on the Community Awards winners' chosen Salford group, project, cause or charity, and on printing winners' certificates (budget heading Council Led Schemes).

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Chair's signature.....

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

**Next Council meeting:** 26 April 2016  
**Next Planning Committee meeting:** 22 March 2016