

**Valley Parishes Alliance Meeting
Annual General Meeting
4th May 2016
Monkton Combe Village Hall**

Present: Nick Stevens (Freshford), Anna Beria (Claverton), Steve Mackerness (Bathford), Robin Davies (Winsley), Hugh Baker – Chair (Bathford), Moira Brennan (Bathampton), Susanne Hagan (Batheaston), Lyn Alvis (Monkton Combe), Alison Millar Ward Cllr (Bathavon North), Sarah Jackson – Green Infrastructure Coordinator
Ingrid Maher Roberts – Minute secretary

<p>1.0 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from David Gwyther (Limpley Stoke), Des Wighton (Monkton Combe), Hugh Delap (Freshford)</p> <p>2.0 Sarah Jackson - Bathscape Historically the landscape around Bath and the city was well used and respected for its health and recreational benefits. However B&NES believes that it is not being cared for in a way that fully reflects its value for people, community and nature. The Bathscape Partnership is working to address this, involving many different groups and local communities. It has put in a Heritage Lottery Fund bid to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to and understanding of the landscape and nature • Help improve and sustain its long term management and • Revitalise its use for health, recreation and fun <p>They hope to achieve these aims through a variety of projects working in partnership with many organisations such as Bath Tourism Plus and Wessex Water. The submission date for the bid is the 1st June and more details can be obtained at www.bathnes.gov.uk/Bathscape. Sarah confirmed that in terms of a successful bid the boundary, which Bathscape would cover, would not provide additional protection against development, but could be used as material evidence for any planning application. NS highlighted that Bathscape may find it useful to contact Catherine Phillips from the Heart of Wessex Community Rail Partnership for further information on the walking routes they produce from all stations along the line.</p> <p>3.0 Minutes from meeting on 3rd February 2016 and matters arising. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. Action: Members agreed that it would be appropriate for the VPA to now contact environmental groups to suggest meeting with them to discuss the threat of an A36/46 link road. Members had been made aware via the Bath Chronicle that MP Ben</p>	<p>AB/MB</p>
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<p>Howlett had received an encouraging response from David Cameron when he had asked about funding for an A36/46 link road during PM Questions.</p> <p>MB attended the Transport Commission meeting and believes that B&NES have not fully costed the business case for a Link Road and have not discussed details with Highways England.</p> <p>4.0 Chairman's report</p> <p>It was been a constructive year for the VPA. Its profile has been raised, but further work is still required. HB thanked Moira and Anna for all their work over the last year and also thanked Hugh D for continuing to forge positive working relationship with Highways England and Des for his work with the Canal River Trust.</p> <p>5.0 Finance Report</p> <p>There is currently £4,431 in the bank and invoices for 2016 subs have been sent to PC's.</p> <p>6.0 Election of Committee members</p> <p>MB proposed that Hugh Baker be re-elected as Chairman. This was seconded by NS and unanimously supported by all members present. HB proposed that Steve Mackerness be re-elected as Treasurer. This was seconded by MB and unanimously supported by all members present.</p> <p>7.0 P&R proposals and Scrutiny Inquiry day update</p> <p>A further meeting takes place on the 4th May. The BMA will be presenting their concerns regarding the statistical information that B&NES are using to support their P&R proposals.</p> <p>8.0 VPA Highways England group update</p> <p>The minutes of the recent meeting have been circulated and uploaded onto the VPA website. HD had raised the question of whether the VPA's views on the A36/46 link road could be more clearly identified on the website. Members confirmed that this was a good idea and suggested HD write a paper on the situation and the VPA's stance on the link road. This can then be added to the website.</p> <p>Action: HD to write link road paper</p> <p>9.0 Any other Business</p> <p>MB informed members that the Canal River Trust was establishing a quiet zone along the canal through Bathampton to try and reduce the noise levels from canal boats.</p> <p>MB will also be attended the next Bath Transport Commission meeting in June.</p> <p>The Bathavon Forum is made up of 21 parishes and the meetings are not always the more productive. There was a suggestion that the meetings should be held in the centre of Bath as this might increase representation. Alternatively it may be more beneficial to split the parishes geographically into 2 regional areas such as Bath North East</p>	<p>HD</p>
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<p>and Bath South West. Action: HB to follow up these options.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 2.00pm NEXT VPA Meetings 7th September, 7th Dec 2016.</p> <p>Monkton Combe Village Hall</p>	<p>HB</p>
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