

## **Bathford Parish Council - Statement to BANES Council, 17 July 2025**

**by Hillary Carr, Chair, Bathford Parish Council**

I'm Hillary Carr, Chair of Bathford Parish Council. I've been a Councillor for five years and Chair for two years. Bathford is a parish located 3 miles east of Bath, with a population of 1,880 residents. We are part of the Bathavon North Ward, and our Councillors are Cllrs Kevin Guy and Sarah Warren.

Our interaction with BANES Council has grown significantly in the last three years as the Council has been more proactive in identifying and addressing key local issues and, in collaboration with BANES, providing both funding and solutions.

Most collaboration has been on Highways matters. Our Road Safety Survey in 2022 identified the key issue being pedestrian safety from speeding vehicles on the three key arterial routes through the parish and to provide a 'Safe Route to School' for children crossing these routes.

We discussed the issues with our Ward Councillors and BANES Highways and the prime requirement identified was for a crossing point on the High Street, which could also provide traffic-calming measures. Following surveys and funding approval, the zebra crossing was installed within 12 months. Poignantly, I received a dossier of thanks from the whole school, for making their journeys a lot safer!

The school also identified the need to address the illegal parking around the school by drivers arriving late on the school drop-off and pick-up runs. The Parish Council proposed 'Parking Buddies' be placed on the surrounding streets to deter the latecomers. The Ward Councillors kindly provided the funds, and the problem has now been eliminated.

The Parish Council recently raised concerns about the notable increase in injurious collisions taking place at junctions along the A363 and requested the matter be addressed urgently. Our Ward Councillors had already anticipated the request and set up a meeting with Highways Division.

To this end, a £50k fund has been procured and proposed measures are currently being deliberated by all parties to provide speed reduction and increased safety, to be implemented within the next 12 to 24 months.

A recent Community Survey voiced a desire for more events to reflect and enhance the thriving, social, friendly Bathford community. 'Follyfest', the first summer community celebration for Bathford in nearly twenty years took place successfully two weekends ago thanks to sponsorship from our Ward Councillors.

Our most recent collaboration was just last week to address an issue of a convicted person being housed within yards of the Primary School. Councillor Guy responded immediately with advice and guidelines on safeguarding matters to concerned parties, resulting in a satisfactory resolution of the matter within 24 hours.

In all the areas of interaction and transaction with BANES the Parish Council acknowledges that, thanks to the rapport that we have built together over recent years, it's ultimately resulted in an enhanced quality of life for the Bathford community.

Thank You.



Bathford Zebra Crossing



Bathford School Parking 'Buddies'