

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

Thursday 8 March 2018

Village Hall
School Lane
Bagnall
Staffordshire Moorlands

Present:

Cllr Peter Lawley (Chair)
Cllr Sally Brown
Cllr David Pearson

Cllr Sybil Ralphs
Cllr Ken Simpson

In attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk)
Cllr Keith Flunder, SMDC

Apologies

Cllr Andrew Batson: Cllr Mark Butler

Appointment of Co-opted Councillor / Welcome to new Councillor

Sally Brown was welcomed as the new Co-opted Councillor.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations made.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted as a true and accurate record.

17.120 Publication of Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (Submission version) – Consultation on its legal compliance and soundness

The Parish Council felt that the submission version of the document was legally compliant and did not have any further comments to add to those already put forward.

17.121 General Data Protection Regulations 2018 – update of Data Protection Policy

The Clerk submitted a paper detailing the changes required to our current Data Protection Policy which was read and accepted.

The new regulations require that the Data Controller should have 'professional experience and knowledge of data protection law'. This post is currently held by

the Clerk, who does not possess this knowledge. The Local Council Public Advisory Service offers this facility at a cost of £150.00 per annum. Cllrs were not happy with outsourcing and suggested that the Clerk ascertain if training to obtain this knowledge was available and what the cost is.

17.122 Finances

17.79.01 – Playing Fields: Hire charges/purchase of goal posts

Cllrs agreed that we needed to resolve hire costs and facilities as a priority and advertise the ground. To this end there was a need to work very closely with the Village Hall Committee regarding these two assets to ensure best value for the parish was secured. Cllr Lawley agreed to attend the next Village Hall Committee meeting and open up discussions.

In relation to the purchase of goal posts, Cllr Sybil Ralphs advised that these had been provided as part of the refurbishment of the field and were currently in storage. She will ascertain the whereabouts and advise accordingly.

17.122.01 – Invoices / Receipts

The following invoice were received and payment agreed:

- Staff costs for February 2018 - £115.00
- Simpson & Co – Provision of engraved bar for Chairman’s Chain - £18.00

17.123 Planning

SMDC Planning Decisions

- SMD/2017/0714 – White Gables, Clewlovs Bank, Bagnall
Proposed partial demolition – single storey side and rear extension
- SMD/2017/0839 – Pool Croft, School Road, Bagnall
Internal alterations with an extension to the side (road side facing) of the dwelling

Parish Council supported the above applications, which were granted planning approval by SMDC.

New Applications

- *SMD/2018/0061 – Spring Cottage Farm, Thorneyedge Road, Bagnall
Stable block and ménage*
The Parish Council raised concerns with SMDC that the development crossed Footpath 26, but a revised plan showed that this was not the case. With this information there were no objections to this application.
- *SMD/2018/0072 – Red Ridge, Clewlovs Bank, Bagnall
Proposed raising of existing ridge and single-storey rear extension (re-submission of SMD/2017/0523)*
The Parish Council had no objections to the above applications.
- *SMD/2018/0116 – Land adjacent to 2 Canal Cottages, Stanley Moss Road
Proposed detached dwelling*
This plan had only just been received; therefore Cllrs had not had the opportunity to deliberate. However, on first glance concerns were raised that it was within the green belt and part of the conservation area and would not therefore support the application. The Parish Council has received notification that this plan is going before the Planning Committee on 15 March 2018.

Concerns were raised by a resident regarding the development of Spring Cottage Farm. They felt that this should be tighter within the curtilage of the site and had expressed this view directly to SMDC.

17.124 Footpaths

17.71 – Quarry adjoining Pointon’s land

Following discussion Cllrs confirmed that the quarry had been registered with the relevant authority and had therefore not been lost; people could still had the right to obtain stone from the quarry face. With this in mind it was not felt cost effective to define the quarry in any way, but we did need to be mindful of any developments that may affect this asset.

17.125 Highways

There were no issues raised.

17.126 Maintenance

17.79.01 – Playing Fields

Ian Cooper, our contractor who is looking for the playing fields, reported that considering the weather the pitch was in very good condition. It would need to be aerated and fertilised in the Spring. He will ensure it is cut as soon as the weather permits.

17.82.02 – Benches on playing fields

Cllr Simpson has obtained a sealed quotation for the concrete plinth, but was under the impression that Cllr Batson was securing an alternative quotation. Once the situation has been clarified the quotation(s) will be opened and a decision made.

Correspondence has been received from the owner of the property adjoining the playing fields, stating that his privacy is being invaded and requested that no seats be placed near this boundary. Cllrs were in agreement with this suggestion. The resident also advised that dogs were being walked on the playing field. This is in contradiction to the bye-law on the field, although it was noted that the signs had been removed during refurbishment works. The Clerk will liaise with SMDC to organise for their replacement.

17.106.02 – Dangerous use of Footpath 28

Cllr Flunder suggested that in view of timescales the purchase of signage for this footpath be carried forward into the next financial year.

17.115.01 – Satellite Navigation Signage

Cllr Flunder suggested in view of timescales the purchase of signage for this is carried forward into the next financial year.

17.115.02 – Footpath outside the Church

The Clerk had obtained a quotation from Roy Beech (Contractors) Ltd for cobbling the area. However, Cllr Funder stated that he had liaised with SCC Highways Department and been informed that they were concerned around damage to the tree, and would not be able to insure against accidents, if the area was cobbled. They would prefer tarmac, so there is no differentiation between the existing and new pavement areas. If tarmac was used Highways would be willing to maintain the area. Should the Parish Council be willing to tarmac the area, Cllr Flunder would be able to make a contribution towards the costs.

Cllrs felt that this was a very viable offer and we could change the material at a later date if desired. It was important to tidy up this area as quickly as possible. Alternative quotations will be sought and made available to Mr Flunder as a priority.

17.126.01 – Notice Board

Due to weather conditions the Notice Board on the village green by the Chestnut Trees has been blown over. A replacement has been made and will be erected very shortly.

17.127 Environment

17.118.01 – Litter Pick

Unfortunately, due to weather conditions the litter pick was cancelled. A revised date has yet to be notified.

17.127.01 – Fly Tipping

There have yet again been some blue gloves, together with an overall, thrown onto the verge within the parish. This has been reported to SMDC and they have been collected.

Generally, it was noted that there has been an increase in fly tipping within the parish over recent months, particularly by Blue Bridge and along Thorneyedge Road. It was suggested that we approach SMDC to secure mobile CCTV. The Clerk will pursue this.

17.128 Correspondence

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

New Issues

- W Gordon – Request for a donation towards his accommodation costs during his visit to the Betchell Scout Jamboree in America. It is not the policy of this council to make such donations.
- New Review of Ethical Standards in Local Government: Stakeholder Consultation – This is a consultation on the Code of Conduct for all authorities, but is aimed mainly at large ones. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council's Code of Conduct was up-to-date, but will make relevant comments on the consultation; particularly around intimidation of Cllrs.

17.129 Any Other Business / Issues for Further Discussion

17.129.01 – Parking

Concerns were raised regarding the number of vehicles parked on the bend at the top of Clewlovs Bank. This is a particularly bad bend and the parked cars provide a hazard to traffic. The Clerk was asked to write to the owners to ask their assistance in resolving this issue before we approach Highways and possibly the Police.

17.129.02 – Bulbous Tree, Stanley Road

This tree is still causing hazardous driving conditions. Cllr Ralphs agreed to liaise with the landowner to progress its removal.

17.129.03 – Road Sweeping / Gully cleaning

Although the roads have recently been swept, there are areas that remain untouched due to parked vehicles at the time the roads were cleaned. A specific area of note is outside the former post office. Vehicles are also parking on the grass verges, moving mud onto the road when they drive off. Residents were asked to be mindful when parking vehicles.

17.129.04 – Commemoration of World War 1

SMDC is providing funding to enable parishes to remember those who gave their lives in World War 1; an example of use for this money is cleaning War Memorials. Applications for funding, together with reasons for its use should be submitted to SMDC; further information will be issued to Parish Councils shortly. Cllrs felt agreed to put forward the professional cleaning of the church pulpit as a war memorial for the parish.

17.129.05 – Refuse Bins

A number of refuse bins are collecting on the road outside St Chad's Cottage causing a hazard. Cllrs felt there was sufficient space for them to be stored across the road from the cottage and the owners will be communicated with.

17.129.03 – Police Investigation

The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by the Fraud and Finances Investigations team of Staffordshire Police, who are undertaking an investigation into SMDC's planning procedures and in particular the former Endon Riding School application and the Local Plan consultations.

Cllrs Sybil Ralphs and Keith Flunder declared an interest in this investigation and left the meeting to enable discussion.

The Clerk and Cllr Lawley met with DC Dave Mullington and gave an overview of planning procedures from the Parish Council's perspective and provided extracts from the minutes showing discussions around these particular issues. The police officer indicated that he was looking for evidence to substantiate any wrong doing, but our information did not substantiate this. He informed us he would be preparing a statement for our signature, when received this will be circulated to Cllrs for agreement.

17.130 Public Section

There were no issues raised by members of the public.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 10 April 2018, 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 9pm

Signed
(Chairman)

Dated: 10 April 2018