

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 19 November 2019

Bagnall Heights
Bagnall Road
Bagnall
Staffordshire Moorlands

Present:

Cllr David Pearson (Chair)
Cllr Andrew Batson
Cllr Roger Jackson

Cllr Les Knowles
Cllr Peter Lawley

In attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk)

Apologies

Cllr Sally Brown – Business Commitments
Cllr Sybil Ralphs – Business Commitments

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

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

Declaration of Personal / Pecuniary Interest

Pecuniary/personal interests were declared by Cllrs Knowles and Pearson in discussions around Footpath 28.

19.54 Adjournment of meeting for public comments and concerns

▪ **Parishioners Concerns**

There were no issues or concerns raised by members of the public.

▪ **District Councillor Report**

Cllr Flunder had provided the Clerk with a number of updates:

- As a result of the parliamentary elections in December, the full council meeting for SMDC together with some committee meetings have been postponed until January 2020. However, the Parish Assembly scheduled for Thursday 28 November 2019 is still taking place and a number of SMDC Councillors will be in attendance to enable parish representatives to raise issues/concerns.
- There are still tickets available, at a cost of £37.50 per person, for the Chairman's fund raiser at Uttoxeter Races on Sunday 24 November 2019. Monies raised will be split 50/50 between Royal British Legion and the Community Fund for 2020/21 available to community groups via their district councillors.
- SCC Highway's Department has been able to recruit additional staff, some of whom will be dedicated to the Moorlands. It is anticipated that service should be improved over the next few months.

19.55 Finances

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising.

New Issues

19.55.01 – Financial Forward Plan

The Clerk tabled a breakdown of the Financial Forward Plan and gave a brief description of each item. It was agreed to increase the Clerk's remuneration by 1.2% to keep pace with inflation. In terms of the precept being requested for 2020/21 Cllrs agreed an increase of 1.99% or £0.46 across B and D Council Tax bands. Cllrs were disappointed that SMDC was not able to provide a cost to the Parish Council of the elections held in May 2019, despite requests, as the absence of this information made it difficult to forecast monies available.

After discussion it was agreed to pay an amount of £5,000 against the Loan on the playing field taken from the Earmarked Capital fund.

19.55.02 – Invoices / Receipts

The following invoices were received and payment agreed:

- Denise Cooper – Remuneration - £150.00
- Jackson's Nurseries (UK) Ltd – Greens maintenance (Oct) - £240.00
- SMDC – Capital payment against loan - £5,000.00

19.56 Planning

SMDC Planning Decisions

- SMD/2019/0477 – Red Ridge, Clewloes Bank, Stockton Brook
Single storey flat roof orangery
*Bagnall PC had no objections – SMDC refused planning
Taking into account previous extensions to the dwelling the current proposal would amount to inappropriate development in the Green Belt. The proposal would represent a disproportionate addition over and above the original dwelling and would have a poor relationship with the existing building.*

New Applications

- SMD/2019/0636 – Carmen, Clewloes Bank, Bagnall
Two storey side extension to existing dwelling
- SMD/2019/0641 – Greenway Cottage, Bagnall Road, Bagnall
Proposed garage conversion to ancillary accommodation with front extension –
- SMD/2019/0690 – Langley House, Clewloes Bank, Bagnall
Proposed single storey extension to rear

Bagnall Parish Council had no objections to the above applications.

- APP/B3438/D/19/3237795 – The Hollies Clewloes Bank Stockton Brook
Proposed extension and alterations to existing cottage and creation of first floor level.
The applicants have submitted an Appeal against SMDC's refusal under the Householder Appeal Procedure. Under this process Bagnall Parish Council's previous comments stand and cannot be added to or amended.

19.57 Footpaths and Highways

Matters arising from previous minutes

19.36.02 – Footpath 24

Cllr Knowles has contacted the new estate agents, who have agreed to advise their clients of our proposals; we await the owner's comments. Alongside of this Cllr Knowles has tried to make contact with the Rights of Way Officer regarding the replacement of the styles and will update at the next meeting.

19.47.01 – Footway alongside Bagnall Heights into the village

A resident advised Highways in April 2019 that roots were cracking the pavement that runs from the junction with Bagnall Road down School lane alongside Bagnall Heights. This query was closed, but no reasons were given. This issue has been raised with Cllr Flunder who will make enquiries and advise the Parish Council in due course.

19.47.02 – Bus Route 44

This service is run by Stoke-on-Trent City Council, contracted out to Scraggs who were given 18-months to ascertain if it was economically viable. Scraggs have informed the City Council that in their opinion it is not and therefore within the next few weeks the service will stop at Light Oaks. This affects residents in Bagnall, part of Stockton Brook and Stanley.

SMDC does not have any funding or mandate for public transport, this lies with the County Council who have cut all but a handful of subsidies. The establishment of a community bus service, staffed by volunteers was suggested. Initial costs and upkeep could be raised by donations or fund raising, possibly in liaison with Endon with Stanley Parish Council who would also be affected by the cessation of the service. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

New Issues

19.57.01 – Flooding

Following the recent heavy rain there was significant flooding on Stanley Road in the vicinity of the Golf Club. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Highways / Cllr Flunder regarding the installation of gullies to channel water away into the canal.

19.57.02 – Overgrown plot adjacent to Fulwood, School Road

Cllr Knowles raised concerns that the plot was not being maintained and weeds were egressing into adjacent properties. Cllr Pearson agreed to make the owners aware of their responsibilities.

19.58 General Maintenance

Matters arising from previous minutes

19.28.01 – Deteriorating Tree adjacent to playing field

The tree has now been felled and will not be replaced.

19.41.01 – Memorial Garden – 75th D-Day Landings Anniversary

Cllrs felt that an amount of disquiet had been created by the lack of transparency and communication relating this project. The Parish Council as guardian of the Parish assets is responsible for ensuring their enjoyment by the whole community and therefore to avoid this situation in the future all proposals that will impact upon the Parish's assets should be communicated to the Parish Council at its initiation stage and certainly prior to any applications for finance being made.

The Parish already has a War Memorial within the Church, and does not want a plethora of memorials throughout the village to celebrate each and every campaign. In this instance the Parish Council agreed to the memorial plaques purchased by BPAG being fixed to the benches, but not the proposed planters.

New Issues

19.58.01 – Newsletter

Cllr Knowles asked for a review of our policy to issue Newsletters, as this had been discontinued around 2009. There are a number of activities within the Parish that people may not be aware of and perhaps this could be rectified by the issue of a Newsletter. Cllr Knowles and Jayne Krawiecki will undertake a scoping exercise and report back to the next meeting.

19.59 Environment

Matters arising from previous minutes

None

New Issues

None

19.60 Correspondence

- Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP – Loneliness and Isolation Directory
- SMDC – Chairman’s Invitation to Uttoxeter Races on 24 November 2019
- SMDC – Invitation to Parish Assembly on Thursday 28 November 2019, 7pm

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 21 January 2020, 7.30pm**. There are no meetings in December.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed
(Chairman)
Dated: 21 January 2020