

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 16 October 2018

Village Hall
School Lane
Bagnall
Staffordshire Moorlands

Present:

Cllr Andrew Batson (Chair)
Cllr Sally Brown
Cllr Les Knowles

Cllr Peter Lawley
Cllr David Pearson

In attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk)

Apologies

Cllr Mark Butler; Cllr Sybil Ralphs

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Cllr Dave Pearson expressed a pecuniary interest in the item of correspondence from Leek Moorlands Hospital.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

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

Ben Haywood, SMDC p Discussions around planning

Mr Haywood had been invited to the meeting to discuss planning issues, particularly around those for stables. Mr Haywood declined to attend as he felt that as this issue affected a number of other parishes it could be better dealt with as part of the next Parish Assembly.

18.53 Finances

17.129.04 – Commemoration of World War 1

An application for the full £435.00 allocated to parish councils has been submitted. The gilding work to the War Memorial has been undertaken and an invoice for the amount has been received from Nettlebank Limited.

Cllrs queried if the Church or any community groups were organising events to commemorate 100 year anniversary of World War 1. The Church is organising a special service on 11 November 2018, but we were not aware of any other specific events; Cllr Knowles will make further enquiries. The Clerk was asked to arrange for some large poppies to be purchased for display at the entrances to the village

and some smaller ones for display in the notice boards.

18.15.01 – Building Society Account

Cllr Andrew Batson has not yet closed the building society account in liaison with Frank Hayes.

18.35.01 – Playing Field – Use

SMDC, on our behalf, has registered the playing field with Staffordshire FA; they in turn will make league secretaries within our area aware of the facility.

A suggested charge by SMDC for the hire of the field per season is biweekly £80 and weekly £130.00 (both amounts excluding VAT). These charges are for a pitch that does not have a pavilion and for league teams.

The Clerk advised that the total cost of the contract with Cooper Pitch Ltd is £5,730 (ex VAT). The Parish Council has not yet received an invoice from our groundsman and therefore, given the circumstances that have prevailed with the field, are not currently able to ascertain how much of this total cost will be required. The Parish Council has set aside £3,000. Should the full contract value be invoiced this leaves a shortfall of £2,750. The Parish Council does have a reserve fund that will cover this shortfall but use of this fund will reduce the amount available to pay off capital on the loan for the purchase of the playing field. The current contract is for a 12-month period and we are therefore bound to honour this; however we can re-negotiate / go out to tender for the next 12-month period with a contract that best fits our needs and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

18.53.02 – Quarter 2 Financial Report

The Clerk tabled the financial report for the second quarter. The current balance held in our accounts is £20,103.10. The outstanding loan with SMDC for the purchase of the playing field is £12,500.00.

18.53.02 – Invoices / Receipts

The following invoices were received and payment agreed:

- Denise Cooper – Staffing costs - £118.00
- Nettlebank Ltd – Gilding on War Memorial - £353.76

18.54 Planning

SMDC Planning Decisions

- SMD/2018/0397 – Gleneig, Stanley Road, Stockton Brook
Proposed rebuilding and extension to the existing single storey utility room
Parish Council had no objections. SMDC approved.

New Applications

- SMD/2018/0600 – Red Ridge, Clewloes Bank, Bagnall
Raise existing roof ridge height
Parish Council had no objections to this application.
- SMD/2018/0542 – New House Farm, Luzlow Lane, Bagnall
Proposed extension and new proposed garage
This application had only just been received and will be reviewed outside of the meeting. The Parish Councils decision will be notified at the next meeting.

There were no comments raised in relation to planning from the public present.

18.55 Footpaths

18.46.01 – Footpath 28

A site meeting has taken place with the Rights of Way Officer who has suggested the use of official signage and the re-installment of poles across the footpath. In the interim Cllr Pearson will ensure temporary signage is displayed. Cllr Knowles advised that most occurrences were late Friday afternoon and over the weekend. The Police will be advised to enable them to monitor the situation.

18.55.01 – Footpath 17

One of the stiles on this footpath has been damaged; the Rights of Way Officer has agreed to repair this.

18.55.02 – Footpath 29

One of the steps on the stile on this footpath is missing; The Rights of Way Officer has agreed to reinstate this.

18.55.03 – Footpath 12

Vegetation is making using this path difficult; therefore the Rights of Way Officer is making arrangements to remove this.

18.55.04 – Footpath 14

The landowner has removed fencing / a stile on this footpath which now allows access by his horse onto the footpath. This causes a potential risk to walkers and has therefore been reported to the Rights of Way Officer. The Parish Council awaits the outcome.

18.56 Highways

There were no issues raised.

18.57 Maintenance

17.129.02 – Bulbous Tree, Stanley Road

A review of this issue has been undertaken by SMDC, who have agreed to erect reflective signs to warn vehicles of the danger. The risks associated with this intrusion into the road have now moved to SMDC and this will be noted in our risk register.

18.29.01 – Playing Fields

Pugh-Lewis has undertaken remedial repairs to the field. The Parish now has a fantastic facility which it is hoped the community can enjoy for many years to come

18.42.04 – Seedling Trees

The Parish Council is still awaiting the outcome of Highway's inspection.

18.42.07 – Blocked Drainage

The Parish Council is still awaiting an inspection by Highways.

In relation to the two above items, the Clerk has been advised that the inspection schedule of the Highways Department is being adversely affected by the long-term sick leave of one of their employees.

18.42.08 – Playing Field – fencing

Pugh Lewis has now undertaken remedial work on the fence to secure it.

18.58 Environment

18.49.01 – Commemorative Tree Planting – Queen’s Commonwealth Canopy

The Rt Hon Karen Bradley will attend the official planting of a Rowan tree on 25 October 2018 to as part of the Queen’s Commonwealth Canopy project.

18.58.01 – Footpath from Bagnall Heights into the village

It has been reported by a resident that the hedge along this footpath is encroaching onto the footpath and that there are weeds growing out of the pavement. Cllr Lawley rents the field and arranges for the hedge to be cut, he is currently awaiting the availability of the contractor to do so. In relation to the weeds, this has been reported to the Highways department by the resident. Cllrs felt that the condition of the footpath was more of an issue and the Clerk was asked to ensure that our concerns were reported to the Highways department.

Cllrs thought that due to cuts within the County and District Councils’ budgets we may be put into the position of organising volunteer work parties to undertake some minor removal of vegetation, clearing up the parish, etc.

18.58.02 – Tree pruning

The Clerk stated she had been contacted by Western Power who wanted to prune the Willow tree situated in the corner of the playing field by the gate as it was in danger of coming into contact with the power connectors. Permission to undertake the work was given.

18.59 Correspondence

- SMDC – Consultation on Revised Statement of Gambling Policy – *The Gambling Act requires a licensing authority to renew its policy every 3 years, SMDC’s review is due in 2019 and the revised draft version is out for consultation on their website. Comments are welcomed.*
- Parish Assembly – Agenda documentation. *The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 18 October 2018. Cllrs Brown and Butler will attend.*
- Leek Moorlands Hospital – Letter requesting support against the closure of

18.60 Any Other Business / Issues for Further Discussion

- Cllr Flunder would like to support an existing project in Bagnall from his community Fund, ie a Children’s Youth Group, etc. A sum of around £500 is available, applications need to be submitted by mid-November 2018.

18.61 Public Section

There were no issues raised by members of the public.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 20 November 2018, 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Dated: 20 November 2018