

# BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 21 January 2020

Bagnall Village Hall  
School Road  
Bagnall  
Staffordshire Moorlands

**Present:**

Cllr Andrew Batson (Chair)  
Cllr David Pearson  
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

**19.61 Election of Chair**

The Clerk advised that Cllr Brown has tendered her resignation as Chair of the Parish Council with immediate effect; the Parish Council now needed to elect a new Chair. A proposal was made that Cllr Andrew Batson be elected to this office with Cllr Dave Pearson remaining as Vice-Chair. Both positions will be held until the Annual Meeting in May. This was agreed.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been distributed previously, were accepted as true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chair.

**Declaration of Personal / Pecuniary Interest**

Pecuniary/personal interests were declared by Cllrs Knowles and Pearson in discussions around Footpath 28 and 32.

**19.62 Adjournment of meeting for public comments and concerns**

▪ ***Parishioners Concerns***

The Chair gave an opening statement which provided an overview of the situation concerning the footpath notices that were positioned at each end of Footpath 32.

“Bagnall Parish Council is not responsible for the listing, maintenance, etc of footpaths; this is the responsibility of Staffordshire County Council.

The listing of tracks as footpaths nationally was started around fifty years ago and these two footpaths were listed on the definitive register as footpaths and are thus noted on the definitive map held by Staffordshire County Council.

I can say that Bagnall Parish Council, as a body, and none of the members of the Council, were involved in any aspect of the placing of signs restricting usage of footpath 32 in November 2019. Nor was Bagnall Parish Council made aware of the intention of the County Council to erect signs prior to their placement.

The Parish Council immediately contact the County Council as soon as we became aware of the sign placement and provided our assistance, under their direction and agreement, for the removal of the signs the following day.

Upon further enquiries the Parish Council has been informed that the signs were erected by workmen acting on behalf of the County Council who had mis-read information and as a result erected them in the wrong place.

The Parish Council also understands that the County Council is in receipt of an application dated 2005, to change the footpath to a bridleway. This currently sits within their legal department, along with many others awaiting a decision. We anticipate that the Parish Council, the owners of property adjacent to the footpath and other interested parties will be contacted in due course to seek their views regarding any proposed changes and gather responses. As such it is not the intention of the Parish Council to come to any firm decision this evening.”

There followed a brief discussion, the consensus of which was that the members of the public in attendance accepted the explanation and were content that the status quo would remain until the outcome of the application was known. Agreement was reached that the horse fraternity would self-monitor the walking of horses along the footpaths and land owners adjacent to the footpath would undertake the removal of vegetation under the direction of the Parish Council.

- **District Councillor Report**
  - There were no issues raised.

#### **19.63 VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

To Celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day the early May Bank Holiday has been moved from Monday 5 May to Friday 8 May (many calendars were printed prior to the decision being announced and are therefore incorrect). The Holiday will then form a 3-day series of events.

The event is being marked across the country in a number of ways. Examples include public houses organising a “Toast to the Nation” at 3pm on 8<sup>th</sup> (exact time cease fire was announced). Church bells being rung at 7pm on 8<sup>th</sup> with some areas doing a reading of the “Cry for Peace” speech. Other areas are arranging Street parties or WW2 themed events at their local village hall or just merely giving a donation to a War Time Charity.

The Clerk was asked to make enquiries at the Stafford Arms to ascertain what, if any events, they are organising.

**Action: The Clerk**

#### **19.64 Finances**

##### ***Matters Arising from Previous Minutes***

There were no matters arising.

## **New Issues**

### **19.64.01 – Precept Request**

The Clerk has submitted our precept request to SMDC for 2020/21.

### **19.64.02 – Financial Report – Quarter 3**

The Financial Report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2019 was tabled for information. The current bank balance is £15,520.90 and the outstanding loan amount is £6,500.

### **19.64.03 – Interest rate review on loan**

In line with the loan agreement SMDC has undertaken a 5-yearly interest rate review and with effect from 12 Feb 2020 the interest rate on our loan will rise from 3.50% to 3.75%. The initial loan amount was for £20,000 and we have made capital payments over the past 5 years and cleared approx. 60% of the initial loan value leaving a balance of £6,500 outstanding. A decision will be undertaken later in the year regarding further capital repayments.

### **19.64.4 – Invoices / Receipts**

There were no receipt and the following invoices were received and payment agreed:

- Denise Cooper – Remuneration (Dec & Jan) - £300.00
- Society of Local Council Clerks – Annual Subscription - £60.00

## **19.65 Planning**

### **SMDC Planning Decisions**

- SMD/2019/0408 – New House Farm, Luzlow Lane, Bagnall  
Creation of wildlife pond
- SMD/2019/0572 – Edgley, School Road, Bagnall  
Two storey side extension
- SMD/2019/0641 – Greenways Cottage, Bagnall Road, Bagnall  
Proposed conversion of garage into ancillary accommodation with front extension
- SMD/2019/0690 – Langley House, Clewlovs Bank, Bagnall  
Proposed single storey extension to rear
- SMD/2019/0636 – Carmen, Clewlovs Bank, Bagnall  
Proposed two storey extension to existing dwelling

In respect of all the above applications Bagnall Parish Council had no objections – SMDC approved planning

### **New Applications**

- SMD/2020/0015 – Stafford Arms, The Green, Bagnall  
Proposed glazed pavilion with retractable roof
- SMD/2020/0016 – Stafford Arms, The Green, Bagnall  
Listed Building consent for the proposed glazed pavilion with retractable roof
- SMD/2020/0019 – New House Farm, Luzlow Lane, Bagnall  
Proposed replacement domestic garage
- SMD/2020/0023 – Thorney Edge, Thorney Edge Road, Bagnall  
Demolition of existing single storey building and replacement with new two storey building

Bagnall Parish Council had no objections to the above applications.

- SMD/2019/0756 – Holly Dene, School Road, Bagnall

Two storey side extension with extension over existing garage

Whilst the consensus of Bagnall Parish Council does not object to this application some observations were made and these have been included within our response. Namely, it is felt that the development is unsympathetic to the existing structure's character, and will have a detrimental impact upon the street scene particularly as this building is very prominent when entering the village. In addition, the Parish Council would prefer a finish to the building that is more complementary to the surrounding buildings particularly the old stone 'long barn'.

- APP/B3438/D/19/3236968 – Houghwood Bottom Farm, Stanley, Stockton Brook  
Single storey extension with porch and alterations .

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.

## **19.66 Footpaths and Highways**

### ***Matters arising from previous minutes***

#### **19.36.02 – Footpath 24**

Cllr Knowles is awaiting a response from the Rights of Way Officer regarding this matter and will update at the next meeting.

***Action: Cllr Knowles***

#### **19.47.01 – Footway alongside Bagnall Heights into the village**

The Clerk is awaiting a response from Cllr Flunder regarding the reasons for the case closure and will chase up.

#### **19.47.02 – Bus Route 44**

This service will cease from April 2020. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Endon with Stanley Parish Council to ascertain what they propose to do as this service will also affect residents of that Parish.

***Action: The Clerk***

#### **19.57.01 – Flooding**

A request to review the cause of flooding in this vicinity was sent to Highways; it would appear that the pipe that conveys water into the canal has become blocked. Work to rectify this is being up in place.

#### **19.57.02 – Overgrown plot adjacent to Fulwood, School Road**

Cllr Pearson is in the process of making contact with the owners and will report back to the next meeting.

***Action: Cllr Pearson***

### ***New Issues***

#### **19.66.01 – Footpath 28 and 32**

Over the Christmas period there has been further usage by motorcycles on Footpath 28. Incidents have been reported to the police and the perpetrators have been spoken to.

There have also been reported incidents of horses galloping along these footpaths and the horse fraternity are asked to walk their horses.

The issue around incorrectly installed signage has been discussed earlier in the meeting.

## **19.67 General Maintenance and Other Issues**

### ***Matters arising from previous minutes***

#### **19.58.01 – Newsletter**

Cllr Knowles has developed a draft which will be circulated to Cllrs for comments on content and accuracy. An offer of printing and distribution has also been received and, once verified, the newsletter will be circulated shortly.

**Action: Cllr Knowles**

### ***New Issues***

#### **19.67.01 – Code of conduct Revision**

SMDC has updated its Code of conduct and the Clerk has amended the Parish Council's document in line.

#### **19.67.02 – Alcohol-related Litter**

A resident has expressed concern regarding an increase in alcohol-related litter, particularly along Thorney Edge Road. Alongside the litter issue the resident is concerned that this relates to young people drinking in their cars then driving under the influence. The Parish Council was asked to look into the issue and try and find some resolution.

The Clerk was asked to liaise with our local PCSO regarding this. Cllr Batson will speak to Vicki Vincent regarding the organisation of a litter pick.

**Action: The Clerk**

## **19.68 Correspondence**

- SCC – Staffordshire Community and Voluntary Controlled School Admission Arrangements 2021 Consultation – *Copy sent to Cllrs for information, the proposals do not affect our local schools*
- SMDC – Corporate Plan to 2023 – *copy sent to Cllrs for information, survey closed on 13 Jan 2020*
- SCC – Provision of Local Bus Services in Staffordshire Review - *Information is available to set up alternative community facilities. Walk-in session held in Leek on 7 Jan 2020*
- SMDC – Chairman's Quiz Night. *An invitation to enter a team in a quiz night on Fri 21 February 2020. Family and friends were also invited. Max 6 people per team, £5.00 per person, early submission will receive notification of quiz topics.*

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 18 February 2020, 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed  
(Chairman)  
Dated: 18 February 2020