

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Extra-ordinary Meeting

17 August 2021

Via Zoom

Present:

Cllr Les Knowles (Chair)
Cllr Andrew Batson
Cllr Anthony Drakeley
Cllr Roger Jackson

Cllr Peter Lawley
Cllr David Pearson
Cllr Sybil Ralphs

In attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk)

	Apologies
	No apologies
21.21.01	Road Closures
	<p>Cllrs agreed that the planning behind this works leaves something to be desired, however, it is important that we focus our attention on the next stages and develop some positive suggestions to alleviate issues for residents.</p> <p>Cllr Pearson stated that he had spoken to several residents and reported that they did not apportion blame for the debacle at the door of the Parish Council nor SMDC. They recognised that we had only received minimum notice and were working with SCC and the contractors to reduce the impact upon residents. The issues they raised are that vehicles are travelling down the narrow lanes at unsuitable speeds, causing damage to the verges and drive entrances as they veer in to avoid oncoming traffic.</p> <p>Cllr Pearson did not think that residents were wholly aware of the length of the whole project, they are under the impression that come the autumn the works will be completed, and they only must suffer for a few more weeks, rather than the months the project will take.</p> <p>Cllrs felt that the situation would only get worse when the dark nights are upon us</p> <p>Currently, there are three times more vehicles using the narrow lanes around Bagnall and when Bagnall Road is closed this will only increase.</p>

To prevent large lorries using Springs Bank it was suggested that we request a weight restriction on this road alongside a 20mph speed limit and traffic lights. Cllrs felt this would be an ideal time to undertake a traffic survey, which could influence the permanent reduction of speed limits through the narrow lanes within the Parish.

Cllr Ralphs raised concerns regarding the base of the ford. This was originally built for use by horse and cart, and she was worried that the increased use by vehicles would have a detrimental effect on the sub-structure of the ford which would be costly for the Parish Council to repair. The installation of a temporary ramp was suggested.

Cllr Batson felt that the current signage is only advisory and are therefore useless, some motorists are moving the signs to one side, then travelling through (in some cases moving them back once they have passed). Cllr Lawley asked that signs be placed in the correct places stating that there is no access through the village to either Werrington or Milton and that access is for residents and Jackson's Nurseries only. We also need some signs stated that CCTV is in operation as a deterrent, and signs with a timescale for the works on.

Cllr Jackson stated the signage needs to comply with the Chapter 8 Regulations, which are a code of practice for contractors intended to ensure safety of operatives and the public using signing, lighting and guarding of street and road works, enabling all road users to see the extent and nature of any obstruction well before they reach it.

Cllr Jackson suggested that use of temporary speed humps to slow vehicles down.

It was suggested that a meeting is held as soon as possible between representatives of the Parish Council, SMDC, and a suitable highways executive from SCC. If steps are not actioned in a timely way, issues could be escalated to the Cabinet Holder for Highways.

Cllr Batson stated that work on the next section is scheduled to start on 27 September 2021, but as contractors are now working through weekends this date may be brought forward. We therefore have four to five weeks to get measures in place. He added that consideration to the stage down from School Road to Milton needs to be given.

It was agreed that whilst all the discussions with contractors, etc are taking place an urgent Newsletter should be circulated to residents by the Parish Council to highlight all the options we are pursuing. A notice to signpost residents to our website for additional information should be posted.

Cllr Ralphs stated that had we received sufficient notice of the works, all the measures we feel necessary would already be in place. The Parish

	<p>Council / SMDC could have helped to make this project more acceptable to the local community.</p> <p>ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weight restrictions on Springs Bank. ▪ Speed restriction to 20mph on the 'rat runs' through the Parish. ▪ Undertake a traffic survey. ▪ Arrange for signage stating the timeframe for the works; no access to Milton / Werrington; and access for residents and Jackson's Nurseries only to be provided. ▪ All signage to be appropriately positioned to give adequate notice to non-residents that there are road works and access is limited. ▪ Use of traffic lights on Springs Bank to be considered. ▪ Use of a ramp over the ford to prevent damage to the sub-structure. ▪ Arrange a meeting between the Parish Council, SMDC and a highways executive as a priority. <p>Cllr Ralphs agreed to liaise with Highways direct to request these measures are put in place as a matter of urgency, further discussion on the issues we are attempting to achieve will be undertaken during the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of a Newsletter <p>Cllr Batson agreed to undertake this, with fellow Cllrs assisting in the delivery. A copy will be published on our website with signposts to it on The Grapevine.</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p>
	<p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 7 September 2021, 7.00pm</p>

Meeting concluded at 8.50pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated: 7 September 2021