

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

19 October 2021

Moorlands Village Hall
School Road
Bagnall

Present:

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

Cllr Roger Jackson
Cllr Peter Lawley
Cllr Dave Pearson

In attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk/RFO); Cllr Keith Flunder (County Council); PCSO

	Apologies
	Sybil Ralphs – Ill health
	Minutes of the Previous Meeting
	The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record.
	Declaration of Personal / Pecuniary Interest
	Cllr Jackson expresses a personal/pecuniary interest in the road closures through the village, and Cllrs Knowles and Pearson on any discussions relating to Footpaths 12 and 28.
	Adjournment of meeting for public comments and concerns
	Parishioners' Concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ No concerns were raised by parishioners.▪ The PCSO advised that the number of antisocial behaviour incidents related to Bagnall remained the same this year as last, at 24 incidents. These were mainly neighbourhood disputes.
	County Councillor Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The incidents of Covid-19 in Staffordshire Moorlands have declined significantly from the high of last month, although still higher than the national average. This is attributable to more eligible people getting the booster vaccination and residents are encouraged to get theirs if

	<p>they have not already done so and meet the criteria. There are several facilities that can provide this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The closing date for the Community Fund has been extended to 26 November 2021. Cllr Flunder is keen for groups to submit applications as quickly as possible. ▪ A fund has been made available to parish councils to address issues around climate change. It is possible for several councils to group together to access a higher amount. ▪ Economy figures indicated that there are a high number of people in employment in the Staffordshire Moorlands. ▪ The Prosperous Committee will be looking at urban bus provision during December and January and are currently reviewing the footpath and cycle networks across the County.
21.37	Finances
	<p><i>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</i></p> <p>21.32.05 – Financial Forward Plan Prior to the meeting the Clerk circulated a draft Financial Forward Plan to Cllrs for consideration. In addition to the projected spend on the Plan, Cllrs agreed that a sum be put aside each year towards any forthcoming elections.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to develop a timesheet to indicate the hours worked as Cllrs felt she was working more hours than contracted to do.</p> <p>21.32.07 – Bank Account The switching of our bank account to an account that better suits our needs is progressing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: The Clerk</p> <p>New Issues</p> <p>21.37.01 – Lengthman’s Agreement A claim against this scheme is currently being developed and submitted to SMDC.</p> <p>21.37.02 – Invoices and Receipts There were no receipts. The following invoices were received, and payment agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S & W Grounds Maintenance – Cutting playing field / leaf collection (Nov) - £300.00 ○ SMDC – Capital Repayment - £500.00
21.38	Planning
	<p><i>SMDC Planning Decisions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None

New Applications

- SMD/2021/0087 – Dorandale, Stanley Road, Stockton Brook
Erection of detached garage, new vehicular access and replacement roadside boundary wall

Bagnall Parish Council had no objections, but noted the height of the wall facing the highway was 1.2m whereas we had thought this should be 1.0m or less

- DET/221/0038 – Bagnall Green Farm, The Green, Bagnall
General purpose steel portal shed to match existing building in design and colour. To store farm implements, tools/consumables, feed, bedding, storage, repairs, animal shelter

Although Bagnall Parish Council was not consulted we have passed comments on the development which were agreed (with the exception of Cllr Ralphs who is exempt from comment) by all Cllrs

- SMD/2021/0728 – Bramble Cottage, Stanley Moss Lane, Stockton Brook
Single storey rear extension

Bagnall Parish Council had no objections

- SMD/2021/0742 – Wood View, Stanley Road, Stockton Brook
Proposed single storey rear extension forming Family Room and Home Office

Plans received just prior to the meeting. A decision will be advised shortly.

21.39 General Maintenance and Other Issues

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

21.34.04 – Hedges

The Parish Council thanks the respective landowners for cutting back their hedges. Thanks also go to Cllr Pearson for his assistance regarding the hedge on Springs Bank.

Around the village there are a few hedges that encroach onto the pavement, and residents are encourage to ensure that they are cut back to the boundary line.

21.34.03 – Christmas Tree Lights

Cllr Jackson has approached Western Power to ascertain if they would be willing to install a secure electricity conduit as a gesture of good will, but they are unable to assist us although willing to give a donation to an alternative power source.

Communication has also been received from BPAG regarding the maintenance of the Christmas tree and installation of lighting going forward. The Parish Council has agreed to pick up this work.

21.34.05 – Replacement trees on the playing field

Cllr Batson has liaised with adjoining households, who have expressed their agreement to the replacement of trees in due course.

21.29.05 – Telephone Kiosk outside Rose and Crown

The Clerk has written to Marston's Brewery with our suggested options and a response is awaited.

In the interim Cllr Drakeley will undertake a survey of the kiosk to ascertain what works are required to bring it up to standard and report back at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Drakeley

21.29.06 – Solar Panels / Battery Storage

A draft newsletter for circulation to residents to elicit their views on these installations was disseminated and agreed, with a few minor amendments.

In relation to discussions at the Parish Assembly, we have been advised that SMDC are prepared to host a series of meetings where parish council groups can meet to discuss options. Bagnall Parish Council felt it inappropriate to join these discussions as SMDC was duty bound to promote government guidelines which did not allow free discussion.

New Issues

21.39.01 – Village Hall – Standing Agenda Item

- Cllr Lawley stated that the Charities Commission is still not happy with the appointment of the Parish Council as Guardian Trustees. The Village Hall Committee therefore suggested that in the event of there being insufficient members to form a committee would the Parish Council be willing to step in on a temporary basis. Unfortunately, the Parish Council is not able to do this legally. Cllr Lawley will advise the committee.
- Cllr Knowles raised some issues he had been made aware of regarding the Village Hall accounts and asked for a full set of accounts to be sent to the Parish Clerk as stated in the Hall's Constitution.

Action: Cllr Lawley

21.39.02 – Bus shelter, opposite Bagnall Heights

The bus shelter is showing signs of wear and tear as the roof felt needs replacement. Cllrs Pearson and Jackson agreed to look at means of effective repairs.

Action: Cllrs Pearson & Jackson

21.39.03 – Queen's Jubilee

A request from the Lieutenant of Staffordshire to light a beacon on 2 June 2022 at 9.15pm has been made. This was agreed.

	<p>21.39.04 – Playing Field Cllrs Lawley and Pearson have set up the goal posts and nets, effected repairs to the fencing around the swings, and cut back the hedge between the field and the village hall, all in accordance with recommendation in the RoSPA Inspection Report.</p>
21.40	Footpaths and Highways
	<p><i>Matters arising from previous minutes</i> 21.21.01 – Road Works The Parish Council raised issue with the quality of workmanship on the repairs on Springs Bank with Cllr Flunder. Cllr Funder agreed to liaise with the relevant supervisors and ascertain if further repairs are being scheduled.</p> <p>Cllrs stated that at the site meeting in August 2021 several issues were raised, and we would like a written report on progress against each item. Cllr Flunder advised that there is an internal SCC meeting in December to look at lessons learnt from this process, one of the main points being raised is that parish councils should be involved at an early stage to tap into their local knowledge of the area. Also being discussed at this meeting is when the traffic survey promised is being actioned.</p> <p>Cllrs stated that SCC need to learn a lot from this exercise to build up the trust and confidence of parish councils. It is more cost effective to be preventative rather than reactive.</p> <p>In relation to road signage, Cllrs felt that some more relevant bespoke signage was required to direct traffic. Cllr Batson will liaise with contractors. Action: Cllr Batson</p> <p>21.35.01 – S.53 Applications Cllr Flunder reported that he had chased this issue up with the relevant personnel at Staffordshire County Council but had received the same response the Parish Council had.</p> <p>Cllrs asked the Clerk to write to SCC to advise we are not happy with this situation. Action: The Clerk</p> <p>New Issues 21.40.01 – Footpath 32 Cllr Knowles stated that Footpath 32 is shown on the Potteries Ring Route map as a bridlepath, he asked Cllr Flunder to ensure this is removed until a decision on its designation has been made. Cllr Flunder agreed to this. Action: Cllr Flunder</p>
21.41	Correspondence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Letter from resident advising that they have had the hedges on Springs Bank cut back.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staffordshire Police – Have your say on local policing consultation, open until 23 November 2021 at https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/get-involved/have-your-say/ ▪ Revival – Notification of service to assist those self-isolating or recovering from Covid-19 with shopping, medicine collection, or just a chat on the phone on 0333 014 3389 or visit thisisrevival.org.uk/homewelfarechecks ▪ eforest.co.uk – offering free trees, unfortunately they only deal with large quantities, min 150 trees ▪ SCC – Have your Say on – Covid-19 Residents Survey. Closing date 30 November 2021. https://consultation.staffordshire.gov.uk/insight-planning-and-performance/covid-19-residents-survey/?utm_medium=govdelivery&utm_source=email ▪ Douglas Macmillan Hospice – Light Up a Life campaign, details available at https://www.dmhospice.org.uk/light-up-a-life/ ▪ City of Stoke-on-Trent (inc Staffordshire) Care Service Directory 2021 – copies available online or hardcopy (limited supply)
	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p>
	<p>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 18 January 2022, 7.00pm</p>

Meeting concluded at 9.45pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Dated: 16 November 2021