

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

7 September 2021

Village Hall
School Road
Bagnall

Present:

Cllr Les Knowles (Chair)
Cllr Andrew Batson

Cllr Peter Lawley

In attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk/RFO); Cllr Sybil Ralphs (via Zoom); 3 parishioners

	Apologies
	Cllr Anthony Drakeley – Annual leave Cllr Roger Jackson – Annual leave Cllr Dave Pearson – Business commitments
	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
	Although not present, Cllr Jackson expresses a personal/pecuniary interest in the road closures through the village.
	Adjournment of meeting for public comments and concerns
	Parishioners' Concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A resident from Stanley Road raised concerns regarding the number of rats observed in that vicinity. He has approached SMDC's Vermin Control Officer who has identified an epidemic. Cllr Ralphs agreed to liaise with The Community Services and Environmental Officer at SMDC and ensure action is taken to resolve this issue.▪ Concern was raised regarding the number of 'joy riders' / people driving in excess of the speed limit along Stanley Road and up into the village. The resident was assured that the Parish Council is aware of the situation; a recent study undertaken by Highways indicated that drivers were in fact keeping to the speed limits. A

	<p>further survey has been requested and appropriate steps will be put in place. However, it was acknowledged that no amount of legislation would stop the very small minority of drivers who wished to exceed speed limits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A query was raised around the planning applications at Greenfield Farm. Councillors stated that as there was no information contained within the application and the Parish Council had little knowledge about renewal energy, it could not be supported. The Parish Council is making efforts to improve councillor knowledge so that when a full application is submitted this can be fully appraised and an invitation extended to Mr Tom Jones from Hut on the Hill Limited, the project consultant, to provide an overview of the project. <p>County Councillor Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There was no report from Cllr Flunder currently. <p>District Councillor Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No report
21.22	<p>Footpaths and Highways</p> <p><i>Matters arising from previous minutes</i></p> <p>21.19.01 – Road Closures (Tompkin Rd/Wetley Moor & Luzlow Rd/Bagnall Rd</p> <p>Cllr Ralphs gave an updated report On the road works.</p> <p>Councillors thanked Mr Taft for his efforts in repairing damage to the verges and culverts near his property.</p> <p>Cllr Ralphs reported that the Project Leader advised that a new contractor has been assigned to move the project forward before the dark nights are upon us. Contractors are working longer days and over weekends to ensure the work along Luzlow Lane is completed as soon as possible. This has resulted in work being finalised by 15 September, some 12 days earlier than originally scheduled.</p> <p>The final part of the work along Luzlow Lane will create a few power outages for safety reasons. This has been communicated to residents and steel plates will be positioned to create access to the caravan site.</p> <p>Work on the next phase, up Bagnall Road to School Road and then down to our boundary with Stoke-on-Trent will commence on 16 September 2021. Letters will be circulated to residents and appropriate signage will be positioned at either end of the road; we encourage people to abide by the signage. There will be a short break over the Christmas period between 17 December 2021 and 4 January 2021 when contractors will be off-site and the road will be re-opened.</p> <p>There is a second phase of works to be carried out next year on this project which is planned provisionally to start from March 2022.</p>

	<p>The Parish Council has been successful in arranging a site meeting on Wednesday 15 September 2021. The purpose of the meeting is to agree actions for the next phase to mitigate further impact upon the village. It is acknowledged that there may be a lot of remedial work to country lanes and some cause for compensation to local businesses, the Parish Council is pushing for these issues to be dealt with as each phase is completed.</p> <p>New Issues</p> <p>There were no new issues raised.</p>
21.23	<p>Finances</p> <p>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None <p>New Issues</p> <p>21.23.01 – Invoices / Receipts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Receipts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Abbey Hulton – Playing field hire - £20.00 ➤ SMDC – Grant - £250 ○ Expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hosting Systems – Annual website hosting fees - £120.00 <p>Training</p> <p>The Clerk requesting funding to undertake the level 2 Financial Introduction to Local Council Administration (FILCA) qualification which is aimed specifically at local authority Responsible Financial Officers. It is an e-learning course and costs £120.00 (Plus VAT). This was agreed.</p>
21.24	<p>Planning</p> <p>Monitoring of Planning Approvals</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to provide a report for consideration at the next meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: The Clerk</p> <p>SMDC Planning Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DET/2019/0009 –Greenfield Farm, Thorney Edge Road, Bagnall To house suckler cows and rearing cattle and dry feedstuffs <i>Bagnall PC was not consulted. SMDC granted permission.</i> ▪ SMD/2021/0431 – Greenfields, School Road, Bagnall Proposed single storey extension to the principal elevation and addition of a new first floor dormer bedroom over <i>Bagnall PC had no objections. SMDC granted permission.</i>

New Applications

- SMD/2021/0496 – Land at Greenfield Farm, Thorney Edge Road, Bagnall
Proposed development: solar farm of approximately 1.5MW with energy storage capacity of up to 57MW on 4.25 hectares of land at Greenfields Farm, ST9 9LA

Bagnall PC strongly objected to this application.

- HNT/2021/0023 – Rose Cottage, Bagnall Road, Bagnall
Proposed single storey side / rear extension measuring 5.40m beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling, 3.80m maximum height and 2.46m to height of eaves

Bagnall PC was not consulted as this is under Permitted Development, however the PC had no objections

- SMC/2021/0154 – Land adj Inglewood, Bagnal Road, Bagnall
Alleged breach of planning control

Bagnall PC had reported the domestication of this site. We await investigations

21.25 General Maintenance and Other Issues

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

20.52.02 – Playing Field – French Drain

Quotations have been received for £5,478 (inc VAT) and £3,840 (inc VAT). Both are considerably more than the Parish Council can sanction given the revenue that the playing field generates. A more cost-effective method of draining the field will be found.

New Issues

21.24.01 – Village Hall (Standing Agenda Item)

- Cllr Lawley advised that there are some staffing issues at the Charities Commission which are holding up the process. Once further information is available the Parish Council will be advised.
- Some concerns were raised regarding the condition of the playing field. The Parish Council is aware of this and are taking direct action to rectify.
- The Afternoon Tea event which was scheduled for 12 September 2021 has been cancelled due to lack of interest.
- Future events will start next Spring.

21.24.02 – Renewal of Contracts – Village Green and Playing Field

Cllrs agreed with the renewal of the contract for the village greens with the current contractor for a two-year period.

In relation to the playing fields, Cllrs agreed not to continue with the current contractor. The groundsman has been asked to undertake works to bring

the field up to standard by the end of September at which time his contract expires. Going forward, some amendments will be made to the specification documents and the council will go out to tender for the work.

21.24.03 – Fencing Around Village Green

Repairs to the fencing are in hand. Going forward, it was agreed that the current layout of posts and cross bars was not sustainable, and a phased approach will be undertaken to remove of the cross bars. The posts will be retained and replaced as and when required.

21.24.04 – Benches on canal towpath

It was agreed that given our current commitments, this was not a project we could afford to take forward at this time.

21.24.05 – Social Media

It is recognised that social media is the go-to option for information/discussion by many people and therefore, as occasion demands, it may be necessary for the Parish Council to use this means of communication to challenge views and to signpost people to the correct, and most up-to-date information available on issues on our website.

21.26 Correspondence

- SMDC – W.A.R Fly Tipping Campaign

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on **Tuesday 19 October 2021, 7.30pm**

Meeting concluded at 8.45pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Dated: 19 October 2021