

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

20 September 2022

Moorlands Village Hall
School Road
Bagnall

Present:

Cllr Les Knowles (Chair)
Cllr Anthony Drakeley

Cllr Peter Lawley

In attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk/RFO); Cllr Keith Flunder (SCC); 7 parishioners.

	Apologies
	Cllr Andrew Batson – Annual leave Cllr Roger Jackson – Annual leave Cllr Sybil Ralphs – S.85 Exemption
	Minutes of the Previous Meeting
	The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed to be a true and accurate record.
	Declaration of Personal / Pecuniary Interest
	Personal/pecuniary interests were expressed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cllr Knowles – Footpath 28 and 12 Cllrs took part in discussions, where appropriate, to ensure fullness of information but did not participate on any decisions made.
	Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
	Bagnall Parish Council would like to pay its respects to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She has served the people of the United Kingdom and the countries of the Commonwealth with strength, dedication, empathy, and dignity. She was a constant in so many lives offering advice and encouragement in both adverse and joyous times. In her passing she will be most deeply mourned.

22.28	Casual Vacancy
	<p>Following the recent resignation of a councillor, the first stage of the recruitment process has been enacted and SMDC has informed the Parish Council that electors have not called for an election. The regulations state that a councillor needs to be co-opted as soon as possible. However, there is a clause in the regulations that states should the vacancy occur six-months before the next elections the vacancy can stand until the elections, which will be in May 2023.</p> <p>As we are within this six-month period, and any councillor co-opted onto the council would only serve 3 to 4 months before s/he is automatically retired along with all existing councillors the Parish Council agreed to carry the vacancy.</p>
	Adjournment of meeting for public comments and concerns
	<p>Parishioners' Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parishioners raised concerns of speeding along Stanley Road, which has resulted in several minor and two major accidents over the past few months. They enquired about the process of reducing the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph. Cllr Flunder encouraged them to become involved with the Safer Roads Partnership, whose aim is to reduce the number of casualties on roads via several initiatives – Community Involvement, Enforcement, Engineering, and Education. Cllr Flunder stated that it was extremely difficult to reduce speed limits, but the evidence collected under this Partnership would be very helpful in this aim. <p>Unfortunately, discussions became a little heated and Cllr Flunder felt the need to remove himself from the meeting to deflect the verbal abuse he felt he received, which was not helped by comments from Parish Councillors.</p> <p>Residents felt that Cllrs Flunder's attitude towards residents was supercilious and antagonistic and his comments regarding safety concerns were unbelievably insensitive and inflammatory. Particularly as safety was their prime concern.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mrs McConnell, Lime Tree Farm, informed the Parish Council that they had no intentions of maintaining the hedge that borders one of their fields until neighbours stop cutting it. Once this happens the hedge will be maintained by Mr and Mrs McConnell at a height to their discretion. Cllrs felt that this was a civil matter and therefore required no input from the Parish Council. <p>County Councillor Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There was no update.

22.29	Planning
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SMDC Planning Decisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SMD/2020/0334 – Old Mill Farm, Old Mill Lane, Bagnall Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed detached garage ○ SMD/2021/0215 – Land to the rear of 150 Bagnall Road, Milton Extension to garage/store (retrospective) ○ SMD/2021/0172 – Bagnall Green Farm, The Green, Bagnall Proposed equine menage / exercise arena 25m x 45m <p>SMD/2022/0217 – Pool Bungalow, Clewlovs Bank, Bagnall Existing Certificate of Lawfulness for change of use of paddock to garden</p> <p><i>Bagnall PC had no objections. SMDC approved all the above applications.</i></p> ▪ New Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SMD/2022/0325 & 326 – Greenfields Farm, Eaves Lane, Armshead Demolition of existing lean-to extension and construction of new, enlarged extension. External and internal alterations including installation of an air-source heat pump. Including Listed Building Consent for above works. ○ SMD/2022/0217 – The Stables, Stanley Road, Stockton Brook Submission of planning for the replacement of a glazed link atrium and conservatory between the house and garage, replacement of glazed lean to adjoining the rear of the house, conversion of garage to bedroom, as well as construction of a stand alone timber summer house in the grounds. Including Listed Building Consent for above works. <p><i>Bagnall PC had no objections to the above applications.</i></p> ▪ Enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SMD/2021/0128 and SMD//2021/0131 – Croney Bank Farm, Bagnall Road, Bagnall The Parish Council is aware that work to cut back some of the trees and hedges on the property has been undertaken. Some of these trees have a Tree Preservation Order on them, and as the Parish Council has not received notification from SMDC that these works have been sanctioned agreed to raise the issue with SMDC. <p>There is also a condition on the application for a retrospective application to be made in respect of the conversion of a building.</p>

	<p>This has been raised with Planning, and we have been advised it is under investigation, ref. SMC/2022/00131.</p> <p>Solar Panel Proposals For information, the Parish Council would like to inform parishioners that speculative letters to acquire land have been distributed to targeted residents within the Parish Council. This would indicate the level of interest in developments in this area. Any applications will be dealt with upon receipt.</p> <p>Belatedly the Parish Council has received a response from Cllr Porter, the Portfolio holder for climate change. He has stated his willingness to attend a meeting and Cllrs felt it appropriate to organise a meeting open to the public. A date will be advised in due course.</p>
22.30	Finances
	<p><i>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None <p>New Issues</p> <p>22.24.06 – Invoices and Receipts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Receipts</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None ▪ <i>Invoices</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S & W Groundworks – cutting playing field/greens (Aug & Sept) - £1,650.00 ○ GeoXphere – Parish Online subscription - £45.00
22.31	General Maintenance and Other Issues
	<p><i>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</i></p> <p>21.34.03 – Christmas Tree Lights Research to find the best long-term solution for the Christmas lights is still ongoing. However, as an interim measure the former BPAG group has sourced a set of led lights that run of ‘C’ batteries, they are willing to put these on the tree. After discussion Cllrs agreed to proceed with the interim measure and the Clerk was asked to purchase.</p> <p>21.29.05 – Telephone Kiosk outside Rose and Crown Discussions have taken place with a defibrillator supplier who has advised us a non-electric version, the sign being lit by solar panels. Cllr Knowles would like to pursue the reconnection of the electricity supply and he and Keith Weston will liaise with WPD.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Cllr Knowles</p>

	<p>22.25.01 – Playing Field – Swings The swing has been inspected by RoSPA and we await their report.</p> <p>22.24.03 – Playing Field Equipment Cllrs Batson and Jackson have expressed an interest in being part of an Action Group to push forward this project. There will be places for residents if they are interested. The utilisation of the £5,000 set aside for loan repayments being moved to assist with this project will be held in abeyance until the group is established and initial discussions taken place.</p> <p>22.19.01 – Playing Field Maintenance Keith Weston has agreed to undertake repair/painting of the gates to the playing field.</p> <p>21.50.01 – Platinum Jubilee Celebrations The Clerk confirmed that all the commemorative mugs had now been distributed to eligible children within the Parish. There are a few mugs remaining for purchase at a cost of £10.00 each. Please contact the Clerk.</p> <p><i>New Issues</i></p> <p>22.31.01 – Village Hall The Village Hall Committee has written to us in response to our communication in April. The Parish Council has been asked to stress that the decision not to allow the Parish Council to take up Custodian Trusteeship lies solely with the Charities Commission.</p> <p>The Parish Council has also been asked to reconsider its stance on having a member on the Village Hall Committee. After discussion the Parish Council felt it was better that we remained as two separate entities for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>22.31.02 – Playing Field – Trees Some 12-18 months ago a few trees had to be removed from the playing field due to disease. It has always been the intention of the Parish Council to replace these and following discussions with residents affected some Oak trees will be planted – trees are being provided by Jackson’ Nurseries as part of the Queen’s Green Canopy initiative.</p>
<p>22.32</p>	<p>Footpaths and Highways</p>
	<p><i>Matters arising from previous minutes</i></p> <p>21.21.01 – WPD Cellar Head Project Cllr Batson has received confirmation that the works have now been concluded and powered up. Residents have commented on the standard of reinstatement; there is rippling on Bagnall Road and motor cyclist have reported undulation/vibration issues. These issues will be reported to Prysman Group.</p>

21.51.02 – Blocked Gulley – Stanley Road

Although the gulley was cleared on 27 May 2022, we are still awaiting a date for underground remedial works to be undertaken. Unfortunately, following recent heavy rains the driveway was again flooded.

22.09.02 – Footpath 28

Cllr Knowles will make available evidence of use by motorcycles to the Rights of Way Officer to enable agreement to a horse gate to be erected. Cllr Flunder was asked to liaise with the Right of Way Officers to regarding this issue.

22.09.04 – Road Signs

The repositioning of signs on Jack Hayes Lane, together with additional ones between Bagnall Heights and the lay-by. Discussions have also taken place regarding horse and weight restriction signs. A document indicating the positioning of these latter signs is awaited from Cllr Flunder.

22.26.01 – Footpath 14

A letter of consent has now been received from the landowner and will be forwarded to Cllr Flunder to enable the stile, the lower step of which is in poor condition, to be changed to a gate.

22.26.04 – Footpath 20 (The Smithy)

Cllr Batson has liaised with a representative from Tompkin Chapel and the Clerk is awaiting a letter from them. Discussions have also taken place with the farmer/landowner and although further work is required we are hopeful of a positive outcome.

New Issues

22.32.01 – Footpath 21a (Old Mill Lane)

A further application to redefine to a bridleway been received and following a request the deadline for responses has been extended.

In general terms to expediate the decision process of all the applications received, the Parish Council extended an invitation to SCC to undertake a site visit so they can understand the geography of the area. Their response states:

- The County Council has a backlog of application, and it will take some time before any of ours reach the priority criteria to be reviewed.
- As the application has been made based on historical information, the current situations cannot be taken into consideration. Nor can the following be taken into consideration:
 - Safety
 - Security of possibility of crime,
 - Privacy
 - Suitability
 - Obstructions
 - Future maintenance

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cost of bringing the route to a useable standard ○ Resources ○ Stock control or wildlife concerns. ○ The County Council must follow strict legal guidelines in determining application outcomes, as set out in the O’Keefe case. <p>22.32.02 – Clewlows Bank – Road Resurfacing The Parish Council has been notified that resurfacing works are scheduled between 7 – 18 November 2022. Diversions will be in place, but access to frontages will be maintained.</p> <p>22.32.03 – Bagnall Road – Road Resurfacing The section running alongside Salters Wells Farm will be closed on 3 October 2022. The road will be closed for resurfacing works between 21 – 27 November 2022. Diversions will be in place.</p>
22.33	Correspondence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rethink Fashion – Foxlowe Arts Centre – All day event to encourage sustainable use of fashion clothing – 24 September 2022.
	Date of Next Meeting
	The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 18 September 2022, 7.00pm.

Meeting concluded at 9pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Dated: 20 September 2022