

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Thursday 11 May 2023

Village Hall
School Lane
Bagnall
Staffordshire Moorlands

Present:

Cllr Les Knowles (Chair)
Cllr Andrew Batson

Cllr Penny Dabell
Cllr Sybil Ralphs

In attendance:

Hayley Taylor (Clerk); Denise Cooper 8 parishioners

Apologies

Cllr Roger Jackson on holiday

Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and accepted as a true and accurate record.

23.06 Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Cllr Les Knowles, read out his report for the year 2022/23. A copy will be published on the website.

23.07 Finance Report

The Clerk / RFO reported that in the financial year 2022/23 the Parish Council requested a precept for the year of £10,000. This equated to a rise of £2.70 on Band D Council Tax, based on 369 households within the Parish.

Our largest commitments for the financial year were the maintenance of the playing fields amounting to £3,185, maintenance of the greens totalling £2,745, and staffing costs at £2,326. During the year, no capital payments towards the purchase of the playing field were made, leaving our outstanding loan balance at £5,000. Interest on the loan for the year was £187, a considerable saving on the rent previously paid for the field.

In terms of receipts, we re-claimed VAT on invoices paid during the year totalling £288 and received a grant of £425 from SMDC, together with £400 from Alliance Environmental towards the cost of maintenance of the

greens/playing field.

On 31 March 2023 the monies held by the Parish Council amounted to £15,763, comprising £4,998 in our current account and £10,766 in a deposit account for earmarked projects.

Looking forward it is important that we look to securing additional funding from whatever sources we can to enable us to undertake the work within the Parish that we wish to do in the forthcoming year. Costs are rising and we are currently walking a fine line between utilising our known incoming resources and having to dip into general reserves.

23.08 Allocation of Duties

Chairman – Cllr Les Knowles

Vice Chairman – Cllr Andrew Batson

To prevent a potential conflict of interests, the sub-groups of the Parish Council have been split down and the appointment of Councillors for specific areas of work allocated accordingly. Councillors with a personal or pecuniary interest will not be appointed to areas of work that conflict with that interest.

In line with discussions at previous meetings we no longer have a representative on the Village Hall Committee and have developed a new responsibility on planning.

Planning – All Councillors

Planning Approvals Review – Cllr Penny Dabell

Highways and Footpaths – Cllr Andrew Batson

General Maintenance (including Greens and Playing Field) – Cllrs Roger Jackson and Andrew Batson

Parish Assembly – Cllr Andrew Batson

Newsletter and Publicity – Ad hoc as required

23.09 Review / Agreement of Governance / Policy Documents

Parish Councils have four main governance documents: Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Scheme of Delegation and Code of Conduct. No changes have been made and it was agreed that these should stand.

The Parish Council holds the General Power of Competence. This will need to be reviewed at the next AGM to ensure it still meets the criteria.

23.10 Attendance Report

During the year Cllrs Pearson and Drakeley retired and Cllr Ralphs was

given a S.85 exemption from attendance, under the Local Government Act 1972, due to ill health.

Out of a potential 10 meetings, Cllrs Knowles and Lawley attended all meetings. Cllrs Batson and Jackson attended 8.

23.11 Meeting Schedule 2023/24

The Schedule of meetings for the forthcoming year are as follows:

Tuesday 13 June 2023

Tuesday 11 July 2023

Tuesday 12 September 2023

Tuesday 10 October 2023

Tuesday 14 November 2023

Tuesday 9 January 2024

Tuesday 13 February 2024

Tuesday 12 March 2024

Tuesday 9 April 2024

Tuesday 14 May 2024 – Includes AGM

All meetings will commence at 7.00pm and will be held at the Stafford Arms Pub, unless notified on the published agenda otherwise.

Date of Next Annual Meeting

The next Annual meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 May 2024, 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Signed
(Chairman)

Dated: 13 June 2023