MINUTES

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 8th October

Stafford Arms, Bagnall, ST9 9JR

**Present:**

Cllr L Knowles

Cllr S Ralphs

Cllr P Dabell

Cllr A Batson

Cllr J Weston

Cllr S Horton

**In Attendance:**

Mr M Knapper (Clerk)

10 Members of Public

**Meeting started at 1900 Hrs**

**24.10.076 Public Participation**

A member of the public raised concerns that they were very disappointed with the Armshead Inspectorate, and issues with the applications for BESS and Solar Farm sites.

Cllr Dabell updated everyone regarding the Liaisons with the Police and a post was put on Bagnall Village Grapevine on how to contact the police and report any issues regarding motorbikes etc causing a nuisance. These can be reported online, and Police have asked that this is done so they can then see the issues and divert resources to the area when needed.

**24.10.077 Apologies**

Cllr A Krawiecki

**24.10.078 Declarations**

There were none at this meeting

**24.10.079 Approval of previous minutes**

The Minutes for Parish Meetings on 9th July and 10th September 2024 were approved and signed by Cllr Knowles

**24.10.080 Police Report**

No report this time, unable to attend

**24.10.081 Reports from**

Staffordshire Moorlands Councillor – Cllr Edwards - No attendance

County Councillor – Cllr Flunder Attended later

1. Devolution response has gone into Home Office
2. There were discussions regarding having a mayor but this was not supported
3. Divisional Highways Program – this will be coming up soon with Cllr Knowles and Cllr Batson’s input
4. During the recent bad weather there have been flash floods, where one incident included a manhole blew off, Tean and Draycott also badly affected
5. Local Transport Plan – There are consultations across the board, for ideas for transport in the future – i.e. buses, trains etc.
6. Strategies are being looked at for 800,000 access to electric charging points across the county utilising car parks, shop fronts

**24.10.082 Accounts/Finance**

Cllr Dabell signed and approved the September Payment List

**24.10.083 Planning Report -Cllr Weston/Cllr Horton**

Red Bank Farm – Planning department are awaiting on Legal advice before issuing enforcements

Cllr Weston is trying to organise a meeting with Wayne Chell and Ben Hayward for discussions

Cllr Knowles Reported that there was a new Screening application in SMD/2024/0452 at New House Farm and SMD/2024/0437 Variation of condition 1 relating to SMD/2021/0175 – Cllr Horton asked to look at.

Cllr Batson raised issues regarding the Newfield’s BESS site that was approved on appeal, regarding safety issues considered, was looking into this further, as there are two Planning applications passed where there have been no consultations with Fire and Rescue

SMD/2023/0523 – Still no update regarding this application, not sure why

**24.10.084 Footpaths Cllr Batson**

Footpath 6 - No reply back as yet

**24.10.085 Highways Cllr Batson**

Insert Chamber by field collapsed and was repaired last week

Works at The Rose and Crown - not sure what this was for

**24.10.086 Devolution update Cllr Ralphs**

A reply had been sent into Angela Rayner from the SMDC Leader but was not known what was said on the letter. Cllr Batson said that Parish Assembly had asked to pass a letter to the SMDC Leader regarding this.

**24.10.087 Field Bin update Cllr Horton**

Cllr Horton said that he had a quote for £360 + VAT for a new bin. He said that S. Kempson was bringing some bins along to try in the existing holder.

There are still ongoing issues regarding dog poo bags being placed in the bin. It is an issue because as it is a Playing Field there should be no dogs being walked on there at all due to Health and Safety issues. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

**24.10.088 Village Hall Overview Cllr Krawiecki**

Carried over to the next meeting

**24.10.089 Parish Assembly Update Cllr Batson**

There was a letter that the Deputy Prime Minister, Angela Rayner has sent to all

District & Boroughs Leaders for their comments and return, in which she encourages Leaders to look keenly at the Government’s new devolution framework and to

come together with neighbouring Authorities to form new combined authorities. In the Moorlands it would inevitably be Stoke on Trent. In addition, Ms Rayner is advocating, very strongly, the election of Mayors in these new authorities. Cllr Batson was very concerned that there has been a complete absence of any public discussion with either the residents of the Moorlands or their elected representatives at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council on this extremely important matter.

Bagnall Parish Council held a public meeting on the 12th of August to brief out what we had discovered. This was very well attended, and the feedback was that Parishioners are not in favour of a merger.

Keir Starmer when asked by Dame Karen Bradley the following question at Prime Ministers question time last week (on the 4th September):-

“Those of us from Staffordshire Moorlands are immensely proud of our beautiful area and unique identity. Can the Prime Minister guarantee that we will not be forced into a devolution deal or local government reorganisation against our will?”

Keir Starmer Replied:-

“It is very important that local people have a say, but it is equally important that we devolve to those who have skin in the game. One of the ways in which we can restart our economy is by making sure that those with skin in the game take the decisions that are relevant to them and their area”

Make of that response what you will. The Leader of the Council is asked by Ms Rayner to have their reply to her before the end of September, which was in just two weeks’ time.

**24.10.090 To be Discussed**

Staffordshire Parish Council Association Membership – Discussed the benefits and was unanimously agreed to join.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – Cllr Dabell gave a brief outline regarding this matter and agreed to head up a committee to join the scheme going forward but would need help to run this going forward. It was agreed to organise a meeting for the parish to attend to discuss options.

Quotes for Fence around The Green – no new quotes had been received but it was agreed to get 2 further quotes’ for just the posts and no rails, and a final decision to be made at the next meeting. Cllr Flunder raised the point that there may be a £500 contribution available towards the costs. Majority agreed.

Gov.uk Emails and website – it was agreed to investigate the costs for the next meeting to discuss further

Remembrance Wreath - Cllr Horton agreed to attend and lay a wreath on Remembrance Sunday

Meeting Closed at 21.30 Hours

Date and Time of next meeting – 19th November 2024, 1900 Hours at The Stafford Arms, Bagnall ST9 9JR

SIGNED:

DATE: