

Bagnall Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Tuesday 10 May 2005 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

Present

Cllr Peter Adams (Chair)	Cllr Frank Hayes
Cllr Peter Lawley	Cllr Dave Pearson
Cllr Sybil Ralphs	Cllr Ken Simpson

In Attendance: Denise Cooper (Clerk)
1 Members of the public

05.40 Apologies

Cllr Roy Hewson Annual Leave

05.41 Minutes of Meeting held on 11 May 2004

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read and accepted as a true and accurate record.

05.42 Chairman's Report

The Chairman read out his report, a copy is attached to these Minutes for those not in attendance.

Cllr Ralphs asked for an amendment to the second paragraph as this item was a District Council initiative and not a Parish Council one. This was agreed.

05.43 Election of Officers

As stated in the Standing Orders, the office of Chair is for a two-year period and as Cllr Adams has now fulfilled his full term, he stood down as Chair. Councillors unanimously thanked him for the way he has led the Parish Council over the past two years.

As is usual practice the Vice-Chair was offered the position of Chair. Cllr Simpson accepted this office and was unanimously elected as Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Pearson was nominated for the position of Vice-Chair by Cllr Ralphs and seconded by Cllr Lawley. Cllr Pearson accepted the office on the understanding that his election to Chair be given due consideration at that time because of other commitments. This was agreed.

Discussion followed on the election of lead officers and these were agreed as:

Responsible Financial Officer	Denise Cooper
Highways, Maintenance and Footpaths	Ken Simpson, Peter Lawley, Dave Pearson
Newsletter	Frank Hayes, Denise Cooper
Agenda 21	Sybil Ralphs, Frank Hayes
Parish Assembly	Ken Simpson, Dave Pearson
Village Hall Committee	Peter Adams

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION AT THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

05.44 Financial Report 2004 / 05

The Responsible Finance Officer tabled copies of the accounts for information, copies are attached to these minutes for those not in attendance.

Currently there is £1,872.55 surplus funding in the bank. £925.00 of this is ring-fenced for the up-grading of the playing fields together with any additional monies as are required. Councillors agreed that the remaining balance, once known, would be deposited in a separate account (together with the £10.00 donated in 2003 by a local resident) to be used solely towards the purchase of the playing fields.

Public Section

There were no issues raised.

Signed(Chairman)

Date:

DC
14 May 2005

Chairman's Report – May 2005

Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance Issues

As a result of the heavy rains that have beset us over the past twelve months the condition of a large number of the Footpaths within the area is causing the Parish Council concern. We have notified the County Council and wait with bated breath for their repairs.

To assist emergency vehicles a District Council initiative enabled street names to be erected around the Parish. This resulted in some signs needing re-positioning and some confusion with local residents on street names. Hopefully this has now been resolved.

Fly tipping has been a real problem over the past twelve months, particularly down Old Mill Lane and at the bottom of Thorney Edge Lane, and everyone is being asked to be vigilant and to report any sightings as quickly as possible.

Parish Plans

A meeting to progress the development of Parish Plans was held on 18 May 2004 and I thank Mr Neat for his endeavours in this regard. Unfortunately, there was insufficient support for the formation of a Committee to develop plans and therefore the matter has been put on hold for the foreseeable future.

Playing Fields

The Parish Council has now signed the 25-year lease with Staffordshire County Council. There is an option to purchase the area during the life of the lease and the Parish Council is actively pursuing this option.

The Parish Council has been fortunate in securing Grants to facilitate the up-grading of the playing fields area. Work is in hand to install protective fencing, and reinstate the swings over suitable safe material.

The Parish Council is also overseeing the up-grading of the football ground to ensure even wear of the ground. All this work has been held up by the inclement weather making the ground too soft for machinery.

Planning

A number of planning applications have passed before the Parish Council. Most of these have been supported, only few causing some concern. A Licence to undertake work at the former Highlands Hospital site has been granted and work has now started on site. This is a very welcome development, as the site has been an eyesore at the entrance of a very picturesque village for far too long.

The appeal by Greenway Hall Golf Club against the decision to refuse outline planning permission for residential development on the existing clubhouse site, and also the refusal of full planning permission for golf club house, parking, maintenance shed, new access and redesign of sections of the golf course is still ongoing. The Parish Council stands by its decision to refuse this permission.

On a more general note the Parish Council has expressed concerns about the timescale in which it has to view plans and the fact that some of our comments / views seem to be overruled by the District Council without any justification being given to the Parish Council. Some discussions have taken place and it is hoped that the situation is now resolved amicably.

I should like to thank my fellow Councillors for their help and support during the past year. I should also like to thank Denise Cooper for her dedication and expertise in dealing with some very complex situation.

Record of attendance

<i>Councillor</i>	<i>Possible attendance</i>	<i>Actual attendance</i>	<i>Meetings not attended</i>
Cllr Peter Adams (Chair)	12	11	1
Cllr Ken Simpson (Vice Chair)	12	11	1
Cllr Frank Hayes	12	12	0
Cllr Roy Hewson	12	8	4
Cllr Peter Lawley	12	12	0
Cllr David Pearson	12	8	4
Cllr Sybil Ralphs	12	6	6