

Bagnall Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Tuesday 9 March 2004 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

Present

Cllr Peter Adams (Chair)
Cllr Roy Hewson
Cllr Dave Pearson

Cllr Frank Hayes
Cllr Peter Lawley
Cllr Ken Simpson

In Attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk)
0 Members of the public

04.10 Apologies

Cllr Sybil Ralphs

District Council Business

04.11 Minutes of Meeting held on 10 February 2004

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read. The Clerk was asked to clarify that the letter in 04.05 (Report from Finance and Planning Committee) referred to the comments relating to the application for Certificate of lawfulness for proposed use at Bagnall Hospital. With this amendment the Parish Council's accepted the Minutes as a true and accurate record.

04.12 Matters Arising not on agenda

Playing Fields

Cllr Hayes has been advised that a final draft of our Lease Agreement with the County Council for the Playing Fields has been forwarded to our Solicitors.

Village Road Name Signs

Parish Councillor's wished to thank Cllr Ralphs for her endeavours in organising the installation of road name signs around the village. It was agreed that once the few anomalies that had arisen in the siting of some signs had been resolved, these would provide very useful to emergency vehicles and people visiting the area.

04.13 Parish Plan Initiative

Cllr Pearson stated that, on behalf of the Parish Council, he had approached Mr Neat as an impartial and respected member of the community, to read the documentation provided and advise the Parish Council on the best way forward.

Mr Neat following his reading of the information pack on the Parish Plan Initiative gave a brief presentation to the Parish Council. A resume of his findings was given in a paper tabled for information.

Mr Neat felt that paramount to the success of any Village Plan was the total commitment and involvement of all parishioners, rather than just a few enthusiastic community members. He therefore felt that an open meeting should be convened with all parishioners invited to gauge interest. If sufficient parishioners were interested a Steering Group would be convened and work on the Plan started. It was envisaged that a time-scale of 12 months was required to complete the Plan.

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It was agreed to register our intention with the Countryside Agency and write to all parishioners inviting them to a meeting on 18 May 2004, 6.30pm at Moorlands Village Hall.

04.14 Finance issues

03.78 – Playing Fields

The Clerk advised that approximately £850.00 was available from the precept to finance the refurbishment work to Playing Fields. Cllr Pearson will obtain exact prices for materials and advise the Council. He envisaged work could commence in April 2004 if finances were agreed. It was agreed to carry forward this under spend and ring fence it for this project.

03.109(iii) – Vehicular damage to fence

The Parish Council Insurer's had requested that the Clerk write to the third party's insurers to obtain full recompense as liability had not been disputed, this the Clerk has done. This request was based on the insured value of the benches being insufficient. The Clerk was requested to ensure that the Council was fully insured when the policy was renewed.

Invoices has been received from:

- Town and Country Services in the sum of £64.62 in respect of Lengthsman's work.
- Mrs D Cooper, Clerk's Expenses for the half-year to March 2004 in the sum of £98.83.

Both the above invoices were agreed for payment.

04.15 Planning Applications

In response to the Parish Council's letter expressing concern that our views were not being given the weight we felt that should, a response was received from the Planning Department, which refuted our evidence. Parish Council's accepted the assurances that were given and will monitor the situation.

Full permission to develop was granted to:

- Oakland Villa, Houghwood
Single storey pitched roof and implement store
- Mu Don, Clewloes Bank
Rear Conservatory
- Wayside, Clewloes Bank
Additional dormer to roof

Planning applications for consideration:

No plans had been received.

04.16 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance issues

03.109(i) – Footpath 14

Cllr Simpson reported that the caravan was still in situ. Following discussion the Clerk was asked to write to the County Council to ascertain the rules and regulations regarding caravans on private land.

03.109(ii) – Spring Bank

The Clerk was asked to write to the Highways Department to obtain a more exact date for repair works to the cobble sets and the lay-by area.

03.109(iii) – Seat in lay-by opposite Golf course

Prior the positioning of the replacement seat, it was agreed to treat the shrub at the

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rear to prevent it becoming overgrown again and inhibiting the use of the seat.

04.06(i) – Lay-by opposite Golf Links – Litter

Although the District Council has been requested to remove the litter deposited on a regular basis Councillors felt that the influx of young people congregating in the evening was adding to the problem, although it was noted that a number of sales representatives used this area at lunchtime. The Clerk was asked to contact the Police to ask that they monitor the situation.

04.06(ii) – Footpath 28

No further information relating to grants was available.

04.06(iii) – Fencing to the village green

Town and Country had provided a cost of £750.00 for replacing the fence posts. Cllr Simpson will obtain alternative costs. To replace the post adjacent to Holly Dene will be £50.00, or £20.00 if we can supply the post. It was agreed to ask Town and Country to fix a post donated to the Parish Council.

04.06(v) – Leave on parish roads

Although the District Council had swept the roads, a number of areas required additional clearing. The Clerk was asked to advise the Highways Department that the roads had not been swept satisfactorily.

04.17 Environmental Issues

There was no report.

04.18 Newsletter

A draft Newsletter was tabled for consideration. This was agreed.

04.19 Correspondence

- Staffordshire County Council – Notification of maintenance contractor for Highways
- Standards Board of England – Code of Conduct: Register of Interests – For information
- Standards Board of England – Consultation on Misconduct allegations. Copies given to each Parish Councillor for discussion at the next meeting
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Consultation on Rural Access Strategy. Copies given to each Parish Councillor for discussion at the next meeting
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Dog Walkers’ Code. This will be displayed in the notice boards.
- Moorlands Together- Local Strategic Partnership – Invitation to become involved. It was agreed that our involvement would come within the umbrella of the District Council
- Government Office for the West Midlands – Questionnaire on renewable energy. The Clerk to complete this on behalf of the Parish Council
- Record Playground Equipment Ltd – Notification of their new catalogues. The Clerk was requested to obtain copies
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Copies of Minutes / Agenda

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04.20 Any Other Business

- Cllr Adams gave a brief overview of issues discussed at the Parish Assembly, the principle item being the District Council being asked to reconsider its decision relating to uncontested election charges.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed(Chairman)

Date:

DC
13 March 2004