

## Bagnall Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting Tuesday 13 December 2005 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

#### Present

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

Cllr Peter Adams  
Cllr Roy Hewson  
Cllr Dave Pearson

#### In Attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk)  
9 Members of the public

#### 05.110 Apologies

No apologies were tendered.

#### 05.111 Minutes of Meeting held on 8 November 2005

The Minutes of the meeting were read and accepted as a true and accurate record.

#### 05.112 Matters Arising not on agenda

##### 04.53 – Playing Fields

Cllr Simpson has approached Jackson Nurseries and we are awaiting quotations.

##### 05.108 – Neighbourhood Watch Forum

Cllr Hewson advised that he had attended the last meeting of the forum and will give a full report at the next meeting; however, he asked that Cllrs give some consideration to suitable sites for Neighbourhood Watch signs within the village. This was agreed.

#### 05.113 Discussion with Mr S Baker and Mr M Green, Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Mr Baker, Chief Executive of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, stated that he had agreed to attend the Parish Council meeting accompanied by Mr M Green, Interim Head of Development Control and Building Control, to give an overview of the landscaping development at Greenways Golf Club and the steps that were being taken to oversee / monitor the development.

Mr Green gave a brief history to the development, stating that the application had been received by the District Council in September 2000 and following consultation with the Parish Council and neighbouring households, the Planning Committee approved the application in November 2000. There was paper work accompanying the application that indicated some level of tipping, but no consultation with the Highways Departments of either Staffordshire County Council or Stoke on Trent City Council took place. The Planning Committee was not told of the importation of materials as part of the Officer's Report, nor was this information passed to the Parish Council. The approval to proceed did not contain any conditions / restrictions on the development.

It must be borne in mind that the approval was granted in a totally different planning environment than that which exists today.

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Given the above information, and the depth of local feeling surrounding this development, the District Council has entered into negotiations with the developers to limit the impact upon the local community and have found the developers very co-operative. They have agreed to limit the number of lorries travelling to the site to 50 per day, and the hours of operation to Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm. The developer has also agreed to only import 'inert' materials (gravel, sand, soil, rubble, etc) and any glass, metal or timber must be removed. The kerbs and tarmacadam entrance must be re-instated to its former state. If members of the public observe any contravention to these conditions he asked them to inform the District Council immediately.

In response to this, Mr Jolly presented some photographs of unacceptable materials and Mr Green agreed to investigate this further. Residents also advised that the number of vehicles in the first week exceeded the level agreed, as some 90 lorries a day had visited the site. Mr Green advised that this was due to some external contracting conditions which had now been addressed. The level of lorries should now decrease to the agreed limit. The developers had installed flood lights to enable work to continue in the late afternoon, however, residents advised that these were not shielded and caused difficulties in driving along Bagnall Road. Mr Green will investigate. Mr Adams reported that the area was criss-crossed by three footpaths, and that access to these had been obstructed. Mr Green will investigate and ensure that footpath access is kept open.

The contour drawings which form part of the application, whilst not giving exact information do provide sufficient information to enable the District Council to estimate that 71 cubic metres of material will be brought onto site and the developer has been advised that this amount will be closely monitored. Mr D Vincent asked that the estimated volume be re-examined as he felt that this was too low. Once this had been verified he asked that the site be independently monitored. Mr Green agreed that this was not an unreasonable request and the tonnage will be reviewed. Mr P Vincent queried the practice of piling the imported materials in one place as this made it very difficult to detect any increase on the agreed volume until it was too late. Mr Green felt that it was not in the best interests of the developer to bring additional materials onto site as once this had been detected it would be costly for the developer to remove it and gave further assurance that the amount of material brought onto site was being monitored by Officers of the District Council.

Local residents asked if the land was to be turfed or seeded, Mr Green stated that the application was not specific in this regard stating only that it would be planted. Therefore, he assumed that alongside the trees / shrubs proposed the land would be seeded. Mr P Vincent asked if the District Council could liaise with the developer to establish how long they anticipated it would take before the land is grassed over. Mr Green agreed to ascertain this information.

The Parish Council thanked Mr Baker and Mr Green for attending the meeting to allay the fear of both Parish Councillors and the public and to put to rest any unfounded rumours that surround this development.

**05.114 Precept 2006 / 07**

The Clerk tabled a paper which indicated the current spend for 2005/06 and recommended that the Clerk's salary be increased to £88.50 per month, plus expenses, and that the Precept be increased £4257.00. Both recommendations were agreed.

The Parish Council has gone out to tender for the Lengthman's Programme, receiving three tenders. The Clerk was asked to contact two of the tenders to clarify some of the information provided. Once clarification has been received the tenders will be awarded.

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**05.115 Finance Issues**

Cllr Simpson reported that the notice board situated on the Village Hall car park had been repaired free of charge by a local resident. However, he asked that a cash donation of £10 be given to the gentleman and this was agreed.

The Clerk's membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks is due for renewal at the cost of £45.00. Payment was agreed.

**05.116 Planning Applications**

Application to vary Premises Licences under the Licensing Act 2003:

- Moorlands Village Hall, School Road, Bagnall

This application was taken before the District Council's Licensing Sub-Committee where after full debate a licence was granted in line with the application.

Full Permission for Development has been received in respect of:

- Greenway Hall Golf Club, Stanley Road, Stockton Brook  
Alterations and extension to golf clubhouse

Refusal of Planning Permission has been received in respect of:

- Quarry Cottage, Old Mill Lane, Bagnall  
Erection of a summer house (retrospective)

Application for appeal against planning decision has been received for:

- Land adjacent to The Gables, Stanley Road  
Erection of 2 dwellings (renewal of outline permission)

Planning applications have been received in respect of:

- Hillside Cottage, Clewlovs Bank, Stockton Brook  
Single/two storey rear and single storey front extensions and detached garage
- Luzlow Nursery, Luzlow Lane, Bagnall  
Erection of agricultural/forestry dwelling
- Jackson's Nurseries UK Ltd, Thorney Edge Road, Bagnall  
Plant protection poly tunnels

The Parish Council supported all the above applications.

Cllr Hewson declared an interest in respect of the development at Jackson's Nurseries UK Ltd and therefore took no part in the discussions.

Notice to fell or prune trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders has been received for:

- Leveston, Clewlovs Bank, Bagnall  
To remove the lower branches to provide statutory clearance over the highway.

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**05.117 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance issues**

**05.78 – Pavements within the Parish**

A letter, received from Mr Greatbatch in response to a recent site visit, was circulated to Cllrs. Mr Greatbatch indicated that he proposed to await the installation of a pavement at the junction of Bagnall Road / School Road as part of the Care Village development. Following discussion, Cllr Simpson agreed to speak to Mr Greatbatch to ascertain if some interim measure could be put in place as a matter of urgency on the grounds of health and safety. All the other items raised will be monitored to ensure they are progressed as detailed in the letter.

**05.97 – Litter bin on the playing fields.**

Cllr Lawley has re-positioned the litter bin near the gates and agreed to put the bag by the roadside for collection. The situation will be discussed further at the next meeting.

- i. Cllr Hayes reported that the litter bin by the ford had not been emptied recently, the Clerk was asked to speak to the waste collection department.
- ii. A letter has been received by a local resident in respect of the proposed removal of the bus service to Bagnall by First. The first notification of this service removal was an article in the press on 8 December 2005, following which the Clerk and Cllr Ralphs sought clarification on the situation. First have declared that they do not intend to rescind their decision and an alternative bus company is being sought to take on this route. An update will be provided at the next meeting. In the meantime Cllr Hayes agreed to compile a letter to be forwarded to Joan Walley, MP, Charlotte Atkins, MP, and to the local media to express our concern that this rural community is being deprived of a bus service.

**05.118 Environmental Issues**

**05.107 – Anti-social behaviour on village hall car park**

The Clerk has raised the issue of anti-social behaviour on the car park to the Police who have undertaken to provide regular patrols. Since the last meeting no further incidents have been reported. The Village Hall Committee has also been notified and they are giving consideration to the matter – Cllr Adams will provide an up-date at the next meeting.

**05.119 Correspondence**

- Central Networks – Notification that Aquila Networks, the company sub-contracted to Staffordshire County Council to undertake electrical works, has changed its name to Central Networks
- Staffordshire County Council – Notification of a consultation process on the Staffordshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Issues and Options for the Minerals core Strategy
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Notification that following a review by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister the number of Councillors upon Bagnall Parish Council remains at 7
- Staffordshire County Council – Winter Driving Leaflet
- Staffordshire County Council – Executive Summary of the Provisional North Staffordshire Local Transport Plan 2006-2011

**05.120 Any Other Business**

- Cllr Hewson has received a letter and an extensive report from the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust who are carrying out a survey of the area behind the well on Spring Bank Road. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

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- The Parish Council has received a request for a memorial seat to be erected. It was agreed to speak to the family concerned and once a definitive site has been indicated residents in the immediate vicinity will be contact for their comments.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed .....(Chairman)

Date:

DC  
14 December 2005