

Bagnall Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Tuesday 14 November 2006 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

Present

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

Cllr Peter Adams
Cllr Roy Hewson
Cllr Dave Pearson

In Attendance:

Denise Cooper (Clerk)
0 Members of the public

06.98 Apologies

Cllr Sybil Ralphs Business commitments

06.99 Minutes of Meeting held on 10 October 2006

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

06.100 Matters Arising not on agenda

There were no matters arising not on the agenda.

06.101 Changes in funding for the police authority

Cllr Pearson advised that at a previous Parish Assembly the issue of voluntary officers was discussed. There is the opportunity for Parish Councils to access funding from the government to 'employ' rural officers to top up the current police authority provision; once the officers had proved their 'worth' the police authority would have evidence to make the posts substantive within their own budgets. However, most Parish Councils were not in favour of this initiative. After discussion it was agreed to invite a representative from the police authority to give an overview of rural policing currently; this initiative and its impact upon our village.

06.102 Waste Collection – change in frequency of collection

The District Council, along with other Councils nationally, are giving consideration to collecting waste on a fortnightly basis. More emphasis is being placed upon the recycling of rubbish and the imposing of 'green' taxes for those who do not comply. After details discussion, the Parish Council felt that it could not support the change to fortnightly collections unless a significant extension in the recycling facilities from the residential base were made available.

06.103 Dog Litter Bins

Cllrs recognised that the vast majority of dog owners collected dog litter and sensibly disposed of it. To assist in this process, particularly in areas where sensible ownership was not practiced, Cllrs were considering the installation of dog litter bins. To enable suitable sites to be identified and further discussion to take place, Cllrs and residents need to be vigilant in identifying areas that would benefit from such an installation. This item will be discussed in detail at a later date.

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

06.104 Appointment of a new Clerk

The Parish Council formally accepted the resignation of the Clerk and discussion followed on the best way forward in recruiting a replacement.

It was agreed that Cllr Pearson and the Clerk should liaise in the development of a job description and person specification. Once this has been agreed a suitable advertisement would be placed in the media.

Alongside of this Cllr Simpson agreed to speak to Endon with Stanley Parish Council, who had recently undergone a similar exercise, to seek their advice.

06.105 Finance issues

Jackson's Nurseries' (UK) Ltd has submitted an invoice for £386.07 for the final instalment against the lengthman's agreement and greens maintenance. Payment was agreed.

Jackson's Nurseries' (UK) Ltd has submitted an invoice for £209.39 for the installation of a trip rail around the village green. Cllr Simpson raised some concerns around this work and will liaise with Mr Jackson. Once this fault has been rectified payment was agreed.

Simpson and Co submitted an invoice for £65.80 for the refurbishment of the Chair's Chain of Office. Payment was agreed.

06.106 Planning Applications

Planning applications have been received in respect of

- Wayside, Clewloes Bank, Stanley Moor
Single storey side extension, replacement roof and detached garage
- Wayside, Clewloes Bank, Bagnall
Erection of swimming pool

The Parish Council supported both applications

Notification of work to trees in a conservation area has been received in respect of

- Hillcrest, Clewloes Bank, Bagnall
To raise the crown by removal of lower branches to address encroachment onto overhead wires and make good damaged branches.

Bagnall Heights

Cllr Simpson had been advised that the existing bus shelter will be brought up to standard, but that there will not be a bus shelter on School Road. With regards to the pavements, the license has not yet been granted to allow the pavements to be developed. Cllrs expressed their concern at the way that this project was being overseen by the District Council and it was agreed that should the License still be outstanding by 24 November 2006, the Chair would write to Mr Green at the District Council.

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

06.107 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance issues

06.58(ii)-Burial Ground

Cllr Hayes asked if Cllr Pearson could ascertain from Cheddleton Parish Council details of their Business Plan to assist us in developing our own.

06.06(iii)-Stanley Road – Bulbous tree

Some work to remedy the situation has taken place. However, this has not proved effective and the Highways Department will put in place steps to have the tree removed.

06.49(ii)-Horse Trough

A solenoid operated pump will be fitted to ensure water circulation.

06.49(iii)-Well on Thorney Edge Lane

Cllr Hayes agreed to ascertain if the stonemason undertaking work at Mr Bettany's property is interesting in the remedial work at the well.

06.67(v)-Salters Wells – Trees

This work is still pending.

06.85(iii)-Spring Bank-cobble sets

Cllr Simpson will speak to the Highways Department to ascertain when the French drain and repairs around the cobble sets will be undertaken.

06.85(iv)-Blue Bridge – Hedge

Cllr Simpson has been advised by the Highways Department that they will investigate and report back on the necessity / scheduling of this work.

06.107(i)-Removal of trees opposite Greenway Cottage

Cllr Simpson advised that four diseased trees had been removed.

06.107(ii)-Footpaths 22 / FIR244

The above footpaths have been blocked by the landscaping work undertaken on the golf course. Cllr Simpson has spoken to the Enforcement Officer who has given assurance these will be unblocked by the end of November 2006.

06.107(iii)-Landscaping – Golf Course

Cllr Pearson asked if there would be an enforcement order to ensure that the site is tidied up and the entrance removed and boundary fencing reinstated on the same day. Cllr Simpson has been advised that the height of the mounds will be slightly reduced and over time there will be some settlement. Cllrs agreed to discuss this issue at the next meeting.

06.107(iv)-Road Repairs, Thorney Edge Lane

Cllrs expressed their concern that some 'patching' work has been undertaken on Thorney Edge Lane when other, more important, repair work was required in other areas of the parish. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

06.107(v)-Bus Stop opposite the St Chad's Church

Cllrs asked the Clerk to write to D and G to explain that contact details displayed on the bus stop were incorrect. The Clerk was also asked to enquire about times for the return journey from Hanley to Bagnall in the early evening.

06.108 Environmental Issues

Cllr Hewson enquired about the Enforcement Order given to the previous occupants of the former Little Foxes property. Cllr Simpson agreed to speak to the Enforcement Officer to ascertain the current situation.

06.109 Correspondence

- Letter of thanks from a local resident for the warning signs on Clewlovs Bank.
- Samaritans – Request for a donations. Declined on this occasion.
- Countryside Alliance – Request for support in retaining rural Post Offices.
- Staffordshire County Council – Notification that the new North Staffordshire Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 is available at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/ltp
- Staffordshire County Council – Winter Driving 2006/07 leaflet

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

06.110 Any Other Business

- Cllr Jebb, Endon with Stanley Parish Council, has asked for our support for the remedial work to the Towpath by writing to the Water Board. This was agreed with the proviso that no expenditure was incurred for the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed(Chairman)

Date:

DC
19 November 2006