

Bagnall Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Tuesday 8 July 2008 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

Present

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

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

08.61 Apologies

There were no apologies.

08.62 Minutes of Meeting held on 10 June 2008

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

08.63 Matters Arising not on agenda

08.53 – Casual Vacancy

Following completion of the statutory processes, Cllr Pearson was pleased to announce that Andrew Batson was formally co-opted onto the Parish Council.

08.44 – Bagnall Heights

As discussed at the last meeting, Cllr Pearson has written to Mr Lomas, Bagnall Heights, regarding the removal of the bus shelter requesting its reinstatement as a priority. Mr Lomas indicated that the bus shelter was not mentioned as a condition of the planning application and he was not sure why it had been removed and suggested that we corresponded with the contractors Roy Beech Contractors Ltd.

Cllr Pearson also wrote to the County Council and copies of the emails exchanged were tabled. The content of the emails from the County Council indicated that the only responsibility they have in this project is to ensure that the conditions of the license are met. As Bagnall Heights contracted Roy Beech Contractors Ltd to undertake the work to the standards indicated within the License issued by the County Council, it is their responsibility to oversee the contract. However, the pictures provided by the County Council do not show that the shelter was in a dilapidated state.

After discussions relating to this, Cllr Pearson agreed to seek a copy of the agreement between Bagnall Heights and their contractor, particularly any orders to remove the bus shelter. The shelter, as a parish asset, should not have been removed without the permission of the Parish Council being sought.

It has been reported that three trees were removed as part of the footway installation along School Road. These trees were in a conservation area and as a matter of principle the Parish Council would ask that these are replaced. Cllr Pearson will follow this up.

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08.59 – Burial Ground

Contact was made with Cheddleton Parish Council to discuss their plans to develop a burial ground. During this discussion it was established that a misunderstanding of the processes they had adopted had arisen and it was agreed that a presentation would not be appropriate at this time.

08.64 Council Tax Re-evaluation

Cllr Ralphs stated that Staffordshire Moorlands District Council is not involved in the re-evaluation of taxes; however, they have a statutory obligation to advise the Department of Inland Revenue when improvements to a property have been made.

08.65 Local Action Groups

A consultation is currently taking place and the existing organisations have ceased pending the outcome of the consultation.

Early indications from the consultation process are that any new organisations will be led by the Parish and District Councils, thus allowing local residents to play a more active role within their local community leading to more effective local governance. Further information will be made available at a later date.

08.66 Finance issues

- Invoice for £50.00 for the month of July 2008 has been received from the Clerk. Payment was agreed.
- Severn Trent Water have submitted an invoice for £12.26 to cover the period Jan-June 2008. Payment was agreed.

08.67 Planning Applications

Cllrs expressed their concerns that their views on some applications are being over ruled by the District Council, and it was suggested these views should be included within the discussions around the Local Development Framework.

Full permission for Development has been received for

- Grove Farm, Thorney Edge Road, Bagnall
Menage / exercise area

Planning Applications have been received for

- Canal Cottages, Stanley Road, Stockton Brook
Replacement two storey side extension and first floor rear extension
- Lock 9, Caulton Canal, Stanley Road, Stockton Brook
Installation of cill hazard warning signs on lock gates

The above applications were supported.

08.68 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance issues

06.49(ii) – Well on Thorney Edge Lane

An application form for a matched funding grant is being completed / submitted to enable repairs to proceed.

08.24 – Seats within the village

The seat by the golf course has been damaged and this will be repaired as quickly as possible. Cllrs expressed their disappointment that damage had been caused only a matter of weeks after their repair and asked parishioners to be vigilant and

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report any incidence of vandalism to either a parish councillor or the police directly.

08.68(i) – Highways initiative

Cllr Ralphs informed of an initiative currently being promoted by the Highways Department to assist with cutting back vegetation, cutting ditches, etc and she will endeavour to find out further information.

08.68(ii) – Fire Basket

Following a recent complaint, we have been requested by the District Council to remove the fire basket – steps are in place to ensure this happens within the stated time frame.

Section Open to the Public

A local resident asked why the Parish Council has not taken steps to register the strip of land that borders Footpath 32. Cllr Ralphs agreed to obtain information to register this as common land.

08.69 Environmental Issues

07.78 – Dog Bins

We are still awaiting the installation of dog bins on the sites agreed. Cllr Ralphs will follow up.

08.69 – Common Land

Cllr Ralphs agreed to speak to the Pointon family with regards to the quarry within their fields to ascertain their intentions regarding this as we have received reports that it is being filled in.

08.70 Discussion around the future of the Playing Fields

Nick Maslen, representing the Village Hall Committee, stated that they were keen to move forward with a scheme to secure the future of the playing fields and suggested a time limited sub-group be established, comprising three representatives from the Parish Council and three from the Village Hall Committee, to scope out a way forward and bring back their recommendations for consideration. This was agreed.

08.71 Correspondence

- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Notification of the consultation process around the Local Development Framework
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – request to place an article on any publication/newsletters issued by the Parish Council. Details will be provided
- Cheddleton Open Gardens – Notification of this year's event
- Wetley Moor Joint Committee – Notification off cancellation of the July meeting.

08.72 Any Other Business

- There was no other business raised.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed(Chairman)

Date: 12 August 2008

DB
26 July 2008