

## Bagnall Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting Tuesday 10 March 2008 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

#### Present

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

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

#### 09.19 Apologies

There were no apologies tendered

#### 09.20 Minutes of Meeting held on 10 February 2009

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

#### 09.21 Presentation on the new Locality Working Groups – Ruth Reeves

Following a recent review of the Local Action Groups some amendments had been recommended and Ruth Reeves and her assistance attended to give a brief overview of the new Locality Working Groups with the aim of ascertaining councillors' views on the locality way of working and whether or not Bagnall Parish Council wished to sign up.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council would like to work more closely with local communities across the district to increase residents' satisfaction with the service they receive from local government and its partner agencies (Staffordshire County Council; Parish and Town councils; Staffordshire Police; Staffordshire Fire and Rescue; and Staffordshire Moorlands Community and Voluntary Services). The programme is being introduced using a phased approach, with the wards of Bagnall and Stanley; Brown Edge and Endon; Forsbrook; all five Biddulph wards; and all four Leek wards being in the first phase.

There are a number of principles underpinning Locality Working Groups. However, the main ethos of the programme is that it is non-political and aims to encourage and support more local residents to become active members of their community, able to influence decisions made about the places where they live and work. This can only be achieved through the proactive raising of concerns and realistic needs by local residents and two-way dialogue on the best way to address these.

Community engagement will be achieved via a number of forums, some of which may already be established in local areas. Once priorities have been agreed a Charter will be written which will enable communities and elected members to hold service providers accountable for the promises made. The Charter will also include promises that local residents are responsible for. Underneath the Charter will be Action Plans detailing how promises set out in the Charter will be achieved. On a periodic basis informal 'surgeries' will be organised where local residents can meet local agencies and elected members with a more formal 'Face the Public' meeting being held on an annual basis.

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

In principle the Parish Council was in favour of this way of working. The next steps being to:

1. Establish a working party to oversee the process.
2. Write a parish profile, using a template provided by Ruth Reeves.
3. Develop a Community Engagement Plan. This will involve identifying the various local forums currently available in the area and the best way of utilising these to convey appropriate messages to local residents.

Ruth Reeves stated that the remit of Village Agents will change to ensure they work more closely with the new Locality Working Groups.

Ruth Reeves also gave a brief overview of the Community Crime weeks. These are weeks of multi-agency and community activity to clean up their area and obtain information / advice on a number of preventative measures to fight crime.

**09.22 Matters Arising not on agenda**

**08.44 – Bus Shelter**

Cllr Pearson stated that Cllr Jebb has advised that the interior of the bus shelter will be protected.

Unfortunately, confirmation has been received that the County Council is unwilling to accept maintenance liability for the bus shelter. After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Pearson would contact the County Council and insist that they accept this responsibility.

**08.84 – Clerk**

An interview has taken place and councillors received a recommendation to appoint Mr Miller as Clerk, with effect from May 2009. This decision was agreed.

**09.23 Finance issues**

**08.44 – Bus Shelter**

Following recent correspondence from Roy Beech Contractors, they have been instructed to seek the outstanding monies from Andy Mason at the County Council.

- An invoice for £50.00 has been received from Mrs Cooper being her fees for March 2009. Payment was agreed.
- Cllr Lawley asked for recompense of £9.99 for the purchase of a fencing post. Payment was agreed.

**09.24 Planning Applications**

**Planning Applications have been received in respect of:**

- Red Bank Farm, Bagnall  
Replacement of existing stables and addition of all weather turnout areas.

The above application was supported.

- Greenway Hall, Greenway Hall Road, Milton  
Installation of 1 wind turbine

The Parish Council was not in full support of this application as it was felt it was detrimental to the rural area, particularly given its location being visible from all aspects. Further guidance / clarification is being sought from the District Council in relation to this type of application for this and future use.

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**09.25 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance issues**

**06.49(ii) – Well on Thorney Edge Lane**

We have been successful in securing funding to replace the well. The contractor will be made aware of the conditions of the grant and asked to commence work as quickly as possible.

**07.48(ii) – Bin by the Ford**

Discussions are still ongoing with regards to the format of the map being installed by the ford. Some residents have expressed a wish that the map be placed within the centre of the village. This will be discussed at a later date once the map has been agreed.

**08.88(ii) – Fencing on the greens**

The hooks, together with one post, have now been replaced.

**08.97(i) – Proposed speed limit on Bagnall Road / School Road**

The 40mph speed limit along this stretch of road is now in force and will be periodically monitored.

**08.116(iii) – Gritting**

Whilst this issue has now largely been resolved it was agreed to write to the Highways Department next autumn to remind them to grit the Kerry Hills areas and ensure that the grit bins in this vicinity are filled.

**09.25(i) – Footpath 28**

Cllr Lawley advised that some work to the ditches has taken place on this footpath. As a result only minimal remedial work will be required when the weather improves.

**09.25(ii) – Tipping**

Cllr Simpson advised that a metal tank has been dumped on Old Mill Lane. He will contact British Waters Ways regarding its removal. Cllrs noted that fly tipping is becoming an issue within the parish and more action to monitor this situation need to take place.

**09.26 Environmental Issues**

There were no issues raised.

**09.27 Correspondence**

- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Housing Needs Survey. Some discussion on this issue took place and the Clerk will arrange for the Housing Needs Officer to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Informal briefings for parish and Town Councils. It was suggested that a better use of time would be to have this discuss at the parish Assembly and the Clerk was asked to convey this message.
- Leek and District Civic Society – Awards scheme for the enhancement of the environment
- Town and Parish Standard – Newsletter

**09.28 Any Other Business**

- There was no other business raised.

The meeting closed at 9pm

Signed .....(Chairman)

Date: 14 April 2009

DB  
12 March 2009