

These Minutes are subject to verification at the next meeting of the Parish Council

Bagnall Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 9th March 2010 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

Present

Cllr Peter Adams, Cllr Andrew Batson, Cllr Frank Hayes, Cllr Peter Lawley, Cllr Sybil Ralphs, Cllr Ken Simpson

In Attendance Roger Miller (Clerk) and 6 members of the public

10.19 Apologies

Cllr Dave Pearson

10.20 Minutes

Minutes of the 9th February meeting required correction so approval was deferred.

10.21 Matters Arising not on the Agenda

06.49 Well

It was noted that the chairman had discussed the trees by the well with Mr Bettany and clearance to allow subsequent repair should be expected soon.

08.120 Playing Field

Cllr Hayes had through the good offices of Cllr Ralphs arranged a meeting at County Hall Stafford on 5th March which Cllrs Batson and Simpson had also attended. They had met Cllr Mark Winnington, Cabinet Member for Assets, Performance & Organisation, together with Steven Morley from the Law & Governance Department. The County Council representatives had listened carefully and declared themselves willing to explore all avenues to find a mutually satisfactory arrangement. They believed that funds might be available to help with the purchase price (which Bagnall PC representatives suggested might be reduced). It was expected that investigation and consideration at Staffs CC should take no more than two months, after which a formal response would be made. Cllr Hayes will follow up as necessary.

09.56 Trees on the Green

The Clerk had established that Hillside Tree Care really did mean to tender £250 for all the work required and so had been awarded the contract.

09.66 Survey

There was no further news of the survey.

10.22 Finance

Payments

Payments due to the Severn Trent Water for water supply to the horse trough and to the Clerk for the quarter ended in January were agreed.

10.23 Planning Applications

There were no objections to RDUNCA/10/00075/F for an agricultural storage building at Lime Tree Farm, nor to RDUNCA/10/0037/F for a ménage at Lime Tree Farm.

Full permission for development for an agricultural shed at Manor House farm, sewage treatment plant at Rock Cottage, two stables at Inglewood and single storey extension and loft conversion at Wayside, Stanley Moss Lane were noted.

It had recently become clear that although records of planning applications and consent had been maintained it was not easy to refer back quickly to verify process or outcome in any particular case. The Clerk was asked to begin a register that could easily be consulted and add to it as time allowed earlier applications and decisions so that it would rapidly become a useful resource.

An opportunity to review planning matters with a senior officer from the planning department was also wanted. An invitation to a walk round some time ago had been rejected but a session before a meeting of the Parish Council might be more acceptable. The chairman had gathered that the head of planning at SMDC had in mind to make a series of parish visits and Cllr Ralphs volunteered to invite him to come to Bagnall in April. The start of the meeting would be moved forward half an hour to accommodate the extra business.

10.24 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance

09.112 Parish Online Maps

A briefing meeting had been arranged at the SMDC offices for 18th March. The Clerk would attend and Cllr Adams might join him.

10.6(i) Snow

Gritting had been discussed at Parish Assembly and continued to be discussed at Staffs CC. Cllr Ralphs said she would report the outcome. The County Council was willing to receive suggestions.

10.6(ii) Notice Board

Cllr Simpson reported that the cost of notice board repair had been £10.

10.15(i) Footpath Repairs

Councillors continued to be dissatisfied with partial efforts made to repair the footpath from the church and past the cottages. Cllr Ralphs reported that she was seeking to get a proper job done.

10.15(ii) Bus Service

A response to Cllr Ralphs from the Director of Transport & Planning at the City of Stoke reported that it had been agreed not to reduce bus subsidies in the 2010-11 financial year. However, the Council's economic development committee was to review all bus services getting financial support from the City for value for money. Any alterations they suggested would be incorporated into budget proposals for the 2011-12 financial year and subject to the usual approval processes.

Footpath Maps

It was noted that copies of the parish footpaths map had become worn and the Clerk was asked to copy a fresh set so that all Councillors could have one.

10.25 Environment

(i) Fly Tipping

Fly tipped rubbish had again been removed from the parish during the past month. Some debris from a car colliding with a wall remained. It was established that would be dealt with in the same way. Cllr Ralphs reported that CCTV protection of the most affected spots was being considered and she would report the outcome.

(ii) Stony Edge Quarry

The chairman had made representations to the owner of a stone pile that should not be in Stony Edge Quarry and was waiting a response.

(iii) Rural Quality

A letter from Mr Houston-Brown seeking more detail on Parish Council policy regarding matters such as noise, light and planting which affected the character of Bagnall but did not necessarily give rise to planning considerations had been circulated. The chairman commended to the Council continuation

of its established policy of responding to matters that appeared to require response rather than attempting to set out in advance what they might be and that was agreed.

(iv) Seepage

It was noted that a pipe, probably belonging to Severn Trent Water appeared to be malfunctioning. Cllrs Lawley and Simpson would investigate.

10.26 Correspondence

British Telecom to ask whether the parish Council wished to adopt red telephone boxes by the post office on The Green, at the Rose & Crown and by the Congregational Church, Stanley.

The Community Council of Staffordshire, seeking members.

Staffordshire County Council to publicise a community paths initiative – a fund to which bids could be made to improve rights of way. Whilst no limits were stated, examples given all involved hundreds rather than thousands of pounds. Cllr Simpson would review the condition of paths and suggest what applications might be made.

Staffordshire County Council to publicise a community wellbeing fund from which application for small grants up to £1,000 or larger ones up to £10,000 could be made for local services to more or less any needy section of the population.

Staffordshire County Council seeking support for a campaign to reduce sand and gravel extraction in the county.

Staffordshire County Council drawing attention to a door to door burglar/fire alarm sales scam. Warning notices would be posted on all three notice boards.

10.27 Other Business

There was none.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....