

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

Bagnall Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 8th June 2010 Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall

Present

Cllr Andrew Batson, Cllr Frank Hayes, Cllr Peter Lawley, Cllr Sybil Ralphs.

In Attendance Roger Miller (Clerk) and 3 members of the public

10.50 Apologies

Cllr Peter Adams, Cllr Dave Pearson, Cllr Ken Simpson

10.51 Minutes

Minutes of the 11th May meeting were approved and signed.

10.52 Matters Arising not on the Agenda

06.49 Well

Cllr Hayes would speak to Mr Bettany about remaining work on the trees. Cllr Ralphs noted that the Payback scheme organiser was likely to be interested in contributing to any subsequent landscaping of the area. It remained to be considered whether some warning to vehicles of possible hazard from the proximity of the well to the road would be desirable.

08.120 Playing Field

Cllr Hayes' enquiry at Staffs County Council had elicited the information that Cllr Wennington, the relevant portfolio holder, would like to meet representatives of the Parish Council on a day to be confirmed.

Press reports of a jubilee playing fields initiative by Prince William were noted for follow up should the possibility of finance be involved.

09.56 Trees on the Green

Another progress check had revealed that Hillside Tree Care was still awaiting clearance from the electricity authority, whose wires run across the Green, to complete the contracted work.

09.66 Survey

Survey results had been published in the latest edition of the newsletter and circulated with a supplementary letter from Ruth Reeves to all Councillors. It was noted that a Bagnall Action Group had formed with a view to helping to realise some of the aspirations highlighted by the survey.

10.53 Finance

(i) Year End

Accounts for the year ended March 2010 were tabled and approved. Approval was also given to the annual governance statement in the audit form.

(ii) Payments

First lengthsman grass cutting bill this year for £217.87 and renewal of annual subscription to The Society of Local Council Clerks for £50. Both were approved for payment.

10.54 Planning Applications

10/00234/FUL for stables had been approved under delegated powers. It had been the Parish Council understanding that this would go to full committee. Cllr Batson had written but received no response. He would pursue the matter.

There was no objection to LG/10/00406/FUL for an orangery at Hill Top, Stanley Road.
There was no objection to 09/000973/FUL for a detached dwelling at Hedge Croft Farm.
Consideration of RSIMPU/10/00375/FUL for a ménage at Addleston manor was deferred for investigation. This is regarded as an outstanding rural area and there is some doubt about land ownership. Cllr Batson had requested from Staffs CC a fresh map of what land was owned by Bagnall Parish since all copies at present extant have evidently been much copied over time and do not define the position clearly. This application raised again the question of when gradual encroachment and alteration by a series of changes, each minor in itself, amounted to an objectionable development. Cllr Ralphs pointed out that this was a proper consideration for a District Council policy. It was resolved that the Parish Council look at making a case.

10.55 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance

09.112 Parish Online Maps

No further news on the price and availability of this service had been received from SMDC. Cllr Batson noted that the excellent service provided on the Staffs Moorlands website probably supplied all that was necessary.

10.33 Footpath Condition

Parish Footpaths 28 and 32 and offshoots had been walked with County and District footpath officers, Arnie Swithinbank and Dawn Plant. This happened at the end of a prolonged period of dry weather and a further visit was intended to allow inspection of the effect of wet weather and to extend the walk to other paths. It had been agreed that part of footpath 28 would be improved with ditch, drain and stone and some cutting back would be undertaken after the bird nesting season was over. The parish was encouraged to apply for a grant aided strimmer and an application form promised that had not yet arrived. The Clerk would check.

The question of bridle paths was also discussed again. It was noted that questions of bridle path and green lane status can become entwined if alterations are proposed. Meanwhile, particularly serious concern remains about the danger to pedestrians presented by horses being ridden at speed along the narrow section of footpath 28 adjacent to Bank Farm. The Clerk was asked to check with the County Council whether it would be legal to put up notices at each end of the path prohibiting riding on that part. The Council would then consider where the balance of interest lay in taking action. There was a desire to accommodate the reasonable demands of all who wanted to enjoy the countryside and determination to consult local livery stables and other horse owners as discussions proceed.

Road Traffic

Disappearance of chevrons from dangerous bends had been noted and Cllr Batson had written to the County Council. He had received an acknowledgement. There was general concern about dangerous speeding along the narrow lanes around Bagnall. The Clerk was asked to write to the police and send a copy to Cllr Manyan, the relevant portfolio holder at Staffs CC.

10.56 Environment

10.25(ii) Stony Edge Quarry

No more progress had been made with the owner of a stone pile that should not be in Stony Edge Quarry.

Fly Tipping

More tyres had been removed in the past month and the litter bin by the ford emptied. A specification of where CCTV protection might best be placed was required.

10.57 Correspondence

Notice of meeting of Parish Assembly deferred from 10th to 24th June.
Notice of a community games toolkit, inspired by the approach of the Olympics in 2012, available for local use

Notice of a meeting of the Wetley Moor committee on 7th July. In the absence of Cllr Adams, Cllr Lawley would make arrangements for Bagnall to be represented.

LINK magazine and notice of AGM on 16th June.

Association of Local Councils membership request.

10.58 Other Business

Cllr Ralphs reported that SMDC had reviewed its Local Development Framework Strategy. An inherited commitment to 7,000 new dwellings in the District had, in particular, been reviewed. A working party was now looking especially at the allocation to Cheadle and other larger places. Some villages, large and small, were keen to have extra housing to make it more likely that local people could continue to live locally. As a starting point therefore the Council had decided to offer all villages an allocation. For small villages such as Bagnall this was up to eight houses, should the village want them. She stressed that this was an offer, not an imposition.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....