

**Bagnall Parish Council  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
2011  
Moorlands Village Hall, Bagnall**

**Present**

Cllr Andrew Batson, Cllr Mark Butler, Cllr Frank Hayes, Cllr Peter Lawley Cllr David Pearson, Cllr Ken Simpson.

In attendance: Roger Miller (Clerk) and one member of the public.

**11.100 Apologies** Cllr Sybil Ralphs

**11.101 Minutes**

Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> November meeting were approved.

**11.102 Matters Arising not on the Agenda**

06.49 Thorney Edge Well

It had not yet been possible to obtain from Mr Weston an itemised bill as requested by Aviva before they would authorise payment. The Clerk would continue to try.

**11.103 Finance**

Payments

Payments were approved of £29.88 election recharge fee to SMDC, £192 Clerk remuneration for the quarter to October plus expenses in the same period of £39.94 and £31.50 for room hire in the village hall for the quarter to December.

Penalty

HMRC had sent a penalty notice claiming £100 as a result of late filing with the Land Registry of the new lease on the playing field obtained in May. The delay arose because the Land Registry online service would not accept registration without a tax reference that Bagnall Parish Council does not have and the Clerk had been told months ago by the solicitor acting for the Council that the difficulty had been settled and no penalty would be charged. It had not been possible to refer back to the solicitor since his long established firm had recently been closed and its records transferred to another. Councillor Hayes had retained copies of relevant documents and provided additional copies for Council files. The Clerk had already appealed against the penalty so as not to run out of time and sought advice on what else to do. It was agreed that he write to the successor solicitors to ask for the copy of the lease that had been expected together with any related registration details.

Bagnall Playing Field Fund

Cllr Hayes reported that donations to the fund had produced a balance of £405.

**11.104 Planning**

(i) Applications

Two applications for extensions had been received, at Rose Cottage, School Road and at Manor View, School Road. Neither justified any objection.

Planning permission notices had been received for conversion of redundant buildings at Old Hall Farm and construction of stables off Thorney Edge Road.

It had been announced in the press that Greenway Golf Club had been refused a restaurant for which it had applied. The reason would become clear when a refusal notice arrived.

Development had been noted close to Salters Wells for which no application had been seen. The Clerk was to draw the attention of SMDC Planning Department to this activity.

11.68 Stafford Arms

There had been no response from Mr Green so the Clerk would attempt to engage other interests in SMDC.

11.95 St Chad's

Application for demolition of St Chad's church hall and its replacement by a house had attracted no objections. A note had been added while responding to SMDC of what interests Councillors had in the matter.

### **11.105 Footpaths, Highways and Maintenance**

Cllr Butler had noticed periodic flooding in Jack Hays Lane which the Clerk was asked to draw to Highways attention.

Cllr Hayes had noticed horse riders in the lanes who were very difficult to see on dull days or in the evening. There was no obvious way to encourage reflective clothing, lights etc but avoidance of accidents certainly required them.

10.64 Strimmer

Funds for a strimmer, applied for in July 2010, were still awaited.

11.06 Gritting

The agreed additional grit bin had been delivered, opposite The Cottages.

11.06 Footpath 28

Repair work had still to begin. It was noted that dog fouling had recently greatly increased on this path. Cllr Butler undertook to put up warning signs at each end. The Clerk was to obtain another stock of signs. There had also been more dogs off leads, a hazard to livestock.

11.70 Damaged Ditch

Cllr Hayes had cleared the ditch at the bottom of Springs Bank but motor traffic had since made it ineffective again. Since this presents a serious potential ice hazard in cold weather the clerk was to ask the County Highways Department to consider a more permanent solution. A pipe or culvert for the critical section might serve.

11.78 Seepages

New drainage work on Clewlovs Bank had encountered tree roots. SMDC had inspected and decided that the tree was on the way to becoming a hazard and it was to be removed.

11.87 Footpath 25

The county footpath officer had been asked to remove fingerposts at both ends of footpath 25. An inspection by Councillors to assess what might be done to make this path once again passable had still to be scheduled.

11.87 Community Salt

It was noted that Staffs Highways had delivered salt to Cllr Lawley who would store it until needed.

11.87 Footpath Record

Obtaining a current schedule and map from SMDC had been delayed but the responsible officer was at present on leave.

11.90 Springs Bank Trees

It had been established that Highways was at present only dealing with dead or dying trees so any low branch hazard would not be treated..

### **11.106 Environment**

#### 11.16 Notice Board

Cllr Pearson was waiting for a joiner to repair notice board doors. The piece of new doors had been estimated at £200.

#### 11.79 Playing Field

Cllrs Butler & Lawley had attempted to investigate the playing field drains but been prevented by too much water and mud. They would go again in slightly drier conditions. Cllr Simpson was still awaiting a response from Jacksons about cutting methods.

The Bagnall Parish Action Group had enlisted the help of the SMDC backed US2 project in realising an improved and better equipped play area for local children. They had suggested a discussion at a Parish Council meeting and were to be invited to the January meeting. Councillors would meanwhile both consider what improvements might be necessary, including inspecting the fence, and informally canvass neighbours' opinions.

### **11.107 Correspondence**

Mr R Lee, whose application to address the Parish Council about a community minibus scheme had been delayed pending supply of details had sent a leaflet. He was to be invited to speak to the Council about the scheme and the Clerk would distribute with the meeting minutes copies of the details.

Mr Moulton had asked again about Speedwatch and the clerk was to reply. It was noted that large cars with full headlights on had been a significant hazard this Winter and politely requested that they dip their headlights when following cars through the village.

National Grid had sent a notice of work on the Cellarhead to Macclesfield power line, together with a poster.

SMDC had asked for digital photos to use in tourism promotion. The Chairman would consult Mr Adams.

SMDC had supplied a detailed note on casual vacancies and how they must be dealt with.

### **11.108 Other Business**

There was no other business

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....