# BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2024 AT BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL

#### **PRESENT:**

Councillor	Wallace Redford
Councillor	Pam Redford
Councillor	Walter Bush
Councillor	Gary Colville
Councillor	Mike Meakin
Councillor	Robert Taylor
Councillor	Andrew Parkes
Councillor	Roger Horsfall
Councillor	Craig Biggerstaff

County Councillor District Councillor Vice Chairman (Acting Chairman)

Clerk Phil Clark

Public 4 members of the public were present.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:30pm and welcomed those present.

# 2623. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, APOLOGIES & WELCOME

- 2623.1 Declarations of interest were sought and none were received.
- 2623.2 The following had apologised: Councillor Josh Payne D

Councillor Chris Goodwin Councillor Rob Newman District Councillor Chairman

2623.3 The Chairman noted the sad loss of Mick Ives, who regularly attended Parish Council meetings and kept Councillors informed of issues he had spotted during his cycle training in the region. Councillors expressed their sadness at his passing.

# 2624. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

2624.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> January, having been circulated, were approved without amendment. Proposed by Councillor Bush & seconded by Councillor Colville.

# 2625. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD

- 2625.1 Councillor Wallace Redford had sent various reports during the last month, which had been circulated to Councillors to keep them informed.
- 2625.2 The proposed restructuring of Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Services was discussed. Councillor Redford recounted that through his 55 years' service with the Fire Brigade, periodic reviews were necessary to ensure resources are available at peak demand times. Over several decades, improvements in building fire safety, house wiring and property layout, monitoring systems, awareness etc. has seen a dramatic reduction in fire call-outs from 15000 per year to around 2000 per year. It was also noted that where peak fires were in the early hours of the morning (2:00am), most are now mid morning (10:00am). He also noted that whilst fire incidents had reduced, road traffic accidents had increased and were also mostly attended during the day. A restructure is now needed to align Fire Service availability to the times of greatest need, which has noticeably shifted since the last review.

Further to this, Councillor Redford noted a dramatic reduction in volunteer crews, making the available combination of full time and volunteer crews unable to meet current needs at peak times with the current turn-out times (10 mins for towns e.g. Learnington & Rugby, with 20min for rural areas).

Several proposals have been put forward with Option 2a being the favoured proposal. This involves keeping most full-time fire fighters on the 10-min turn-out time at key stations and at peak times. Volunteer fire fighters on a 20-min turn out would be utilised mostly at off-peak times and at stations that have less demand. No stations will be closed, but satellite stations may be manned predominantly by volunteers and at off-peak demand times. Shift patterns will be adjusted accordingly, with the 2a model adopting the 224 shift pattern (on 2 day shifts, on 2 night shifts and off 4 days). Councillor Redford did note that volunteers may lose enthusiasm in off-peak satellite stations due to lack of utilisation, which may lead to loss of more volunteers and loss of Fire Stations in the future.

Councillor Redford suggested that the proposed reorganisation was probably the best that could be accomplished under the present circumstances and suggested that as a Rural village, we would see very little difference to our service.

- 2625.3 Councillor Parkes had attended a presentation that included the Fire Service Review and suggested that it was very difficult for the layman to fully appreciate the nuances of the various options and how that would relate to Fire Service availability and response. It was also noted that a lot of opposition to the proposal was raised due to shift pattern changes, pension changes and changes in contract by returning to the Fire Fighters' National Conditions of Service, rather than to how it affects the Fire Service capabilities.
- 2625.4 It was stressed that the Parish Council should only offer a response to the Fire Service Consultation if we understood it sufficiently, otherwise we should be neutral. The Clerk will re-issue the consultation documents and Councillors will consider them further and comment via e-mail, with a decision delayed until the next meeting. **Clerk to action.**

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for his reports.

# 2626. REPORTS FROM WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- 2626.1 Councillor Josh Payne had sent his apologies and had nothing new to report.
- 2626.2 In addition to the reports that Councillor Pam Redford had sent during the previous month, she noted the closure of the M42 over the weekend commencing 9<sup>th</sup> February for demolition and removal of the A452 Bridge between junctions 6 and 9.
- 2626.3 Councillor Redford also confirmed that an additional £35000 of funding had been secured via 'Move-on & Prevention Fund' for supporting homeless and rough sleepers in the region. This will be added to the on-going funds for multi-agency organisations helping with these issues.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for her reports.

# 2627. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD.

2627.1 A resident complained that the pavement outside their house on the Mill Hill service road had not been re-surfaced during recent works. Councillor Wallace Redford confirmed he had visited the site with an Highways Officer and that the pavement was not dangerous and did not require resurfacing. He also noted that residents parking on the pavement were not what they were built to withstand and were contributing to the reduced lifetime of pavement surface. Councillor Taylor to inform resident.

- 2627.2 In relation to the above, Councillor Colville asked about planned improvements to the pavement along Rowley Road. Councillor Redford indicated he would chase the matter and report back.
- 2627.3 Councillor Horsfall asked if WCC Highways inspect roadside trees for damage after storms. Councillor Redford indicated the team of 2 survey the region continuously, but if a dangerous tree is spotted, it should be reported to them via the Parish Council as this will get a quicker response.
- 2627.4 Mr Sean Noone from the Trinity Guild Rugby Club attended the meeting and indicated that the Club would be returning to Baginton Parish this summer. He is keen to promote the Club facilities as part of Parish amenities and Councillors were keen to help Clerk to establish formal contact.
- 2627.5 A resident enquired about the public access defibrillator that had been removed from outside The Oak public house. The Clerk confirmed that the new owners had removed it as they do not allow public access units on their property. The Clerk also confirmed that the new Company had agreed to refurbish and relocate the unit but possible sites were difficult to identify. Suggestions include contacting Lovell and Segro in relation to their building in Baginton, or placing something in the newsletter seeking ideas.

# 2628. SOUTH OF COVENTRY (SoC) DEVELOPMENTS

- 2628.1 Councillors had visited the UKBIC facility on 17<sup>th</sup> January and notes on the visit had been circulated. No new matters arose at the meeting.
- 2628.2 Councillor Horsfall asked if Segro had a plan to replace the dead trees and bushes as part of the planting scheme in the Community Park. Councillor Bush indicated there was a plan, but he will ask about it in more detail and report back.
- 2628.3 It was noted that the combination padlock code for the Community Park had still not been supplied by Segro.
- 2628.4 It was confirmed that the next Segro meeting is scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> March.

# 2629. POLICE MATTERS.

- 2629.1 It was noted that a 2-car crash on Firefly Road had resulted in 1 fatality and 4 injured people on the evening of Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January. Police are investigating. Councillor Colville indicated 35 to 40 cars were present and the fatality was racing / showing off. Councillor Pam Redford was annoyed that the Police had not taken out an injunction preventing these events. Councillor Parkes confirmed these events were the most discussed item at the last Police Liaison meeting, but actions were still pending. Councillor Colville indicated that local businesses were willing to move the concrete barriers if WCC were not in a position to act quickly. Despite the accident, races are still taking place.
- 2629.2 Warwickshire Police Christmas & New Year drink-drive campaign saw 334 breath tests, with 95 arrests.
- 2629.3 The next Police Liaison meeting is scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> March from 7:00pm at Leek Wootton Police Headquarters. Councillors Parkes and Bush agreed to attend, with car meets in Baginton and generally in the region to be put forward again as a topic. **Clerk to action.**

# 2630. BAGINTON EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

- 2630.1 The film night on 26th January was the biographical drama 'Elvis'.
- 2630.2 The next film night on 23<sup>rd</sup> February will be the crime/drama/horror 'A Haunting in Venice'.
- 2630.3 Party in the Park is scheduled for 13th July 2024.

# 2631. AIRPORT MATTERS

2631.1 Next Airport meeting is May 2024.

# 2632. PLANNING

# a. Planning decisions received since the last meeting

i. W/23/1704 – Non-illuminated signs on units 4B and 4C, Samaritan Way, Segro Park. **NEUTRAL** response issued 29<sup>th</sup> December. **GRANTED** 24<sup>th</sup> January.

# b. To note applications awaiting WDC decision.

 W/23/1725 Demolition of existing buildings and rebuild on new buildings and site layout at Unipart Logistics on Middlemarch Business Park. Circulated to Councillors on 12<sup>th</sup> December with NEUTRAL response issued 6<sup>th</sup> January.

# c. New planning applications or matters received since the last meeting

 DOC/23/0018 – Discharge of Conditions 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24 and 25 relating to W/20/0808 (Building of 56 affordable houses off Church Road on land north of Rosswood Farm). Circulated to Councillors 7<sup>th</sup> January with response by 18<sup>th</sup> January. Special notes on Condition 8 (Surface water drainage). OBJECTION response issued 18<sup>th</sup> January.

# 2633 HIGHWAY MATTERS.

### Summary of known Highways issues, by area. <u>Major Matters reported previously and awaiting action - None</u>

# 1. Minor Matters reported previously and awaiting action from 20 Parish Roads

- Andrews Close
- Bosworth Close
- Bubbenhall Road (excluding area at stables & Oakey Hill)
- Bubbenhall Road at Stables
- Church Road Standing Water
- Coventry Road
- Frances Road
- Friends Close
- Firefly Road
- Kimberley Road
- Hall Drive
- Holly Walk
- Mill Hill Standing Water
- Mylgrove
- Oak Close
- Silver Eagle Way
- Roman Way
- Rowley Road
- Stoneleigh Road
- Underhill Close

2633.1 Street sweepers were seen in Baginton on 11th January.

2633.2 Graffiti on hoardings along Rowley Road were painted over on 17th January.

- 2633.3 Coventry Road from Bosworth Close up to the mini-roundabout on Frances Road will be closed from 9.30am until 3.30pm on 9<sup>th</sup> February. Diversions and access will be advertised and signposted.
- 2633.4 Councillor Horsfall asked if the speed bumps in Baginton were necessary, as they slowed very few vehicles and must be costing a lot of money via constant repair bills. He suggested that flashing speed signs would be better value for money. Councillor Wallace Redford confirmed that with installation, calibration and ongoing maintenance, flashing speed signs were too expensive for routine use.
- 2633.5 Councillor Meakin asked about deep ruts and traffic cones on the Bubbenhall Road beyond the Bridge. Councillor Wallace Redford confirmed he had visited the area and had asked for the cones to be installed as there is no street lighting in the area and no white line at the edge of the road. Cones indicate a hazard to motorists whilst repairs are scheduled.

### <u>2634</u> OPEN SPACE.

- 2634.1 The Parish Council's involvement with the Peace Garden on Church Road was discussed. Councillor Taylor suggested we should consider taking on responsibility of the site, but it was noted that other organisations had also been approached. Concerns were raised about legal fees for land transfer and registration, plus ongoing costs for maintaining the area. Questions were raised about any conditions place upon gift of the land. Councillor Bush suggested that a decision did not need to be made at this meeting and the Clerk should seek further details of the proposal and its implications. **Clerk to action**.
- 2634.2 It was noted that Mr Chris Watling and Councillor Craig Biggerstaff had volunteered to be trained as Lucy Price Playground Inspectors. Clerk to organise.
- 2634.3 In relation to the Lucy Price Playground, Councillor Taylor had produced a list of jobs that need completing as part of the Spring maintenance. He thanked the volunteers who were organising and completing the tasks.
- 2634.4 The Clerk informed Councillors that he was still in touch with the builder chosen to work on the Smithy but he wal busy and could not provide an exact date for beginning the work, but mid February was a possibility.

#### 2635 GRANTS MATTERS TO NOTE - None

#### 2636 GENERAL MATTERS TO NOTE - None

#### 2637 FINANCIAL MATTERS TO NOTE.

Currently Earmarked Funds	
Earmarked Charity Donated Monies	£1330.29
Earmarked Funds (Lucy Price Playground)	£9574.00
Earmarked Funds (Election Expenses)	£6000.00
Earmarked Funds (Badge of Office)	£118.45
Earmarked Funds (Bus Shelters & Notice Boards)	£860.00
Earmarked Defibrillator Consumables & Service	£250.00
Earmarked Smithy Maintenance & Repair	£0.00
Total Earmarked Reserves	£18132.74

b.To advise Bank balances as of 25/01/2024HSBC treasurers (community) account: -£ 1329.81HSBC savings (BMM) account: -£ 32798.55

	Total in Bank	£34128.36
C.	Reserves (Bank less earmark & committed)	£15995.62
d.	Bank Charges per month	£8.00

e. It was resolved to pay the entries below by electronic transfer, proposed by Councillor Bush, second by Councillor Meakin and passed by show of hands. Clerk to action.

	Value	Pay Number
Clerk's monthly salary (40.1 hours @ SCP Level 7)	£503.66	Pay 114
Defibrillator Pads via J Keightley	£77.39	Pay 115
Clerk's Income Tax	£2.60	Pay 116
Cash needed in Current Account	£583.65	

i. The date for the meeting of the Financial Committee was set for 11<sup>th</sup> February from 10:00am

# 2638 CONSULTATIONS TO NOTE.

- 2638.1 The Warwickshire Fire and Rescue consultation was circulated to Councillors on 2<sup>nd</sup> January with response required by 10<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2638.2 The Cubbington Neighbourhood Plan Consultation runs until 4<sup>th</sup> March. It was resolved to support the plan, as many of Cubbington's issues and solutions were reflective of other rural Warwickshire villages including Baginton and their Plan issues and solutions were inline with Baginton's Plan. Proposed Councillor Horsfall, seconded Councillor Meakin and passed by show of hands. Clerk to action.

#### 2639 BROCHURES AND DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PERUSAL.

2639.1 None received.

#### 2640 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

2640.1 Councillor Meakin asked who a resident should contact if they wanted to add a memorial bench or similar to the Community Park. It was suggested they contact Segro via the Parish Council liaison group or Petersen via their Community Park Liaison Group.

#### 2641 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

- 2641.1 The next ORDINARY meeting is scheduled for <u>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024</u> at Baginton Village Hall from 7:30pm.
- 2642 CLOSE The meeting closed at 9:06pm.