

**BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023 AT BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Wallace Redford	County Councillor
Councillor	Pam Redford	District Councillor
Councillor	Chris Goodwin	Chairman
Councillor	Walter Bush	Vice Chairman
Councillor	Gary Colville	
Councillor	Mike Meakin	
Councillor	Andrew Parkes	
Councillor	Robert Taylor	
Clerk	Phil Clark	

Public                    4 members of the public were present.

Police                    PCSO Ed King

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:30pm and welcomed those present, before expressing sadness at the passing of Mr Keith Jones, who had been an active member of the village and who had been undertaking monthly playground inspections on behalf of the Parish Council.

**2583. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, APOLOGIES & WELCOME**

2583.1 Declarations of interest were sought and none were received.

2583.2 The following had apologised: Councillor Josh Payne - District Councillor  
Councillor Rob Newman  
Councillor Roger Horsfall

2583.3 Mr Craig Biggerstaff had volunteered to become a Councillor and introduce himself, giving a brief summary of his work, family life, his time in Baginton etc. Questions received from Councillors included why he wished to become a Councillor, what village issues he was particularly keen to address and what attributes he would bring to the group. He was asked, if as a Councillor, he knew he would be expected to get more involved with village activities in general and what he thought of this. He answered these questions and gave further information for his aspirations for his future life in Baginton. Councillor Goodwin proposed that a decision was deferred until the January meeting. Councillor Meakin modified the proposal, such that a decision is made *'in-camera'* and Craig informed of the outcome before the January meeting. The modified proposal was resolved by show of hands. A summary of the interview will be circulated to Councillors for their consideration. **Clerk to action.**

**2584. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.**

2584.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, having been circulated, were approved without amendment. Proposed by Councillor Goodwin & seconded by Councillor Parkes.

### **2585. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD**

- 2585.1 Councillor Wallace Redford explained that due to the withdrawal of the northern HS2 route, the Government was making an extra £2 million available for road maintenance each year for the next 10 years. This is for maintenance only, not new projects, so will be limited to items such as pot holes, resurfacing, line marking and signage on existing roads.
- 2585.2 Councillor Redford explained that a new consultation will be available for Councillor comment in January. The proposals for Warwickshire Fire and Safety changes are very important as it relates directly to resident safety and urged Councillors to give it serious consideration. The consultation is likely to run for 6 weeks.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for his reports.

### **2586. REPORTS FROM WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

- 2586.1 Councillor Josh Payne had apologised but had sent a series of reports and updates during the previous month.
- 2586.2 Councillor Pam Redford had sent reports to the Clerk throughout the month, but also noted that from 17<sup>th</sup> November a new 'safe-place' was operating in Leamington from 10pm to 4am on Friday night for revellers and party goers who need help. Run via Warwick District Community Safety Team, Police, Pastors and Volunteers it offers safety at South Lodge by Jephson Gardens for those heading home.
- 2586.3 Councillor Redford confirmed the next Segro meeting was 13<sup>th</sup> December from 4:00 pm.

The Chairman thanked Councillors Payne and Redford for their reports.

### **2587. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD.**

- 2587.1 No matters had been raised prior to the meeting.
- 2587.2 A resident asked about antisocial behaviour in the Community Park. Councillor Goodwin stated this would be covered later in the meeting.
- 2587.3 A resident asked if addressing blocked drains would be included in the £2 million mentioned in 2585.1 above and Councillor Redford indicated it probably wouldn't.
- 2587.4 Councillor Goodwin asked who was responsible for the slip roads off the A45 at Firefly Road as they often have a lot of surface water and he has followed vehicles that have fish-tailed in the area. It was suggested it was CCC or Highways England.

### **2588. POLICE MATTERS.**

- 2588.1 Councillor Goodwin explained that PCSO Ed King had been invited to discuss Police actions in relation to antisocial behaviour in the Community Park and the associated car park, plus cars racing along Rowley and Firefly Roads. He invited PCSO King to take the floor.
- 2588.2 PCSO King explained that Police were aware of loud music, drug use, litter, fireworks and other antisocial behaviour around the Community Park on Rowley Road. He confirmed that the unlit car park which is set back from the road is a particularly attractive site for this type of behaviour.
- 2588.3 The Police are also aware of the 'racing circuit' that included Rowley and Firefly Roads, noting that they had become organised events with 40 or 50 racers and onlookers rather than random spontaneous gatherings. He noted that the available space for onlookers to watch and encourage these events was particularly fuelling the situation and that the 'race circuit' covered both Warwickshire and West Midland Police areas.

- 2588.4 In relation to car racing, a meeting was held at the site on 21<sup>st</sup> November with Police, District Councillors, County Highways and other interested parties. The response is to remove the ability for onlookers to gather. This includes:
- Existing concrete blocks will be moved forward to reduce off-road parking.
  - New blocks will be sought to eliminate parking in other areas.
  - Police activity at key times has been started, initially for a 3-month period.
  - A request has been put forward for CCTV to be installed and used for monitoring.
  - Police operators are being instructed that this is a Warwickshire Police issue.
  - Long-term, a permanent road redesign is being looked at to ensure the issue is controlled.
- 2588.5 Councillor Meakin highlighted that he had spent 40 minutes on 19<sup>th</sup> November on the phone trying to report a car race incident. He called the non-emergency 101 number and had to sit through numerous time-consuming 'menu' questions when all he wanted to do was report dangerous driving. PCSO King suggested that dangerous driving where lives could be in danger would warrant a 999 call. Councillor Meakin complained that despite giving all of his details, he had received neither feedback nor update. PCSO King suggested that as an 'observer' rather than an immediate 'victim', he would probably not get any update. Councillor Colville said neighbours have had cars damaged when they were caught up in races or fireworks thrown at passing vehicles, but they had received no updates either. PCSO King said it was difficult to report back on every individual case and mistakes do happen, but general updates on activity are circulated when dealing with large disturbances such as this. He was willing to look into individual cases if the residents contact their Warwick Rural East Safer Neighbourhood Team, but he would not be able to provide a blow-by-blow account. Councillor Colville asked if it was OK to share general updates received by the Parish Council on social media and PCSO King confirmed it would be encouraged.
- 2588.6 Several Councillors highlighted that these car 'meetings' were advertised in advance on Instagram, with the location of the 'meet' being revealed around 5:00pm on the day. He asked if Police could act on this information. PCSO King confirmed they were aware of these messages but did not wish to comment further but stressed that Police were being pro-active on this matter.
- 2588.7 Councillor Goodwin asked if the CCTV cameras already mounted on Rowley Road could be used to monitor activity. It was confirmed they were owned by Segro rather than the local authority and that while they were initially used to gather traffic information, they are currently not being utilised. It was suggested that a request could be made to Segro at the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December if the local authorities could use their existing CCTV cameras. Councillor Goodwin also asked about the West Midlands Police contribution to managing this issue. PCSO King confirmed that whilst the 'race circuit' was predominantly on the West Midland Police area, the gathered crowds and 'drifting' activity was in the Warwickshire Police area, so predominantly fell to them.
- 2588.8 Questions were asked about controlling anti-social behaviour in the Community Park. PCSO King said Police had started to attend the site regularly, but no unlawful activity had been seen. He also suggested that closing the security gate overnight would be a positive move forward. Cars visiting the site would then need to park on the lit road much closer to houses and he felt this would make the area less desirable for the behaviour being seen. This needs to be pursued with Segro, but Councillors indicated village volunteers were willing to open and lock the gates so that the impact on Segro would be minimised.

2588.9 PCSO King suggested that if he were sent details of the upcoming Segro meeting, he was willing to attend and help stress the usefulness of accessing their CCTV cameras on Rowley Road and locking the Rowley Road car park gate each evening. He also confirmed that the Parish Council were free to inform residents of any progress via social media.

**Clerk to action.**

2588.10 Councillor Taylor asked about parking on pavements and if anything could be done about it, particularly identifying outside the Lunt Fort and the area opposite Friends Close. PCSO King said that if he is passing by and it is particularly bad, he will knock on the door to talk with the resident. If the problem is persistent, it may be addressed via obstruction laws. Councillor Taylor asked if he took a photo of a car parked on the pavement, would Police take action on it. PCSO King said no, the Police would need to be present to assess the whole situation and a photo would not allow that. Councillor Meakin said that cars on Kimberley Road frequently park on the pavement. Councillor Goodwin said Kimberley Road is a particularly difficult road to park in safely and has a low volume of passing traffic. PCSO King reiterated that Police would need to be present to assess the whole situation and in some cases parking on the pavement may be the safer option.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Ed King for his time.

**2589. SOUTH OF COVENTRY (SoC) DEVELOPMENTS**

2589.1 Next meeting with Segro is on 13<sup>th</sup> December from 4:00pm

**2590. BAGINTON EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

2590.1 The film night on 24<sup>th</sup> November was the drama 'Allelujah'.

2590.2 There is no film planned for December, but the January film is 'Elvis'.

2590.3 The Bonfire Event successfully went ahead on 4<sup>th</sup> November, with thanks to the volunteers who arranged the event and returned the Millennium Field to a pristine condition afterwards.

2590.4 A bonfire debrief and future events meeting was held on 13<sup>th</sup> November. **Minutes attached.**

2590.5 Carol singing is organised in Holly Walk from 6:30pm on 20<sup>th</sup> December.

**2591. AIRPORT MATTERS**

2591.1 A meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November. Councillor Horsfall provided a summary:

- The Committee noted the sad death of Cpt Peter Jones who was an active supporter of the airport.
- The airport is still making a loss, but is receiving queries about available offices and hangers.
- Concerns were raised that the West Midlands Combined Authority are seeking to get the airport classified as an investment zone, potentially granting expansion other than as a Gigafactory site.
- Next meeting is May 2024.

**2592. PLANNING**

- a. Planning decisions received since the last meeting**
- i. W/23/1243 – Installation of solar panels on facility roof – UKBIC, Rowley Road. **SUPPORT** response issued 2<sup>nd</sup> October. **GRANTED** 8<sup>th</sup> November.
  - ii. W/23/1361 – Loft conversion with 2 front and 1 rear dormer, plus the erection of a single storey rear extension at The Hollies, Holly Walk, Baginton. **NEUTRAL** response issued 26<sup>th</sup> October. **GRANTED** 1<sup>st</sup> December.
  - iii. W/23/1446 – Installation of 10 illuminated signs, 2 non-illuminated signs and 6 flags all bearing the DHL Logo on the outside of Unit 4A, Samaritan Way, Segro Park. **NEUTRAL** response with concerns issued 3<sup>rd</sup> November. **GRANTED** 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- b. To note applications awaiting WDC decision.**
- c. New planning applications or matters received since the last meeting**

**2593 HIGHWAY MATTERS.**

**Summary of known Highways issues, by area.**

**Major Matters reported previously and awaiting action - None**

**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
- Coventry Road
- Frances Road
- Friends Close
- Firefly Road
- Kimberley Road
- Hall Drive
- Holly Walk
- Mill Hill
- Mylgrove
- Oak Close
- Silver Eagle Way
- Roman Way
- Rowley Road
- Stoneleigh Road
- Underhill Close

2593.1 The fly-tipping in Friends Close reported on 16<sup>th</sup> November was cleared within the week, but new tipping was reported on 21<sup>st</sup> November Ref: 805153.

2593.2 Councillor Pam Redford confirmed that the proposal for WDC to weed kill once per year instead of twice per year had been abandoned.

**2594 OPEN SPACE.**

- 2594.1 The proposal for the Smithy repairs was circulated to Councillors on 9<sup>th</sup> November. £2500 for a support pier and steel plating of the main central roof truss. £6000 to rebuild the rear wall using the original bricks and to re-point other walls as necessary with lime mortar. Acceptance of the repairs was proposed by Councillor Goodwin, seconded by Councillor Meakin and passed by show of hands. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for all of the hard work bringing the project to this point. **Clerk to action.**
- 2594.2 The fly-tipped rubbish in the spinney was cleared 17<sup>th</sup> November, with thanks to all Councillors and residents who pushed this matter forward.
- 2594.3 Councillor Meakin reported 2 dead trees along Hall Drive, which need reporting to the landowner before the cause damage when they fall. **Clerk to action.**

**2595 GRANTS MATTERS TO NOTE** - None**2596 GENERAL MATTERS TO NOTE** - None**2597 FINANCIAL MATTERS TO NOTE.**a. **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
<b>Total Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>£18132.74</b>

## b. To advise Bank balances as of 25/11/2023

HSBC treasurers (community) account: -	£ 2570.13
HSBC savings (BMM) account: -	£ 32646.16
<b>Total in Bank</b>	<b>£ 35216.29</b>

c. **Reserves (Bank less earmark & committed)** **£17083.55**d. Bank Charges per month **£8.00**

e. It was resolved to pay the below bills by electronic transfer, proposed by Councillor Goodwin, seconded by Councillor Colville and passed by show of hands. **Clerk to action.**

	Value	Pay Number
Clerk's monthly salary (40.1 hours @ SCP Level 7)	£506.26	Pay 103
Village Hall Rent	£98.00	Pay 104
Office Costs & Overheads	£250.00	Pay 105
Litter Picking Honorarium	£140.00	Pay 106
Website Management Honorarium	£62.50	Pay 107
Clerk's Back-pay to April 2023.	£224.90	Pay 108
Clerk's Income Tax	£54.40	Pay 109
Cash needed in Current Account	<b>£1336.06</b>	

- i. Notice of the Government's Pay increase for 2023 / 2024 was received on 7<sup>th</sup> November and has been applied to the above salaries, including backdated pay.
- ii. The Draft Budget was circulated to Councillors on 23<sup>rd</sup> November and discussed at the meeting. The main change is the proposal to use an alternative Grounds Maintenance Company for grass cutting next year, which represents a significant cost saving. Councillors agreed that the savings could not be ignored and resolved to change the grass cutting company. **Clerk to action.**
- iii. Having agreed the change of grass cutting company, the proposed budget would increase an average Band D house bill by £3.24 per year, which is less than 1p per day. With about 400 homes in Baginton, this small increase represents £1500 extra (6%) for the Parish Council. Councillor Goodwin proposed to accept the budget, seconded by Councillor Colville and passed by show of hands. **Clerk to action.**

### **2598 CONSULTATIONS TO NOTE.**

2598.1 None received.

### **2599 BROCHURES AND DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PERUSAL.**

2599.1 None received.

### **2600 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- 2600.1 Councillor Goodwin highlighted the removal of the public defibrillator from outside the Oak public house. Councillors were horrified that the public defibrillator had been removed. Councillors resolved to write asking why it had been removed when it was bought for the village via charity support and donations. **Clerk to action.**
- 2600.2 Councillor Bush spoke about the 5-year review of the joint Baginton and Bubbenhall Neighbourhood Development Plan. The need for a South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) between Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils has a significant impact of our joint plan. There are clear changes that need to be made, but it would be difficult without guidance from WDC on the focus of their SWLP. Councillor Bush proposed our review was put on hold until WDC has advised on both partial and full review requirements. Councillors agreed we should wait. Councillor Pam Redford asked to be kept informed as other villages with her Ward are in a similar review situation.

### **2601 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.**

2601.1 The next ORDINARY meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024** at Baginton Village Hall from 7:30pm.

**2602 CLOSE** - The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

## **BAGINTON EVENTS – MINUTES FROM 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER MEETING.**

**Attendees;** Rheba Horsfall (RhH), Roger Horsfall (RH), Julie Keightley(JK), Rob Newman (RN), Della Thomas (DT), Nigel Thomas (NT), Sue Williams (SW)

### **1. Apologies: - None**

### **2. To discuss any matters relating to previous events**

#### **BAGINTON BONFIRE Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

There had been discussions as to whether or not to postpone until Sunday. With the rain due to stop mid-afternoon the decision was to go with Saturday and be able to clear everything up on the forecasted dry Sunday.

**NT** - Great Effort from Everyone once again. The set-up looked really good in the corner position and everything worked efficiently. Crowd numbers were much more manageable and everyone enjoyed sitting round the fire. Sunday clean up brilliant

**Wood collection** - plenty of donations – although the fire was (deliberately) smaller. Burnt well -once it got going!

**Toilet** – quite well used despite the low numbers

**Skip** expensive, but so much quicker and easier to clear the bonfire ashes/nails.

**Sausages/burgers** – good quality and both a good size. Didn't take long for the surplus to be snapped up!

**Hot drinks** – Hot chocolate preferred over tea and coffee. Not much mulled wine sold – \*surplus has been donated for the evening of the village Christmas light switch on. (see AOB)

**Airport Lights** – Andy Hixon's team has been thanked .

**First Aid** – Ryan not available – thankfully no incidents

**VOLUNTEERS** - Illness on the day caused a few expected volunteers to send apologies - thankfully we had a comfortable amount.

Bob C and James'n'Dave just got on with it. Simon was a great help over the weekend and did a fab job on clearing the ashes ready for RH & RhH to do a final 'sweep' for nails and reseed the site.

Karen joined the small group that cleared up on Sunday – all equipment cleaned, dried and put away by midday. R & R dealt with washing up the chaffing dishes and draining the generators.

The likely hood of this being the last village bonfire has become 'village talk'.

BE members comments:-

**JK-** on the rainy Saturday morning thought '*I don't want to do this*'. Became buoyed up as the day went on and thought it all went really well. Disappointed in the low number of volunteers and the lack of Facebook thanks after the many comments asking about and expecting an event.

**DT** As originally intended, the wood collection is a nice service for villagers to get rid of old unwanted wood/garden clippings but there are no thanks; these folk probably don't attend the event. Should probably ask for a donation.

**RH** Because we have become so efficient, and the results are brilliant there is little understanding of how much effort goes into the event and the tidy-up. Doesn't want to do it again (age!)

**RhH** Still enjoys doing it but understands why others don't want to continue. Volunteers give time here and there but there doesn't appear to be anyone willing to give organisational commitment.

**SW** has always loved the event but doesn't want to do it anymore.

**RN** . Really liked this event – it was what the village wanted and needed. Enjoyed being on the gate and chatting to people as they entered. The youngest member, but also finding it tougher physically.

**NT** Finding it physically harder these days. Is it something someone else is willing to take on?

Legislation has tightened since it started 21 years ago and is likely to become stricter.

**Conclusion: Future still in balance. Current members do not want to do another bonfire but would give assistance to any willing to take it on. The event could not be 'handed over' without**



**new organisers having the ‘umbrella’ of BE membership for guidance and insurance cover etc. BE open to additional member(s) who can give commitment.**

### Events, Event Planning, and Event Preparation

**PITP** agreed actions

**TICKETS** – go ahead with on-line system in 2024 Start to organise in January. Tickets to go on sale in Feb

### POTENTIAL ACTS

Although former JLR band had been in touch and considered, it was decided to just have taped music (trailer probably not big enough and folk setting up anyway) . This would also allow for acts to do longer sets. This led to the question – **do we need trailers?**

**ACT 1 Country Chix suggested - RH/RhH to get in touch and ask about line dance instruction session**

**ACT 2** NT has been given contact information for an experienced group that plays 60s music – **The 3Sixties**. All agreed that this was a different and popular genre. **NT to book if available and costs agreeable.**

**ACT 3 Subterraneans – need to confirm**

**SOUND** - Dave Mills has been in touch regarding early booking to ensure equipment hire but has not indicated costs. NT has replied requesting hire costs and suggesting a slightly lower level maybe ( BE & Subs questioned whether such high spec necessary) **Awaiting reply from Dave M**

**STAGE-** Booked- deposit invoice due in January

**SET-UP** - organisation session to be arranged nearer the date

**BARRIERS** There are 12 at Bagot's that have been offered (DH) for use next year

**TOILETS** – Same again next year RH has established that sanitary items shouldn't be a problem ( NO NAPPIES)

**FIREWORKS** - BOOKED

worked well with the subs but the prom songs were missed. **Need to think of a way of incorporating with the fireworks (taped music mix)**

**FOOD** - All outside catering next year

**Jimmy's food + pig roast** I love crepes Eliza- Bar + pizza ? **NEED**

**TO WORK OUT COMMISSION**

**COMPERE** **Need to find out if DAVE Willettes wants to be involved next year.** (Back up – James Allen)

**CAR PARK** Could perhaps increase to £4

**BINS** - RH to seek cost of 10 bins

**FIRST AID** -Ryan to be asked

**MIRRORS & screening fabric** – in container for next year

**WRIST BANDS** Always seeking a better option!

**FILM NIGHT**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November - Allelujah

**RH to book – Elvis for January** (Elvis tribute at RBL in Feb)

**4. Any other event matters** – see AOB for Carol singing & possible celebration around the time of Big Lunch

### **5 FINANCE** –

After Brandon Hire and DT & RhH costs reimbursed, BE funds @ on 14.11.23 stand at **£23417.71**

Small loss for Bonfire event expected – final figures to be circulated once the below have ben reconciled

Surplus meat -awaiting RN payment

J D Weaver (meat)

**6 Any other business**

RhH mentioned a National celebration in June - (confirmed as 80<sup>th</sup> D-Day Anniversary - 6<sup>th</sup> June)

**DONATIONS**

**SMITHY-** – It was agreed that BE would contribute up to £5,000 maximum - Parish council has received quote for initial works to chimney.

**BENCH** Chris Goodwin and PCC in favour of a commemorative bench for Gayle in the churchyard :  
**wording to be completed and agreed -- e.g. *In loving memory of Gayle Goodwin (dates)***  
***...(friend??? Major contributor???) ... of the village***

The Christmas light switch on has been announced as Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – walked around village & \*mulled wine/mince pies in village hall

BE Carol Singing – **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 6.30 Holly Walk**

**Date of next meeting - To be arranged**