

BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 7th September 2023 AT BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Councillor Wallace Redford County Councillor
 Councillor Pam Redford District Councillor
 Councillor Chris Goodwin Chairman
 Councillor Gary Colville
 Councillor Andrew Parkes
 Councillor Rob Newman
 Councillor Robert Taylor
 Councillor Roger Horsfall
 Councillor David Hewer
 Councillor Walter Bush
 Councillor Mike Meakin

Clerk Phil Clark

Public 4 members of the public were present.

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

2523. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, APOLOGIES & WELCOME

2523.1 Declarations of interest were sought and none were received.

2523.2 The following had apologised: Councillor Josh Payne - District Councillor

2524. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

2524.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6th July 2023, having been circulated, were approved without amendment. Proposed by Councillor Goodwin & seconded by Councillor Horsfall.

2525. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD

2525.1 Councillor Wallace Redford indicated that he had continued to send reports to the Clerk as they arose and the Clerk confirmed he had passed them to Councillors.

2525.2 In addition, Councillor Redford reported that the signage on Bubbenhall Road and the cracked carriageway on Church Road were being progressed.

2525.3 In relation to signage, it was noted that following the recent road changes at the Bubbenhall Road, Stoneleigh Road and the associated link road junction outside Rosswood Farm, much of the signage was now wrong throughout Baginton. Councillor Goodwin gave the example of HGVs not being allowed on the link road or Stoneleigh Road, but no signage elsewhere within Baginton before they reach this junction and with no possible turning point. Further to this, Councillors pointed out that any 'No HGV' signs should include the 'Except for Access' note to allow deliveries to Smiths and Baginton Nurseries. Councillor Wallace Redford said he was more than happy to review signage suggestions if the Parish Council would let him know what was needed. It was resolved to send Councillor Redford the map of suggestions prepared by Councillor Bush and circulated to Councillors in August. **Clerk to action.**

- 2525.4 In relation to cracks on Church Road, Councillor Meakin asked if Lovell's could repair them as part of the pond rejuvenation. Councillor Hewer suggested the pond was a bigger project and that Church Road was a Highways matter. The conversation then moved onto the pond rejuvenation and the Chairman closed the discussion as this was a separate item later on the Agenda.
- 2525.5 Councillor Taylor asked about progress with putting the 30mph speed limit sign on the Stoneleigh Road back up the road towards Smith's Nurseries. The Chairman indicated the matter had been discussed previously and the signage was in the correct place for the new road now that the 'Give Way' junction had been removed. Councillor Redford also indicated that the Police are generally reluctant to reduce or move speed limit without any incidents reported to support the action, but he will follow it up with Highways.
- 2525.6 Councillor Colville indicated that the narrow path along the 50mph stretch of the Stoneleigh Road to Smith's Nurseries was planned to be widened, with Smith's replacing the existing hedge with a second one set further back from the carriageway, allowing for a wider pavement for pedestrians once the existing hedge is removed. Councillor Redford will ask about the remaining stretch of path.
- 2525.7 Councillor Taylor asked about pedestrian safety at the Mill Bridge. Councillor Redford suggested that it was a low priority project with a high cost and few reported incidents involving pedestrians. Councillor Meakin asked if 'Give Way' signs could be introduced similar to those at the Hunningham Bridge, but the Clerk pointed out that the height of the hump on Mill Bridge means you could not see traffic on the opposite side and a give way system would not work.
- 2525.8 Councillor Taylor asked about the combined pedestrian and cycle path continuing down Rowley Road into Baginton. Councillor Goodwin said that the footpath alone had been approved by the Parish Council, as inclusion of a cycle path would require the whole project going back to the feasibility state with no guarantee it would be approved. Councillor Redford indicated the stand alone path project was with Design and Planning.
- 2525.9 Councillor Taylor asked about road markings on the Rowley Road traffic island. Councillor Redford indicated that this lay with Coventry City Council and he had received no response from them.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for his reports.

2526. REPORTS FROM WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- 2526.1 Councillor Pam Redford reported that she had also kept the Clerk updated with reports as they arose during the previous months.
- 2526.2 Of note was the new Household Support Fund which she needed advertising for residents. The Clerk confirmed the report had been sent for inclusion on the Website and Newsletter but it had not yet been circulated to Councillors as it was only received the previous day.
Clerk to circulate.
- 2526.3 Councillor Redford also noted that Buckingham Group had gone into administration and SEGRO were now looking for an alternative contractor. Councillor Bush asked if the scheduled meeting with SEGRO and its contractors was still going ahead. Councillor Redford assumed it would, but was awaiting confirmation.
- 2526.3 Councillor Hewer asked if the concrete posts and fence could be reinstated outside Rosswood Farm. Councillor Redford said she would ask SEGRO, but if they have no contractors it was unlikely the work would be done soon.

- 2526.4 Councillor Josh Payne had apologised but sent a report which the Clerk read. It included:
- i. Apologies for a slow start as District Councillor as he is still settling into the new role and he had been concentrating on an urgent matter elsewhere in the Ward.
 - ii. He is considering holding surgeries to better engage with residents but this possibility is still in its early stages.
 - iii. With regard to 'No Mow May', many complaints have been received and WDC are going to review how they implement this National Scheme in future years.
 - iv. Questions were asked for Councillors feedback on a previous planning application from 9 years ago.

Councillor Payne's report was discussed Councillors agreed that although it was nice to receive his report, his presence at the meeting would have been appreciated so that his comments could be discussed further and his opinions sought in a live conversation. The Chairman asked for a polite note to be issued inviting him to attend.

Clerk to circulate report and issue invitation to Councillor Payne.

The Chairman thanked Councillors Redford and Payne for their reports.

2527. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD.

- 2527.1 No matters had been raised by the public prior to the meeting.
- 2527.2 A resident reiterated the 50mph sign on the Stoneleigh Road was in the wrong place, as discussed in minute 2525.5 and Councillor Newman suggested that the new housing and associated access roads on land north of Rosswood Farm might trigger a reassessment of all speed limits in that area. Councillor Wallace Redford suggested he could ask for speed data collection cables to be installed on the road to gather data, but he would need to know exactly where to put them. Councillors agreed it would be a good idea and they should meet with Councillor Redford on-site to discuss the location of data cables. **Clerk to arrange.**
- 2527.3 A resident highlighted that two HGVs could not pass each other on the link road outside Rosswood Farm. The Chairman pointed out that HGVs aren't allowed on the link road and this was part of the signage issue discussed in minute 2525.3
- 2527.4 A resident complained that the large bund opposite Rosswood Farm was overgrown and unsightly at the entrance to Baginton. The Chairman pointed out that it was cut annually as it was not a pedestrian right-of-way. It was cut last September and should be due again soon.
- 2527.5 A member of the public highlighted that people had jumped over the fence of the Meeting Hall behind Mill Hill and caused some damage. Councillors noted that similar damage was caused to the Village Hall, British Legion Club and 2 further properties on 19th August and asked if this damage was on the same night. **Clerk to liaise with the member of the public.**

2528. SOUTH OF COVENTRY (SoC) DEVELOPMENTS

- 2528.1 The South of Coventry matters relating to Buckingham Group and village signage had already been discussed earlier in the meeting.
- 2528.2 Councillor Taylor asked about minutes from the latest Masterplanning meeting with the newly elected WDC administration. Councillor Pam Redford stated it had been circulated and the Clerk will re-circulate it. **Clerk to action.**

2529. POLICE MATTERS.

- 2529.1 It was noted that our Safer Neighbourhood Team had started quarterly meetings at Warwickshire Police Headquarters in Leek Wootton, with the first meeting on 14th August from 7:00pm. PowerPoint from the meeting was circulated to Councillors 23rd August. Councillor Wallace Redford noted that it was poorly attended.
- 2529.2 The next Safer Neighbourhood Team meeting is from 7:00pm on 20th November, venue to be confirmed.
- 2529.3 The Police report for August was circulated to Councillors on 6th September and included the following:
- 12/07/2023 – Theft – vehicle batteries – Middlemarch Business Park, Baginton
 - 19/07/2023 – Public Nuisance – Siskin Parkway West, Baginton
 - 21/07/2023 – Electric bike stolen from locked shed – Middlemarch Business Park, Baginton
 - 24/07/2023 – Damage – Suspect used vehicle to pull a fence down – Rowley Road, Baginton
 - 14/08/2023 – Theft from vehicle – number plates – Bubbenhall Road, Baginton
 - 07/08/2023 – Theft from vehicle – Tools – Old Mill Hotel, Mill Hill, Baginton
 - 14/08/2023 - Twelve separate reports of tools, equipment and number plates stolen from vehicles on a site on Bubbenhall Road.
 - 14/08/2023 – Offenders disturbed whilst drilling the lock on a van – Old Mill Hotel, Mill Hill, Baginton
 - 15/08/2023 – Theft from vehicle – welding equipment – Mill Hill, Baginton
 - 19/08/2023 – Damage – roof – The Royal British Legion Club, Kimberley Road, Baginton
 - 19/08/2023 – Burglary Business – items damaged – Baginton Village Hall, Baginton
 - 21/08/2023 – Burglary Business – van stolen – Middlemarch Business Park, Baginton
 - 22/08/2023 – Burglary Business – safe stolen – Middlemarch Business Park, Baginton
 - 04/09/2023 – Theft – trailer – Middlemarch Business Park, Baginton
- 2529.4 Cars racing around the new Baginton Roads was discussed and the Chairman suggested that as long as residents were reporting activity to the Police when they are aware of it, there was nothing else the Parish Council could do.

2530. BAGINTON EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

- 2530.1 The film night on 28th July was the drama ‘Living’
- 2530.2 The next film night on 29th September will be the comedy drama ‘A Man Called Otto’.
- 2530.3 Party in the Park successfully took place on 8th July 2023.

2531. AIRPORT MATTERS

- 2531.1 It was reported that a flypast will take place at the airport, 1:00pm Tuesday 12th September in honour of Geoff Manning who died suddenly. Parking & reception at The Oak.

2532. PLANNING

- a. Planning decisions received since the last meeting**
- i. W/23/0623 – Variation of Condition 2 to add a car port. Former Baginton Sunday School Site, Church Road. **SUPPORT** issued 12th June. **GRANTED** 12th July.
 - ii. W/23/0775 – Demolition of existing conservatory & building of a single storey rear extension of similar size – No. 34 Oak Close. **SUPPORT** issued 7th July. **GRANTED** 24th July.
 - iii. W/23/0581 – Erection of first floor rear extension. Stonehouse, Holly Walk. **OBJECTION** reported 1st June. New plans submitted 3rd July and **SUPPORT** reported 10th July. **GRANTED** 27th July.
 - iv. W/23/0606 – Removal of temporary 2-storey portakabins and replacement with 2-storey permanent office and amenities block. Walkers Snack Foods, Siskin Parkway. **SUPPORT** reported 23rd May. **GRANTED** 14th August.

- v. W/23/0612 – Rear 2 storey and ground floor extension, side extension, new porch and new roof over dormer window – No. 19 Mylgrove. **NEUTRAL** response issued 16th July. **GRANTED** 17th August.
- b. **To note applications awaiting WDC decision.** – None
- c. **New planning applications or matters received since the last meeting**
- i. W/23/1058 – Permission to allow Houses A & B to be occupied independently once access and parking has been provided, rather than both collectively. Former Sunday School site, Church Road. Circulated to Councillors 3rd August. **SUPPORT** response issued 23rd August.
 - ii. W/23/1042 – A 2-storey side extension at No. 28 Oak Close. Circulated to Councillors on 15th August, with response required by 6th September. It was resolved to mirror the neighbour's comments as **NEUTRAL** but with a note on maintaining the right-of-access. Proposed by Councillor Goodwin, seconded by Councillor Newman and carried by show of hands. **Clerk to action.**

2533 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 - Lamp out at mini roundabout. Puddling opposite The Row.
- Frances Road – Puddling where road has sunk
- Friends Close
- Firefly Road
- Kimberley Road
- Hall Drive
- Holly Walk
- Mill Hill
- Mylgrove
- Oak Close – some standing water
- Silver Eagle Way
- Roman Way
- Rowley Road
- Stoneleigh Road
- Underhill Close

2533.1 The fly tipping on Mill Hill was reported on 17th July Ref: 791431 and was removed the next day.

2533.2 Several highways issues including un-mown verges, dead tree and a broken streetlight were reported to WDC on 31st July Ref: 447094.

- 2533.3 Road markings were renewed on the main thoroughfares week commencing 31st July.
- 2533.4 Road sweepers and grass mowers were in operation week commencing 28th August.
- 2533.5 Councillor Colville highlighted the missed grass cutting and overgrown brambles making the path impossible to use safely on the corner of Rowley Road adjacent to the Country Park. The Clerk confirmed the grass had been cut the day after the matter was reported making pedestrian access easier, but the brambles would not be cut while they still carry berries. Councillor Pam Redford asked to be kept informed if the issue was not fully resolved.

2534 OPEN SPACE.

- 2534.1 The new report from Bill Hancock regarding repairs to the Smithy was received well by Councillors. Moving forward, Bill should be contacted again for a list of suggested builders he can work with to move the project forward. The builders should then be approached for quotations for the individual jobs. Heritage Charities should be approached to explore funding. Councillor Newman confirmed that Baginton Events would contribute to costs, but warned that some Charity Funds would not give money to the Parish Council as they are Landlords for the property.
- 2534.2 The Playground Action Group met on 1st August to discuss ongoing works. Various quotes for pressure washing and painting will be sought and presented to Councillors for their consideration. A rubberised mulch repair kit has been bought and will be tested. Repairs will be undertaken next spring, prior to the next summer season.
- 2534.3 Councillors met with the housing developers on 16th August to discuss the possibility of rejuvenating the Village Pond and Spinney area as a recreational amenity. The meeting was positive and an initial proposal was received from the developers. In principle the development moved in the direction expected. Three main questions were asked:
- a. If the flow rate into the pond is 4 litres per second, what is the outflow capacity?
 - b. The plan shows a pond with a depth of about 16 inches, which is too shallow to maintain an ecosystem in hot summers and frozen winters. Can the pond be dredged deeper?
 - c. Will the marked path meet disabled access criteria?
- Councillor Meakin also asked about who is responsible for ongoing maintenance and the Clerk suggested this would be outlined in the Section 104 agreement. **Clerk to contact the developers.**
- 2534.4 It was noted that work will begin on the Lunt Fort ramparts, disabled access and other site facilities and will run for approximately 12 weeks. If complaints are received, the Clerk had a point-of-contact for the project. Councillors noted the gridlock and poor parking seen during the Lunt Festival and asked if improved access and parking were included in the project. **Clerk to ask.**

2535 GRANTS MATTERS TO NOTE

- 2535.1 No new grant matters to report.

2536 GENERAL MATTERS TO NOTE

- 2536.1 None received.

2537 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	£142.00
Total Earmarked Reserves	£18274.74

b. To advise Bank balances as of 25/08/2023

HSBC treasurers (community) account: -	£ 2449.17
HSBC savings (BMM) account: -	£ 30009.45
Total in Bank	£ 32458.62

c. **Reserves (Bank less earmark & committed) £14183.88**d. Bank Charges per month **£8.00**

e. The Council resolved to pay the new items below, proposed by Councillor Goodwin, seconded by Councillor Hewer and passed by show of hands.

	Value	Pay Number
Pre Agreed Payments made after 3rd August		
Clerk's monthly salary (40.1 hours @ NJC Level 7)	£466.36	Pay 087
Churchyard Maintenance Grant	£450.00	Pay 088
Thompsons Invoice #004	£940.62	Pay 089
Thompson Invoice #007	£351.96	Pay 090
New Payments to Authorise		
Clerk's Salary	£466.36	Pay 091
Office Costs and Overheads	£250.00	Pay 092
Litter Honorarium	£140.00	Pay 093
Website Honorarium	£62.50	Pay 094
Playground Mulch Repair Kit	£119.60	Pay 095
RW Hancock – Smithy report	£790.00	Pay 096
Thompsons # 010 (Pending Query)	(£960.62)	Pay 097
Cash needed in Current Account	£1828.46	

2538 CONSULTATIONS TO NOTE.

2538.1 The WDC Statement of Community Involvement has been updated and we were invited to comment up until 29th August. Circulated to Councillors 26th July.

2539 BROCHURES AND DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PERUSAL.

2539.1 None

2540 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- 2540.1 It was noted that drug use near the Smithy had increased again and the 'Police Surveillance' sign had been torn down. **Clerk to seek replacement.**
- 2540.2 Councillor Bush indicated that the review and update of the Neighbourhood Plan was going well and meetings were arranged.
- 2540.3 It was noted that the bus timetable had been further reduced. Passenger numbers are being monitored by the Bus Company and underutilised services are being cut to help better support more frequented services. Councillor Newman asked whether the Ring and Ride Service in Kenilworth could be extended to rural villages such as Baginton. Councillor Wallace Redford noted that Indigo bus service may be an alternative but he wasn't sure of the exact areas it covered. Councillor Pam Redford offered to look into it.

2541 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

- 2521.1 The next ORDINARY meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 5th October 2023** at Baginton Village Hall from 7:30pm.

2542 CLOSE - The meeting closed at 8.50pm.