

BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 18th MAY 2023 AT BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Councillor Wallace Redford County Councillor
 Councillor Pam Redford District Councillor
 Councillor Chris Goodwin Chairman
 Councillor Walter Bush
 Councillor Mike Meakin
 Councillor Gary Colville
 Councillor Rob Newman
 Councillor David Hewer

Clerk Phil Clark

Public 2 members of the public were present.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:38pm, immediately following the Annual Meeting.

2463. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, APOLOGIES & WELCOME

2463.1 Declarations of interest were sought and none were received.

2463.2 The following had apologised: Councillor Roger Horsfall
 Councillor Robert Taylor

2464. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

2464.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6th April 2023, having been circulated, were approved without amendment. Proposed by Councillor Newman & seconded by Councillor Bush.

2464.2 Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 13th April 2023, having been circulated, were approved without amendment. Proposed by Councillor Goodwin & seconded by Councillor Bush.

2465. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD

2465.1 Councillor Wallace Redford confirmed that a request had been submitted for speed humps along the length of Mill Hill to be repaired.

2465.2 It was confirmed that the 4 'SLOW' signs painted on the Bubbenhall Road will be repainted.

2465.3 It was also confirmed that the various road signs along Bubbenhall Road (humpback bridge, bend, horses, skid etc.) were an old type and a survey has been requested to see if they can be upgraded to a better modern alternative. Councillor Hewer pointed out that it makes no difference if the signs are overgrown and can't be seen. Councillor Redford suggested this would be addressed following the survey.

2465.4 With regards to the Bubbenhall Road, Councillor Redford also confirmed that new white lines will be painted along the road edges to aid motorists at night. However, he stressed that this action may take some time and may require closure of the road. Councillor Hewer suggested that this needed doing immediately and repeated that he feels the road had been narrowed by the placing of ditch dredgings on the road verge, leading to several accidents. Councillor Goodwin suggested that white lines on the edge of the road were a good idea and any accidents are due to motorists travelling too fast and not taking sufficient care. Councillor Wallace Redford stated that he had walked the road in the area of concerns and that the tarmac road edges were clearly visible, suggesting no narrowing of the carriageway. Councillor Hewer cited pictures of the narrowed road and suggested Councillor Redford took another look following rain. The Chairman brought the discussion to an end reiterating that the variety of proposed changes were all beneficial.

2465.5 Councillor Newman asked if the Bubbenhall Road stables had received and displayed the new 'DEAD SLOW' signs issued by Warwickshire Police. **Clerk to enquire.**

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for his reports.

2466. REPORTS FROM WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

2466.1 Councillor Pam Redford reported that WDC were now operating under a Green / Labour coalition administration. Clerk stated that the full breakdown of WDC seats had been circulated to Councillors (**For information:** 14 Green, 11 Labour, 10 Liberal Democrat, 6 Conservative, 3 Whitnash Residents Association).

2466.2 It was confirmed that one of the main aims of the new administration was to increase affordable housing above the 40% of new builds currently cited by WDC. Concerns were raised as to whether this was financially viable for the Developers and what would happen if it wasn't? Councillor Redford suggested that ultimately, if developers suspended works due to financial restrictions, WDC would fail to meet the ongoing projection for new builds in the Local Plan. The Inspectorate could find the Local Plan to be untenable and the Government would intervene.

2466.3 Councillor Redford expressed a hope that under the new administration, Parish issues would continue to be dealt with at Parish level and party politics would not become involved with Parish matters. Councillors supported this opinion.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for her reports.

2467. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD.

2467.1 A resident reported difficulty parking outside their house in Frances Road and asked about permit parking. They were told that this had been explored with WDC previously, but these type of measures are not practical or enforceable in small rural communities.

2467.2 A resident reiterated that parking in Frances Road is particularly poor and disrespectful since the refurbished Playground was opened last year. Councillor Hewer asked if some of the verge along Frances Road could be converted into new parking. The Clerk suggested that the verge is already being used for parking and that if it were converted to formal parking, any legally taxed and insured vehicle could use it, potentially exacerbating the issue. Councillor Colville questioned whether enhanced parking would be allowed, as similar requests along Rowley Road had been rejected on safety grounds following a feasibility study. The discussion was closed by the Chairman, reiterating that solutions had been sought via WDC, WCC and Police, but no options are apparent for small rural villages.

2468. SOUTH OF COVENTRY (SoC) DEVELOPMENTS

2468.1 UKBIC has offered to meet the Parish Council to discuss upcoming changes and their work with AMTE Power. From the dates suggested, Councillors believed 30th May 10:00 to 12:00 was the preferred option. **Clerk to contact UKBIC.**

2468.2 The next Masterplanning Framework for North Kenilworth / South Coventry meeting with WDC is proposed for 30th May from 4:00pm in the Council Chamber of Leamington Town Hall. Councillors Goodwin and Colville said they believe they can attend. **Clerk to enquire of Councillor Taylor's availability.**

2469. POLICE MATTERS.

2469.1 Police distributed 44 'Dead Slow' warning signs to equestrian yards around Warwickshire in April.

2469.2 The monthly Baginton Police report was circulated to Councillors on 12th May and included:

- Theft of a spare wheel from a VW campervan on Coventry Road – 8th April
- Theft of a motorbike from Middlemarch Business Park – 18th April
- Theft of tools from a van at The Old Mill – 18th April

- A vehicle broken into with nothing taken on Friends Close – 18th April
- Theft of a Ford Fiesta from Frances Road – 27th April

2470. BAGINTON EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

2470.1 The film night on Friday 28th April was 'Where the Crawdads Sing'.

2470.2 The next film night on 26th May will be the comedy drama 'Fisherman's Friends: One & All'

2470.3 Party in the Park is scheduled for 8th July 2023. Tickets are on sale with about 200 left. Councillor Meakin asked if the event would again include food and drink outlets. Councillor Newman confirmed that although vendors may have changed, a full range of food and drink would be available.

2470.4 Over 40 people attended The Coronation Big Lunch on 7th May. A commemorative shrub was given to attendees for their own garden.

2471. AIRPORT MATTERS

2471.1 An Airport Consultative Meeting was held on 16th May. Councillor Horsfall sent a report suggesting anger from the existing airport businesses that were forced to close for security reasons when Andy Street CBE and Jeremy Hunt MP visited the SEGRO development on the far east of the airport site.

There was also anger that all focus is publically being placed on the new SEGRO development, with little promotion of the existing businesses.

With regards to the airport itself, traffic movement has increased, but heavy losses are still being made and they are struggling to find new tenants. Next meeting is in 6 months.

2472. PLANNING

a. Planning decisions received since the last meeting

- W/23/0020 – Single storey side and rear extension, extended porch and rebuild garage – No. 70 Mill Hill. Circulated to Councillors 13th January. **NEUTRAL** response reported 27th January. Revised plans circulated 25th March. **GRANTED** 14th April.
- W/23/0209 – Demolition of existing concrete building and erection of a modern steel framed building on the same foundations – Midlands Air Museum, Rowley Road. Circulated to Councillors 9th March. **SUPPORT** reported 21st March. **GRANTED** 23rd April.
- W/21/0711 – New dwelling in the grounds of The Granary, Church Road. The appeal to the Secretary of State against WDC's decision to refuse the application has been **DISMISSED**.

b. To note applications awaiting WDC decision.

- None

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

- W/23/0606 – Removal of temporary 2-storey portakabins and replacement with 2-storey permanent office and amenities block. Walkers Snack Foods, Siskin Parkway. Circulated to Councillors 5th May with response required by 30th May. Councillors resolved to support the application. **Clerk to action.**
- W/23/0581 – Erection of first floor rear extension. Stonehouse, Holly Walk. Circulated to Councillors 10th May with response by 1st June. Item was deferred until the next meeting, giving the Chairman time to seek the neighbour's opinion. **Councillor Goodwin to action.**

2473 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

2473.1 The WDC grass cutters were seen operating in the Village on 13th April.

2473.2 The markings at the mini roundabout were repainted on 19th April, along with central markings and speed humps on Coventry Road.

2473.3 WDC announced 'No Mow May', where selected verges will not be mown in order to encourage wildflowers to set seed and for insects to feed on them. Councillors believed this was not generally a good idea. Residents had started to mow the verges outside their own homes, defeating the purpose of the initiative. It was also noted that as the grass had grown so long, it will be difficult to produce a good finish when WDC resume mowing.

2473.4 The speed bumps in the vicinity of The Lunt had their potholes filled 4th May.

2473.5 Councillors Hewer and Meakin took the opportunity to briefly discuss road issues they had encountered outside Baginton Parish. Councillor Wallace Redford took note and asked them to contact him outside the meeting if they have further details of exact locations.

2474 OPEN SPACE.

2474.1 The assorted touch-up paints for the Lucy Price Playground have been delivered and are currently held by the Clerk.

2474.2 The Structural Report for the Smithy on Church Road, which was circulated to Councillors on 24th April, was discussed at length.

- Clerk to formally notify tenant in writing of the report findings and offer a copy of the report.
- Clerk to seek further advice on safely using the building and what activities, if any, need to cease.
- Clerk to request clarification from the surveyors on certain report items.

Councillor Colville offered help with Health & Safety aspects of the report. Councillor Pam Redford reminded the Council that grants such as RUCIS are available for repairs provided they are of community benefit. The matter was deferred, pending the results of the action items above.

2474.3 The Annual Playground Inspection has been completed and was circulated to Councillors 13th May, with no safety issues found.

2474.4 Volunteers cleared the fallen tree off the verge by the Lucy Price Playground on 25th April.

2475 GRANTS MATTERS TO NOTE

2475.1 No new grant matters to report.

2476 GENERAL MATTERS TO NOTE

2476.1 None received.

2477 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 28/04/2023

HSBC treasurers (community) account: -	£ 1615.39
HSBC savings (BMM) account: -	£ 36397.13
Total in Bank	£ 38012.52

c. Reserves (Bank less earmark & committed) £19737.78**d. Bank Charges per month £8.00****e. Budgeted and approved payments made by electronic transfer, as resolved at meeting 6th April**

	Value	Pay Number
Paid on date indicated		
BK Consultants - Smithy Survey Deposit (Paid 11 th April)	£171.60	Pay 064
Paint for Lucy Price Playground (Paid 11 th April)	£102.65	Pay 065
Update of Chairman's Badge of Office (Paid 11 th April)	£23.90	Pay 066
Information Commissioner's Office (Paid 11 th April)	£40.00	Pay 067
BK Consultants – Survey Balance (Paid 21 st April)	£686.40	Pay 068
Below were paid 6th May		
Thompson's Invoice #0235	£507.60	Pay 069
Clerk's monthly salary (40.1 hours @ NJC Level 7)	£441.96	Pay 070
HMRC Income Tax	£24.40	Pay 071
WALC Subscription	£306.00	Pay 072
CPRE Subscription	£45.00	Pay 073
Playground Inspection	426.00	Pay 074
Gallagher Insurance	£1817.40	Pay 075
Cash needed in Current Account	£4592.91	

- i. The Accounts for 2022 / 2023 were submitted to our Internal Auditor on 15th April.
- ii. Notice was received on 20th April that Baginton Parish Council has been chosen at random to undergo an Intermediate Level Review (ILR) by the external auditor Moore UK. Deadline is 30th June.
Clerk to compile all additional paperwork.
- iii. The first half of the precept for £8501 was received on 28th April and is included in the figures above.

2478 CONSULTATIONS TO NOTE.

2478.1 No new consultations received.

2479 BROCHURES AND DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PERUSAL.

i. None

2480 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

2480.1 The Parish Council resolved to update the current HSBC Bank Mandate following the Parish Council Elections. Councillor Goodwin proposed an update of signatories and continuing with current mandate instructions in keeping with our Financial Policies. Seconded by Councillor Newman and carried by show of hands. **Clerk to action.**

2480.2 Councillors were reminded that their Acceptance of Office forms need to be completed and returned to the Clerk before they can participate at Council meetings.

2480.3 Councillors were reminded that their Disclosable Pecuniary Interest Forms and Election Expenses Forms need to be returned to the Clerk by 1st June.

2480.4 Councillor Bush asked Councillor Pam Redford if she knew when the next meeting with SEGRO was. Councillor Redford said she was keen to know too, so she can put it in her diary.

2480.5 Questions were asked about the new Bubbenhall Road / Stoneleigh Road short link road opposite Rosswood Farm bungalow. Reports had been received in March about HGVs side-swiping cars because the swept path of the link road is insufficient for HGVs to manoeuvre safely, despite them being allowed to use the roads. Councillor Colville reported another similar accident had occurred earlier in the week. Councillors Bush and Hewer both reiterated their concerns, noting that a fence had been erected to address the dazzle of oncoming traffic, but stating this was a minor improvement. Councillor Wallace Redford stated that WCC is made aware of accidents via the Police and he was not aware of any incident being reported at the junctions, but he will investigate further.

2481 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

2481.1 The next ORDINARY meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 1st June 2023** at Baginton Village Hall from 7:30pm.

2482 CLOSE - The meeting closed at 8.50pm.