

**BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025 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	Robert Taylor	
Councillor	Mike Meakin	
Councillor	Roger Horsfall	
Councillor	Gary Colville	
Councillor	Craig Biggerstaff	
Councillor	Rob Newman	

Clerk                      Phil Clark

Public                      6 members of the public were present.

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

**2877. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, APOLOGIES & WELCOME**

2877.1 Declarations of interest were sought and none were received.

2877.2 The following had apologised: Councillor Josh Payne                      District Councillor  
Councillor Andrew Parkes

**2878. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.**

2878.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February, having been circulated, were approved without amendment. Proposed by Councillor Goodwin & seconded by Councillor Horsfall.

**2879. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD**

2879.1 Councillor Wallace Redford had reported earlier in the month that he had resigned from the Conservative Party and was now operating as an Independent WCC Councillor.

2879.2 Councillor Redford had sent various reports throughout the last month, which had been circulated to Councillors to keep them informed.

2879.3 Councillor Redford reminded those present about the pothole brochure created by WCC. The Clerk indicated the brochure had been circulated to Councillors, mounted on the Parish Council Facebook and website pages and partly reproduced in the Newsletter.

2879.4 Councillors were informed that Ryan Machin (main highways engineer contact for Parish road works) had moved to a new job and would not be replaced for at least 2 months. Councillor Redford will inform the Clerk of alternative contacts whilst a replacement for Ryan is sought.

2879.5 It was confirmed that WCC Cabinet had approved the Devolution White Paper and would be replying to the appropriate Minister to seek the formation of a single unitary authority. However, it was noted that WDC would probably oppose that decision in favour of splitting the County into separate North and South Warwickshire authorities.

2879.6 Councillor Redford confirmed that an order had been made to clear the drainage grips along Bubbenhall Road down towards the stables and bridge, and that it had been acknowledged that the culvert under the road before the bridge had collapsed due to heavy vehicles. This will be repaired and the road-side drains rodded –out to make sure they are clear. In addition, 5 new ‘SLOW’ signs will be painted on the road. Overall timescales have not yet been confirmed, but will probably require the road to be closed.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for his reports.

### **2880. REPORTS FROM WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

2880.1 Councillor Payne had sent apologies prior to the meeting.

2880.2 Councillor Pam Redford had sent various reports throughout the last month, which had been circulated to Councillors to keep them informed.

2880.3 Councillor Redford highlighted the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of VE and VJ day that WDC were supporting over the four days from 5<sup>th</sup> May and the activities, grants and organised events that were available. When asked if the Parish Council were planning any events, the Chairman suggested that residents had lost their enthusiasm for organising these events and none were planned. Councillors generally agreed with this, stating residents were ‘battle weary’. Excessively onerous paperwork and a 3-month consultation requirement for events from WDC were described as unnecessary and restrictive for smaller organisations wanting to hold a small village celebration. It was also noted that Baginton had an ageing population and these events always fall to the same small group of people with no new residents coming forward to help. It was further suggested that with the 25% increase in residents expected from the affordable housing at Rosswood Farm, the big change in demographics could make organising events even more challenging. **Clerk to circulate celebration letter.**

2880.4 Councillor Redford asked if Adam Walker had responded from WDC regarding the Parish Council’s suggestion that the existing bus stop on Coventry Road opposite The Row is moved approximately 50m to facilitate public transport from the new housing estate associated with application W/22/1038. The Clerk stated that nothing further had been received since the last meeting and Councillor Redford confirmed she would chase the matter.

2880.5 Councillor Redford asked if the note from Chris Elliott regarding grants available for Parish Council projects had been useful. The Clerk confirmed he had received the note, but as these grants would require an organised working group as opposed to guaranteed funds associated with CIL monies, no applications had been made. Councillor Redford indicated she had asked the WDC Finance Committee for £130,000 towards refurbishment of the Village Hall, but this had been refused. Councillor Goodwin stated he was not surprised the funding had been refused, stating he thought that Baginton was probably earmarked to become part of Coventry again, so that no money was being approved within Baginton. Councillor Redford confirmed that boundary reviews were common and it would not be unheard of for this to happen in the future.

2880.6 It was confirmed that a National Day of Reflection was taking place on 9<sup>th</sup> March in respect of those who died in the COVID 19 pandemic. **Clerk to circulate reflection letter.**

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for her reports.

## **2881. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD.**

- 2881.1 A member of the public enquired about tree ownership and right-of-way at the rear of a property they own. Clerk & Chairman responded with the information they had available.
- 2881.2 A resident complained about the high volume of traffic, large lorries and HGVs, plus speeding cars passing down Coventry Road. Queries were raised about speeding traffic and the resident confirmed many passengers were wearing fluorescent orange jackets and were prevalent at works rush-hour times, suggesting they were part of the new Segro development rushing home through Baginton. Councillor Meakin confirmed seeing vehicles accelerating hard between speed bumps on Coventry Road and Mill Hill. Councillor Goodwin confirmed he had noted larger numbers of HGVs passing his home on Coventry Road recently and had challenged a Stobart lorry he encountered on the narrow 'No HGV' signed Bubbenhall Road. The driver was rude and aggressive. When reported to Stobart transport manager, they were not receptive. Councillor Goodwin confirmed he will be contacting VOSA or Transport Executive about weight licensing of lorries, law and enforcement options stating that he believed that the 7.5T limit on Mill Hill referred to any lorry capable of carrying 7.5T regardless of whether it was loaded or not.
- 2881.3 In relation to the above point, Councillor Bush highlighted that much of the weight limit and HGV signage around Baginton was wrong, permitting HGVs to enter Baginton through an 'except for access' sign, only to be faced with stronger restriction signs further through Baginton, forcing them to take prohibited routes to extricate themselves. This mostly involved using the Bubbenhall / Stoneleigh link road, which was never designed for HGVs as its swept path is too tight, forcing HGVs to use both carriageways. A resident and a Councillor, who work close to the link road, confirmed seeing numerous accidents and significant damage to kerbstones, tracks on grass verges and tyre marks on the link road. Councillor Wallace Redford suggested that even if more restrictive signage was proposed, the Police would probably oppose the suggestion as they don't have the resources to enforce it and wouldn't want to be made responsible.
- 2881.4 Councillors questioned if the new Orchard Way Road and the associated link road mentioned above had been adopted by WCC Highways yet. Councillor Wallace Redford suggested they would only be formally adopted once Highways have confirmed that the road have been built in accordance with the plans, which hasn't happened since it was opened about 3 years ago. Councillor Goodwin suggested the roads had encountered significant difficulties while they were being built due to subsidence and wondered if this was preventing adoption by WCC Highways. A resident complained that the low-level lighting wasn't effective, especially at the link road junctions. Councillor Bush confirmed the 30mph speed limit on Orchard Way was low and was being reviewed. Councillors confirmed that Orchard Way was a 'race track' and questioned if the Police were routinely enforcing limits on this unadopted road. Councillor Goodwin asked if more could be done once the road was formally adopted by Highways and asked why this was taking so long. Councillor Wallace Redford said he would ask and feedback. **Councillor Redford to chase.**
- 2881.5 In relation to the above points, a resident asked about the Baginton Volunteer Speed Aware Group that was formed in 2021. Councillors confirmed the group went to Police training and had secured access to a speed gun, but hadn't met for a long time and were probably now needing to be formally re-trained. Councillor Goodwin pointed out that when Police had undertaken speed checks in Baginton, they had identified very few speeding drivers compared to those expected from residents' reports. A resident asked if the Speed Aware Group could be reformed and if Police could repeat a speed check along Coventry Road at peak rush-hour times. Councillor Goodwin suggested contacting the Safer Neighbourhood Team with these 2 questions, to request it's added to the next Police meeting Agenda for discussion and to apprise Councillor Parkes who frequently represents the Parish Council at these meeting. **Clerk to action.**

2881.6 In relation to the above points, as many of them refer to traffic from the new Segro Business Park, Councillor Goodwin asked if Councillor Bush and Councillor Pam Redford could raise these matters with Segro at their next meeting, which they agreed to do. Councillor Goodwin also confirmed that Councillor Wallace Redford will look into the unadopted roads and feedback to the Parish Council. Councillor Goodwin further summarised that he will contact VOSA and Transport Executive regarding enforcing HGV weight limits and that the Clerk will contact Police SNT regarding Police speed checks and forming a new Speed Aware Team. With these actions in place, Councillor Goodwin asked if Councillors and residents were happy that the meeting moved on to the remaining Agenda business, which was agreed. **Multiple action responsibilities.**

2881.7 A member of the public mentioned that Jeremy Wright MP would be visiting Baginton from 10:00am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March and would be set up in the Village Hall car park. It was suggested this may be an opportunity to raise some of these issues with him.

## **2882. SOUTH OF COVENTRY (SoC) DEVELOPMENTS**

2882.1 There were no comments or questions from the North Kenilworth – South Coventry development meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February, nor from the powerpoint slides from the meeting, which were circulated to Councillors on 13<sup>th</sup> February.

## **2883. POLICE MATTERS.**

2883.1 Councillor Colville reported on the Police Vehicle Anti-Social Behaviour meeting from 17<sup>th</sup> February. Of particular note, Coventry City Council has committed £15,000 to a 6-month trial of 4 VivaCity monitoring cameras and associated signage. Cameras will be on the new bridge over the A45 and on the approach roads both sides of the bridge. Councillor Meakin suggested that racing cars would ignore speed cameras. Councillor Goodwin stated the cameras were monitoring anti-social behaviour in general, not just speed.

2883.2 The Rowley Road car park gate is to be locked at night to prevent anti-social gatherings, but at the moment an unknown resident is parking a car there every evening, so it is not yet being locked. Segro has confirmed that the car park is not to become residential parking and various suggestions are being explored to identify the car's owner. It was noted that the Segro security team had approached a gathering on the car park and asked them to move on, but the group threatened the security team, who have now been told to call the Police if this happens again as it is anti-social behaviour.

2883.3 Car meets have died away over the winter months, but individuals are still using the roads as race tracks. Segro representatives attend the Police ASB meetings and are aware of the issue, but Police do not have the resources to monitor these roads.

2883.4 The next Police ASB meeting is scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> June and Councillor Colville noted he would not be able to attend that meeting, asking if any other Councillor was free. **Clerk to enquire.**

## **2884. BAGINTON EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

2884.1 The Film Night on 28<sup>th</sup> February was the comedy drama 'Thelma', with 16 attendees. Councillor Goodwin asked if numbers were generally down for viewings. Members of the event Committee confirmed this was down from a peak of 40 attendees, but this is not unusual for winter weather, longer nights and the Festive break.

2884.2 The next Film Night on 28<sup>th</sup> March will be multi BAFTA winning political thriller 'Conclave'.

**2885. AIRPORT MATTERS**

2885.1 There were no formal airport matters to report.

**2886. PLANNING****a. Planning decisions received since the last meeting**

i. None

**b. To note applications awaiting WDC decision.**

- i. 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). Special notes on Condition 8 (Surface water drainage). **OBJECTION** response issued 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- ii. DOC/24/0010 – Discharge of condition 23 (the need for a construction traffic management plan) - Gateway South development on Bubbenhall Road. **NEUTRAL** response issued 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.
- iii. W/25/0041 - To increase the height of the Management Suite at Segro's Bubbenhall Road Management Suite by 1m. **NEUTRAL** response reported 7<sup>th</sup> February.

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

- i. W/25/0124/TC – Upgrade of existing base station, replacing a 15m tower with a 25m tower supporting 18 antenna and 4 dishes at AirAtlantique on Middlemarch Business Park. Circulated to Councillors 21<sup>st</sup> February with response required by 12<sup>th</sup> March. Councillors resolved to offer a neutral response. **Clerk to action.**
- ii. W/25/0141 – Wrap around single storey rear and side extension at No. 14 Oak Close. Circulated to Councillors 21<sup>st</sup> February with response required by 14<sup>th</sup> March. Councillors resolved to offer a support response. **Clerk to action.**
- iii. W/25/0125 - landscaping, car parking, earthworks, strategic drainage features, a primary substation, demolition of existing structures, plus formation of the six approved access points and the main spine road within the site. Coventry Airport, Rowley Road. Circulated to Councillors 26<sup>th</sup> February with response required by 19<sup>th</sup> March.  
The Clerk reported 12 objections to the above planning application from residents on the WDC website. Councillor Pam Redford noted that these enabling works generally lacked specific detail making it difficult to highlight formal grounds for objection. Councillors agreed that feelings were strongly against this proposal and resolved to also offer an objection response. Clerk to compile a draft response based on existing objections and circulate to Councillors for approval by 14<sup>th</sup> March. **Clerk to action.**

**2887 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**

**NOTE:** Any reported matters are detailed against the appropriate Road below;

- 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

2887.1 Significant closures of the A46 in February & April 2025 were circulated to Councillors and have been advertised locally in the Newsletter and on the Parish Council Facebook Page.

2887.2 The pavement work on Rowley Road, is now complete.

2887.3 Three new street lights have been installed on Coventry Road to light the main entrance to the new housing estate, but it was noted that because of the proximity of the airport, the lights were dim and were considered to be insufficient to safely light the junction.

## **2888 OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

2888.1 Councillor Taylor reported that the Open Spaces Committee was formally created on 26<sup>th</sup> February with Andrew Robinson as the inaugural Chairman and Councillor Taylor as the Secretary. Ten volunteers were present, with 2 apologies. Of note;

- Tree safety work had been completed in the Spinney & Pond area, so the first working party can begin to start a general tidy-up from 10:00am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March.
- A WhatsApp Group has been set up for easy communication between volunteers.
- H&S briefings plus risk assessments have been circulated to volunteers.
- More bulbs are hoped to be planted in the Millennium field Autumn / Winter 2025.
- Lucy Price Playground needs new bins. General maintenance requirements are being assessed prior to the annual safety inspection in May.
- Trees in the Roman Way area are to be safety assessed. Quotation being sought. Residents are to be engaged to cut hedges at the rear of homes to keep paths clear.
- Knotweed on Segro land is to be raised at the next meeting with Segro.
- A commercial system for logging wildlife in Baginton is being investigated.
- A call for wildlife boxes to be built or donated by residents for installation will be published.
- Memorial benches are being considered approx £1000 each.

2888.2 Councillor Goodwin thanked Councillor Taylor for his report, noting that memorial benches for Councillor Hewer were available and the group may wish to explore this further.

**Post meeting note:** Memorial benches on Parish Council land must currently be dedicated only to those people that have contributed significantly to Baginton life.

2888.3 A resident indicated that he could supply bins and benches at discounted prices, but they do not offer an installation service. **Clerk to enquire.**

**2889 GENERAL OPEN SPACE MATTERS**

- 2889.1 The fly tipping in the spinney was reported Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February Ref:1102168 and was cleared the following day.
- 2889.2 Lovell's were advised of the impending tree work around the pond on 11<sup>th</sup> February and acknowledged receipt. The work was completed 18<sup>th</sup> February and volunteers have further tided the area.
- 2889.3 Fly tipping reported again 14<sup>th</sup> February, Ref:1103327 and was removed 17<sup>th</sup> February.
- 2889.4 The Smithy work on Church Road was started on 21<sup>st</sup> February and is progressing well.

**2890 GRANTS MATTERS TO NOTE**

- 2890.1 None

**2891 FINANCIAL MATTERS TO NOTE.****a. Currently Earmarked Funds**

Charity Donated Monies Held by Council	£1330.29
Earmarked Funds (Lucy Price Playground)	£6678.68
Earmarked Funds (Election Expenses)	£5950.00
Earmarked Funds (Badge of Office)	£118.45
Earmarked Funds (Bus Shelters & Notice Boards)	£1000.00
Earmarked Defibrillator Consumables & Service	£322.61
Earmarked Smithy Maintenance & Repair	£6000.00
<b>Total Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>£21400.03</b>

**b. To advise Bank balances as of 25/02/2025**

HSBC treasurers (community) account: -	£3574.33
HSBC savings (BMM) account: -	£36200.30
<b>Total in Bank</b>	<b>£39774.63</b>

**c. Reserves (Bank less earmark & committed) £18374.60****d. Bank Charges per month £8.00**

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

	Value	Pay Number
Clerk's salary (40.1 hours @ SCP Level 7 £531.73)	£425.33	Pay 204
Clerk's Income Tax & NI (Includes PAYE Adjustment)	£106.40	Pay 205
Office Costs & Overheads	£250.00	Pay 206
Litter Picking Honorarium	£140.00	Pay 207
Website Management Honorarium	£62.50	Pay 208
BVH-2025-36 Invoice	£10.00	Pay 209
BVH-2025-38 Invoice	£10.00	Pay 210
Mathews & Son (For Spinney Tree works)	£880.00	Pay 211
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1884.23</b>	

- i. The Finance Committee meeting was held at the Clerk's house from 10:00am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February. The meeting was completed satisfactorily and has been documented for the auditors.

**2892 CONSULTATIONS TO NOTE.**

- 2892.1 The South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) Preferred Options consultation started on 10<sup>th</sup> January and runs until 7<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk had circulated a draft response earlier in the week, which several Councillors had approved. Councillor Goodwin suggested that unless Councillors had any further points to add, the Clerk should send the response by 5:00pm on 7<sup>th</sup> March. **Clerk to action.**
- 2892.2 There were no comments regarding the Government's Devolution White paper and the virtual meeting held with WDC on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**2893 BROCHURES AND DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PERUSAL.**

None

**2894 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- 2894.1 Councillor Colville spoke about an elderly couple living in Baginton who were now vulnerable due to age and several health issues. Councillors Colville and Parkes had previously been given permission to interact with appropriate authorities on behalf of the Parish Council in relation to the couple's continued wellbeing. Councillor Colville confirmed that relatives, Police, Social Services etc had been contacted and asked if he still had permission to act on our behalf. Councillors approved unanimously.

**2895 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.**

- 2895.1 The next Ordinary meeting is **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** from 7:30pm at the Village Hall.
- 2895.2 Annual Assembly is on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April** from 7:30pm in the main Village Hall.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
13-Mar	Parish & Town Reference Group	10:00am	Virtual
19-Mar	Segro Liaison Meeting	4:15pm	Management Suite
24-Mar	Police & Parish Liaison Meeting	7:00pm	Leek Wootton Police HQ
3-Apr	Ordinary Parish Council Meeting	7:30pm	Baginton Village Hall
10-Apr	Parish Annual Assembly	7:30pm	Baginton Village Hall
15-Apr	WDC Investment Zone	2:00pm	Baginton Village Hall
30-June	Police ASB meeting	10:00am	Virtual

**2896 CLOSE**

The meeting closed at 8:35pm.