

**BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 AT BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Wallace Redford	County Councillor
Councillor	Pam Redford	District Councillor
Councillor	Trevor Wright	District Councillor
Councillor	Julie Keightley	Chairman
Councillor	Chris Goodwin	Vice Chairman
Councillor	Walter Bush	
Councillor	David Hewer	
Councillor	Roger Horsfall	
Councillor	Robert Taylor	

Clerk                      Phil Clark

Public                      3 members of the public were present.

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

**2407. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, APOLOGIES & WELCOME**

2407.1 Declarations of interest were sought and none were received.

2407.2 The following had apologised: Councillor Mike Meakin  
Councillor Gary Colville  
Councillor Rob Newman

**2408. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.**

2408.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023, having been circulated, were approved without amendment. Proposed by Councillor Keightley & seconded by Councillor Horsfall.

**2409. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD**

- 2409.1 Councillor Wallace Redford confirmed that the drainage ditch a Bubbenhall Bridge had been cleared of silt and debris. A full survey of the drains along the road and the infill of ruts at the edge of the road are still ongoing, but an order for the work has been made.
- 2409.2 Further work on the Mill Hill Bridge to improve pedestrian safety is also being investigated but is at a very early stage. Councillor Redford will keep us updated when any progress is made.
- 2409.3 Councillors Hewer stated that the drainage works at Bubbenhall Bridge had made the road more dangerous, with the dredging from the ditch piled on the edge of the road making the carriageway narrower. He asked if the Parish Council could meet with County Highways representatives to discuss the matter. Councillor Wallace Redford said a meeting could be arranged, but he would need to know in advance any concerns that the Parish Council have with regards to road safety so he can make sure the right people are present at the meeting. He also reiterated that items such as drains and ruts were already in-hand as reported in 2409.1 above, so these do not need to be discussed again. Councillor Hewer will contact Councillor Redford with pictures and explanation of his concerns.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for his report.

## **2410. REPORTS FROM WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

- 2410.1 Councillor Pam Redford confirmed that the WDC Net Zero Carbon Development Plan public inspection will run in Leamington Town Hall from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> March with a You-Tube broadcast also being made available. When the proposal becomes policy, it will require all new-build applications to incorporate Green Energy initiatives such as solar panels, air pumps and ground pumps from the design stage and not fit these features retrospectively.
- 2410.2 It was confirmed that the Covent Garden multi-storey car park had closed, but the surface car park was still in use and other WDC car parks in Leamington had been reduced to £3 per day, with free parking at Riverside House Monday to Friday.
- 2410.3 The WDC Budget was set on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February. It was decided to keep the WDC portion of the Council Tax bill unchanged for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Year, with vulnerable residents seeing a 100% reduction. The household bill may increase as other authorities such as County Council and Police are increasing their portion, but WDC will utilise reserves, Government Grants, income from Milverton Homes and sales of property such as Riverside House to accommodate any shortfall.
- 2410.4 Councillor Wright indicated that £52000 had been put aside in the budget for continued support of food banks. Questions were asked about the use of food banks being correctly reserved for those truly in need. Councillor Redford confirmed that strict criteria need to be met before residents can use a food bank.
- 2410.5 Councillor Hewer asked about solar panels on factories and homes as part of the Net Zero Policy. Councillor Pam Redford confirmed that when the consultation becomes Policy, WDC will not pass any new-build applications that do not utilise an appropriate level of green energy. They will not allow gas boilers to be fitted during build and replaced retrospectively.
- 2410.6 Councillor Hewer asked what CIL monies would be used to improve Baginton as a result of the 119 new homes planned for the housing development on land north of Rosswood Farm. Councillor Redford confirmed that money will be made available for village improvements, but it is not clear how much. She will keep us informed.
- 2410.7 Councillor Taylor asked how quickly the Net Zero inspection will take to become Policy. Councillor Pam Redford said it would be several weeks before the inspector's report is available, then 2 to 3 months to produce a Policy, provided the Inspector hasn't raised further issues that need addressing. She also confirmed that the policy could not be applied retrospectively, so no Net Zero requirements can be forced onto the development land north of Rosswood Farm., as it has already been passed.

The Chairman thanked Councillors Redford and Wright for their reports.

## **2411. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD.**

- 2411.1 It was noted that a letter was received from the Office of Jeremy Wright MP following a resident's complaint against the Village Hall. The complaint was subsequently dropped. The Village Hall Committee is in communication with the resident.
- 2411.2 A member of the public reported that items had been stolen from a car on the Village Hall carpark between 8:30 and 9:30am on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March, but complained it had proven impossible to make contact with Police via the 101 phone line to report the theft and get a crime number. Councillor Horsfall confirmed that others had reported difficulties with 101, with some giving up after over 30 minutes on the phone. Councillor Pam Redford said a complaint should be made and she will forward the contact for the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner.
- 2411.3 A resident asked why a set of traffic lights on the Rowley Road / Haul Road traffic island were still covered with orange bags. Councillor Wallace Redford confirmed these were to show the lights were not in use, as drivers often stop if lights are uncovered, thinking they are broken. The lights will be commissioned when traffic volume make them necessary.
- 2411.4 A resident had been privately chasing any progress with WDC's Environmental Permit for the UKBIC site on Rowley Road. Progress had been slow over the past 2 months and the resident had now raised a request for the permit details under a Freedom of Information request. Response is expected by 10<sup>th</sup>

March. Councillor Pam Redford asked if the original e-mail could be sent to her so she could also follow-up the request.

2411.5 A resident indicated that the Woodland Trust pack of hedgerow plants will be arriving mid March and volunteers would plant them on the Millennium Field shortly afterwards. They will also undertake the routine pruning of the orchard trees.

## **2412. SOUTH OF COVENTRY (SoC) DEVELOPMENTS**

2412.1 There were no new South of Coventry matters to report. The next meeting is 4:00pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March on the SEGRO site.

2412.2 Councillor Hewer stated he had contacted Buckingham regarding the poor state of the Bubbenhall Road. He had been informed that 2 new road sweepers were being purchased, Councillor Keightley confirmed that she had received the same information.

## **2413. POLICE MATTERS.**

2413.1 Warwickshire's Abnormal Load Team identified 15 vehicles at Corley Services in 1 day, with assorted faults including defective tyres, insecure loads and operating outside their allotted times or approved transport orders.

2413.2 Between 25<sup>th</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February, a catalytic converter was stolen from a black Honda CR-V parked in front of a residential property on Mill Hill.

2413.3 In the early hours of Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February, a blue motorbike was stolen from the rear of a property in Edinburgh Villas. It was recovered a week later but was not in a usable condition.

2413.4 A crime report from PCSO Sharron Underwood had been circulated to Councillors, indicating theft of 2 generators from a property on Bubbenhall Road, along with several thefts from the Middlemarch Business Park.

2413.5 Councillor Hewer asked if there were plans to bring back the Community Forum. Councillor Wright indicated there were no plans.

## **2414. BAGINTON EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

2414.1 The film night on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February was 'Phantom of the Open'.

2414.2 The next film night on 31<sup>st</sup> March will be 'Top Gun Maverick'

2414.3 Next Party in the Park is scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and tickets are now available.

2414.4 The Events Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 have been signed off.

2414.5 The Events AGM will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> March.

## **2415. AIRPORT MATTERS**

2415.1 There were no new airport matters to report.

## **2416. PLANNING**

### **a. Planning decisions received since the last meeting**

- i. W/22/1955 – Installation of 648 solar panels on the roof of Aubrey Allen Butchers, Siskin Parkway East. **SUPPORT** response issued 5<sup>th</sup> January. Notice that no prior approval is required issued by WDC 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

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

- i. W/22/1730 - Reserved matters relating to layout, landscaping, access, appearance etc relating to the proposed Rugby Club. **SUPPORT** reported 2<sup>nd</sup> December.
- ii. W/23/0020 – Single storey side and rear extension, extended porch and rebuilt garage – No. 70 Mill Hill. Circulated to Councillors 13<sup>th</sup> January with response required by 2<sup>nd</sup> February. **NEUTRAL** response reported 27<sup>th</sup> January.
- iii. W/23/0037 – A 2-storey side extension – No. 66 Mill Hill. Circulated to Councillors 23<sup>rd</sup> January with response required by 9<sup>th</sup> February. **NEUTRAL** response sent 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

- iv. W/23/0040 – Reserved Matters (Access, layout, landscaping, appearance etc.) circulated to Councillors 2<sup>nd</sup> February. **SUPPORT** response reported 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

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

- i. It was noted that an appeal had been lodged with the Secretary of State against WDC's decision on application W/21/0711 – Single storey dwelling at the rear of The Granary, Church Road, Baginton. Our original response had been relayed to the Secretary of State and will be taken into consideration.

**2417 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

2417.1 Street Lamps No.1 and No.2 on Friends Close were reported as out on 5<sup>th</sup> February, along with a repeat report of Roman Way lamp No. 1 still being out. All were repaired on 24<sup>th</sup> February.

2417.2 The advertising hoarding on Mill Hill at the corner of Bosworth Close has been removed.

2417.3 The street cleaner was seen operating in Baginton the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> February.

2417.4 Further drainage work was undertaken down Bubbenhall Road and the road swept.

2417.5 Baginton Mill Bridge had reopened to 2-way traffic and was again active as a bus route.

2417.6 Councillor Horsfall sought permission to organise the cutting of brambles that were protruding from the Kimberley Road hedge into the carriageway, thus potentially scratching passing cars and posing a danger to cyclists and motorcyclists. Permission was given, provided appropriate safety & visibility equipment is worn.

**2418 OPEN SPACE.**

- 2418.1 Five structural engineers have been identified to provide an independent assessment of the Smithy's structural integrity and the works needed to address any issues found. Two have declined, as they don't specialise in older buildings. One has provided a quote for £715+VAT, with 2 not yet responding. Councillors agreed the quote seemed reasonable and would form the basis for any grant applications. Councillor Keightley proposed that if no better quotes were received, the current one should be accepted. Seconded by Councillor Goodwin and passed by show of hands. **Clerk to monitor.**
- 2418.2 The Smithy was broken into on 13<sup>th</sup> February. Welding equipment was removed through a hole made in the roof. The damage has been repaired. Wire mesh is to be fitted under the roof to make entry more difficult in future.
- 2418.3 A supplier of paint needed to touch-up chips on the playground equipment has been found and an order will be placed shortly. Approximately £100 to cover all colours, as opposed to £500 from the Playground supplier.

**2419 GRANTS MATTERS TO NOTE**

- 2419.1 No new grant matters to report.

**2420 GENERAL MATTERS TO NOTE**

- 2420.1 None

**2421 FINANCIAL MATTERS TO NOTE.****a. Currently Earmarked Funds**

Earmarked Charity Donated Monies	£1330.29
Earmarked Funds (Lucy Price Playground)	£10000.00
Earmarked Funds (Election Expenses)	£6000.00
Earmarked Funds (Badge of Office)	£142.35
Earmarked Funds (Bus Shelters & Notice Boards)	£860.00
Earmarked Defibrillator Consumables & Service	£250.00
Earmarked Smithy Maintenance & Repair	£1000.00
<b>Total Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>£19582.64</b>

**b. To advise Bank balances as of 25/02/2023**

HSBC treasurers (community) account: -	£ 3219.02
HSBC savings (BMM) account: -	£ 31822.04
<b>Total in Bank</b>	<b>£ 35041.06</b>

**c. Reserves (Bank less earmark & committed) £15458.42****d. Bank Charges per month £8.00**

- e. It was resolved to authorise items below for payment by electronic transfer. Proposed by Councillor Keightley, second by Councillor Goodwin and passed by show of hands.

	Value	Pay Number
Clerk's monthly salary (40.1 hours @ NJC Level 7)	£466.36	Pay 059
Office Costs & Overheads	£250.00	Pay 060
Litter Picking Honorarium	£140.00	Pay 061
Website Management Honorarium	£62.50	Pay 062
<b>Cash needed in Current Account</b>	<b>£918.86</b>	

- i. The Smithy rent was requested on 25<sup>th</sup> February.
- ii. The Finance Committee meeting was held at the Clerk's house on 21<sup>st</sup> February to complete the internal audit of financial systems and record keeping. All was found to be in order.
- iii. Following the Finance Audit, files are now also being backed up to the cloud on Microsoft OneDrive. Councillor Wright asked if the access details were being shared in case of emergency and the Clerk confirmed they were. Councillor Keightley asked the Clerk to update Policies to show this is now being done. **Clerk to action.**
- iv. A request towards funding for a defibrillator at Baginton Mill Hill allotments was considered. Councillor Pam Redford said WDC would not normally fund a defibrillator unless there was full public access 24/7. It was also reiterated that access on just Saturday and Sunday mornings did not represent value for money when committing public funds. Councillor Wallace Redford indicated that he could consider helping from his personal grant. Councillor Keightley proposed that the Parish Council decline the application on this occasion and refer the applicant to Councillor Wallace Redford, seconded by Councillor Goodwin and passed by show of hands. **Clerk to action.**

## **2422 CONSULTATIONS TO NOTE.**

2422.1 No new consultations received.

## **2423 BROCHURES AND DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PERUSAL.**

- i. None

## **2424 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- 2424.1 Notice of Election is due to be announced by WDC on 17<sup>th</sup> March, which will mark the start of Purdah.
- 2424.2 Election packs were collected from Riverside House by the Clerk and were available at the meeting. The Clerk also confirmed that electronic versions of the Pack would be mounted on the Village Website and advertised through social media and the Newsletter.
- 2424.3 Councillor Pam Redford asked about graffiti on the JLR hoardings. The Clerk confirmed that WDC Planning had contacted JLR about the issue, but had not passed the contact details to the Parish Council. Councillors Redford and Wright will follow up with Planning.
- 2424.4 Councillor Hewer highlighted that with better weather, the new Country Park is showing increased use.
- 2424.5 Councillor Pam Redford asked how well the Warm Hub and Community Cafe were being used. A resident confirmed it was being well attended, with over 20 visitors on most occasions. With increased availability of grant money, the initiative is planned to run until Christmas, with the possibility of a Christmas meal. Councillor Redford asked if she and the Portfolio holder could receive a formal invitation. **Clerk to pass on contact details.**

## **2425 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.**

- 2425.1 Next ordinary meeting scheduled for **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023** at Baginton Village Hall from 7:30pm.
- 2425.2 Annual Assembly, **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023** at Baginton Village Main Hall from 8:00pm.

**2426 CLOSE** - The meeting closed at 8.15pm.