



BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Meeting

Tuesday 14th July 2026 commencing at 7:00pm

held at Stafford Arms, Bagnall, ST9 9JR.

Minutes

Councillors in attendance – Sybil Ralphs, Les Knowles, Steve Horton , Tim Harper

Residents in attendance – 16

	Apologies	Action Required by
14.07.261	• None received.	
14.07.262	Public Participation	
	• Resident asked the Council to represent residents in their objections to Whitegate SMD/2026/0254. See below 10.07.068 • Resident informed the meeting that he had tried to contact Cllr Edwards (District Councillor) on numerous occasions, leaving telephone messages. He has received no response. They questioned the lack of attendance at meetings and why they have no support from the District Councillor. Chairman explained that the Parish Council has tried to engage without success. Karen Badley and the Chairman of the Conservative party have been contacted and informed of lack of engagement. Clerk advised that requests that have been made on behalf of residents have not been replied to. Chairman advised resident that the local conservatives must write a letter stating their concerns.	
14.07.063	Declarations of interest and dispensation	
	• Cllr Ralphs – RGS Gardening Services.	
14.07.064	To consider and approve minutes from the last meeting	
	• Minutes agreed and signed by Cllr Ralphs from the meeting held on the 9th of June 2026.	

14.07.065	To receive a report from police	
	Police were not in attendance. Please use the link provided below to report any concerns. https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/ro/report/	
14.07.066	To receive a report from SMDC District Cllr, County Cllr (if available)	
	None in attendance and no reports received.	
	Accounts and Finance	
	- The following reports were agreed and signed. 1) Apr-Jun 26 quarterly report reviewed and signed by the Chairman. 2) Unity Trust Bank – Account management – deferred. 3) RGS Services invoice – treatment of weeds, quarry - £60.00 agreed and signed. 4) RGS Services invoice – grass cutting - £930.00 agreed and signed. 5) Clerks pay – agreed and signed.	
14.07.067	Matters Arising	
	- Springsbank quarry – Clerk advised that resident has requested further work to be conducted at the quarry. Cllr Ralphs advised Clerk to contact the SMDC Countryside Officer to view the area and give their expert advice. Cllr Knowles has canvassed some residents in the area, and their view is they do not want any trees cutting. The quarry is in a conservation area. - Village Hall – Cllr Harper asked what the agreement is for bin emptying on the field. Cllr Knowles advised that the person who was responsible has resigned from the VH committee. Cllr Knowles raised concern about dog fouling on the field also. It was proposed that a CCTV camera could be used to monitor both the VH and the field area. Cllr Harper will investigate this matter. Clerk has requested information from the VH and has not received a reply. Cllr Harper to set up a formal agreement between the VH and the PC. - Field in Trust – Cllr Batson explained the Field in Trust organisation and the procedure to place the playing field in Trust to protect its future. All councillors agreed to place the playing field in trust. Cllr Batson to complete the application. - Steet Furniture – SMDC have requested a survey of street furniture located in Bagnall. – Cllr Batson has completed the survey and requested the necessary paperwork to complete. - Field Track – No further action. Complete.	Clerk to email Countryside Officer. Cllr Harper to speak with VH. Cllr Batson to complete application. Cllr Batson to complete paperwork.

	• Green Space – Cllr Batson returning a report of green space in the parish. • Connect Fibre – additional item. Cllr Batson to draft letter to Connect Fibre – Clerk to send reminder. • Defib – additional item. Cllr Knowles reported he had conducted the checks on the Rose and Crown defib. Cllr Harper is due to complete his defib training in August and will take over the checks on both the VH and the Rose and Crown defib.	Cllr Batson to return report. Clerk to send reminder to Cllr Batson.
14.07.068	Planning Reports	
	• SMD/2025/0521 – Greenway Hall - Cllr Ralphs gave an update. The application has been deferred several times due to further information required. Cllr Ralphs requested all Cllrs agree the PC write to planning stating that due to the no determination the officer in charge of the case uses their delegated powers to refuse the application. All Cllrs agreed. Clerk to email planning. • SMD/2023/0065 – Kerry Hill Farm, Dog Exercise Paddock – Cllr Knowles updated the meeting on issues with this application. Enforcement Officer has visited the site and requested changes to be made. There are still issues on this site. Clerk has emailed planning with further issues raised. Cllr Horton informed the meeting that planning was refused on this site and has been ignored. Clerk to email Ben Heyward with on-going issues. • BESS – Cllr Batson advised the meeting that the application has gone to committee. There are thirty-eight outstanding. SMDC planning will no longer be responsible for this determination. It will be decided by central government. • SMD/2026/0254 – White Gate, Clewllows Bank: Application for the conversion of a six-bedroom house into a children's care home. Cllr Knowles stated the PC will consider residents opinions and objections. The PC must look at what Highways and the Police say on this application. He reported that Highways have no objections. He raised concerns with the planning for parking spaces. He questioned the ages of children and possibilities of older children in the future. Cllr Harper explained Haliwell Homes responsibilities and how they work. Cllr Knowles advised that the developer has offered a meeting to be held with the PC and residents. All Cllrs agreed to a meeting. Clerk to arrange and invite Cllr Egginton and Cllr Edwards. Resident expressed their views and stated that 80% of residents are against the application. Cllr Batson stated he had concerns with the Highways reports in relation to the increased traffic.	Clerk to email planning. Clerk to email Ben Heyward. Clerk to arrange meeting with developer.

	Clerk to speak with Cllr Egginton about the Highways and parking. Clerk to draft objections.	Clerk to email Cllr Egginton and submit objection.
14.07.069	Buttercross	
	Deferred.	
14.07.070	Footpaths	
	- Footpath twelve was reported to Environmental Health due to a foul odour. A meeting is planned for Friday 17th July 26. - Footpath twelve south, with junction twenty-eight is overgrown. This has been reported to EH.	
14.07.071	Highways	
	- Thorney Edge road. Following a resident requesting an update from Severn Trent. Clerk received email explaining that the topsoil and re-seeding will take place following further work. The triangle has been reinstated. Photographs will be provided. Email sent to resident. - Gully on Clewlow's Bank has had some work completed. Cllr Batson to chase Cllr Egginton about another gully. - Grit Bins – Clerk to chase Cllr Egginton - Litter Bin – Clerk has sent a request to Cllr Edwards for an additional litter bin. No reply has been received . Clerk to chase.	Clerk to email Cllr Egginton. Clerk to email Cllr Edwards.
14.07.072	Funding Opportunities	
	Cllr Harper informed all that there are many opportunities for funding. For e.g. Play Park equipment, Heritage Trails, Speed Indicator devices, Defibrillator, CCTV, Notice boards and new signage, benches etc. Cllrs to provide priorities. Resident suggested a wildflower area at the quarry to reduce work required. Chairman thanked Cllr Harper for all his work. Clerk to pass on Buttercross heritage grant information to Cllr Harper. Cllr Ralphs requested that research for funding for road safety to be made a separate priority.	Cllr Harper to continue researching and applying for funding.
14.07.073	Congratulations Endon High School	
Additional item.	Cllr Batson discussed the success of five students from Endon High School who were crowned as National Lego Robotics Champions beating sixty-eight teams from across the country and going on to win the FIRST LEGO League International Open in Jeonju Korea. Two of the five students live in Bagnall. The Parish Council send huge congratulations to all involved.	
	Devolution	
	Cllr Knowles updated residents on the purpose of Devolutions. Details of this can be found on the PC	

	website. The decision of the government is due to be released in the next few days. The government wants the new authority to have a mayor. The government will issue executive orders to abolish the existing ten councils. This should go through parliament before the summer recess. It is unlikely not to happen until September. It is expected that Moorlands Parish Councils will remain in place even though Stoke-on-Trent does not have any Parish Councils. Elections will take place in 2027. A senior Responsible Officer will be decided for the whole new area. There will be joint committees set up made up of representatives from the unitaries. One representative from each district. The cost of elections is a concern. • Cllr Ralphs confirmed elections will take place in May next year. It will be divided into two terms 2 years or 6 years. 2 years for existing districts and 6 years for the unitary authority Cllr Ralphs has put herself forward for a 6-year term. Boundaries are to be confirmed. There could be up to five thousand residents in a ward. • Cllr Knowles stated it is difficult to get any information from the authority. • PC Elections are optional but if delayed to 2028 will incur the full costs of holding them. A figure of £10,500 was mentioned. • Cllr Batson informed residents of the financial issues facing authorities if this goes ahead. • Cllr Knowles explained the difficulties Cllrs will face working in different circumstances and how it will work to bring together numerous departments.	