



BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 8 September 2026 at 7.00 pm
Stafford Arms, Bagnall, ST9 9JR**

Minutes

Present: Cllr Andrew Batson (Chairman), Cllr Les Knowles, and Cllr Tim Harper.

Members of the public present: 9

08.09.075 - Apologies
• Cllr Ralphs, Cllr Horton
08.09.076 - Public Participation
• A resident updated the Council on the first BESS site, reporting an increase in the height of a building and continuing deliveries of soil. The Chairman confirmed that Bagnall Parish Council is not a statutory consultee because the site lies within Cheddleton Parish. It was suggested that Cllr Beardmore (Cheddleton PC) investigate the soil deliveries. The Chairman agreed to make a submission once further information had been obtained. • A resident raised concerns about damage associated with the BESS site. The Chairman also raised fire-safety concerns. Cllr Beardmore reported that she had asked SMDC to investigate emergency arrangements, noting that the current plan covered firefighters but not the wider community. The Chairman expressed concern about the scale of lithium-battery storage at BESS sites and agreed to send a link to Cllr Beardmore(Cheddleton PC).ACTION: Chairman to send link.
08.09.077 - Declarations of interest and dispensation
• None.
08.09.078 - To consider and approve minutes from the last meeting
• RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2026 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
08.09.079 - 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/

08.09.080 - To receive a report from SMDC District Cllr, County Cllr (if available)

- District Cllr Edwards was not present, and no apology had been received.
- County Cllr Egginton reported on three major ongoing projects, including Clay Lake and Station Road. He agreed to provide the survey results and reported that he had requested further highways work following accidents near the Plough, Endon. Capital funding had been secured for school crossings on Leek Road. He agreed to organise a meeting between Bagnall, Brown Edge and Endon Parish Councils expressing his desire to work together on matters affecting the wider area. **ACTION: Cllr Egginton to provide survey results and to organise meeting between PC's.**
- The Clewlow Bank speed survey was considered. The Chairman had requested further information. Cllr Harper stated that speeding remained a concern and proposed that the speed limit be reduced from 40mph to 30mph. Cllr Egginton agreed to make a recommendation through the DHL process. **ACTION: Cllr Egginton to make recommendation.**
- The continuing problem of Himalayan balsam near the ford was noted.
- The Chairman reported that he had written to Cllr Egginton regarding the number of road closures during the previous 12 months, insufficient notice, and inadequate signage. Cllr Egginton advised that he now received notifications and could submit comments; he would continue to forward notifications. The Chairman asked him to relay the Council's concerns to the relevant department.
- Gully maintenance was discussed. It was noted that budget constraints were affecting completion timescales. **ACTION: Cllr Egginton to continue to provide notifications.**

08.09.081 - Accounts and Finance

- Unity Trust Bank mandate: Cllr Harper had been added as a signatory and former signatories removed. The required forms were signed and witnessed by the Chairman, Cllr Knowles, and the Clerk/RFO. **ACTION: Clerk to submit the documentation to Unity Trust Bank.**
- The Council noted receipt of a VAT refund of £309.25 for 2025–2026.
- The Council noted receipt of a Lengthsman grant of £400.00.
- **RESOLVED:** The RGS Services invoice of £930.00 was approved and signed by the Chairman.
- Employer's National Insurance of £27.62 was noted.
- The Unity Trust Bank service charge of £7.00 was noted.
- **RESOLVED:** The Clerk's salary payment was approved and signed by the Chairman.

08.09.082 - Co-option – Additional Item

- The Council noted that two councillor vacancies remained.
- An application for co-option had been received from Roger Jackson.
- Mr Jackson addressed the Council in support of his application.
- **RESOLVED unanimously:** Roger Jackson was co-opted to Bagnall Parish Council.
- Cllr Jackson joined the Council.
- The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed. **ACTION: Clerk to submit the co-option documentation to SMDC.**

08.09.083 - Matters Arising

- **Christmas lights:** A resident had requested reinstatement of lights on the village Christmas tree. The Council discussed difficulties relating to the electricity supply and

availability of volunteers. Alternative lighting around the village green and formation of a community fundraising group were suggested. The Chairman would support, but not lead, such a group. **ACTION: Clerk to advise the resident.**

- **Village Hall:** Cllr Harper welcomed the attendance of two Village Hall trustees and reiterated the Council's wish to improve relations. He confirmed that the Village Hall is a separate entity from the playing field, which is owned by the Parish Council. He had drafted an agreement for future bookings of the field and proposed a shared access diary. Funding opportunities were also discussed. **ACTION: Cllr Harper to send the draft agreement to the VH trustees.**
- **Greenway Hall Golf Club:** The Council had received complaints about early-morning grass cutting and noise from events at Lockside. Cllr Harper had contacted both businesses. The golf-club owner agreed to revise grass-cutting arrangements. Lockside advised that prolonged summer weather had increased outdoor noise. Cllr Harper offered to facilitate a meeting between residents and Lockside. It was noted that complaints should be made through the appropriate official channels and that no further complaints had recently been received by the PC Council.
- **Springsbank Quarry:** A resident requested further gardening and tree work. The Council noted that work had already been undertaken at considerable cost and that the trees are protected by Tree Preservation Orders. **RESOLVED:** No further work was required at this time. **ACTION: Clerk to notify the resident.**
- **Green Belt/Grey Belt:** Cllr Knowles raised concern that a previous planning application on School Road described land as grey belt. **ACTION: Clerk to ask the planning authority how grey belt is being defined in relation to the village.**
- **Defibrillators:** Cllr Harper confirmed completion of training and that both devices were registered on the circuit. **ACTION: Cllr Harper to inspect the units at the Village Hall and in the telephone box near the Rose and Crown every two weeks.**
- **Fields in Trust:** The Chairman reported that the process of placing the playing field in trust had commenced. **ACTION: Chairman to arrange a meeting with Fields in Trust.**
- **Street furniture:** No further update was available. **ACTION: Clerk to follow up.**
- **Green space:** The plan had been submitted to SMD. **ACTION: Chairman to follow up.**

08.09.084 - Planning Reports

- **SMD/2025/0521 — Greenway Hall:** The application remained under assessment. The Chairman noted that a Highways report was outstanding.
- **SMD/2023/0065:** Enforcement officers had visited the site and instructed the owner to remove several items. Monitoring would continue. The resident was asked to provide evidence of any further breaches.
- **SMD/2024/0423 — BESS:** The application remained under assessment.
- The Council noted that Cllr Knowles had assumed responsibility for planning matters.

08.09.085 - Buttercross

- Cllr Harper prepared planning application to erect protective railings around Buttercross.
- Cllr Egginton asked if this project was part of his community fund application. He requested the PC apply again for another project to speed things up. He suggested

applying for the Moorlands Partnership fund for the Buttercross project. **ACTION: Cllr Harper to apply for another project.**

- Cllr Knowles to complete Buttercross planning application. **ACTION: Cllr Knowles to complete planning application.**

08.09.086 - Footpaths

- Footpath 12 is still overgrown. Clerk had requested this to be cleared some time ago. **ACTION: Clerk to follow up.**

08.09.087 - Highways

- **Gullies:** The Clerk had asked Cllr Egginton to arrange work to the gully adjacent to the Stafford Arms. **ACTION: Cllr Egginton to follow up.**
- **Grit bins:** ACTION: Cllr Egginton to report back.
- **Litter bins:** Cllr Edwards had requested that the area be tidied and had sought a meeting to discuss an additional litter bin. **ACTION: Clerk to follow up with Cllr Edwards.**

08.09.088 - Funding Opportunities

- Cllr Harper has met with three companies and visited six existing sites to discuss future development of the Play Park. Currently waiting for quotes.
- Cllr Harper updated the meeting on funding opportunities available and will continue to investigate. He stated that the population of Bagnall could be an issue.

08.09.089 - LGR

- Cllr Knowles updated the meeting on the current position regarding LGR. Staffordshire is currently under review. So much taxpayer's money has been wasted. SMDC were in favour of LGR it was understood that SMD and NUL would have more Councillors than SOT, it has been recently published that SOT would have 44 NUL – 22 SMD -18. Concerns were raised if the partnership with Highpeak will be lost. Elections will take place in May 2027 with existing boundaries.