

BAGNALL PARISH COUNCIL



Parish Meeting

**Tuesday 13th January 2026 commencing at
7:00pm**

held at Stafford Arms, Bagnall, ST9 9JR.

Minutes

Councillors in attendance - Andrew Batson, Steve Horton, Penny Dabell

Residents in attendance - Four

	Public Participation	Action Required by
13.01.184	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A parishioner raised concerns regarding BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) sites. A new road has been constructed on Rownall Road within Cheddleton Parish, although no planning permission has been granted for this development. Councillor Beardmore has reported the matter to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (SMDC). A new proposal, reference SMD/2026/0007, is under consideration for land off Rownall Road, involving an agricultural improvement project or the disposition of soil; validation is pending. There has been a non-material amendment submitted for the second BESS site, allowing for road construction prior to the expiration of planning permission. Conditions related to NMA/2025/0034 pertaining to SMD/2022/0548 are currently being discharged. For BESS 7 at Greenfields Farm, additional documentation was provided on 13 January 2026. The Parish Council welcomes the decision to reject the Luzlow Lane development.• Lighting issues from the substation were also discussed. A parishioner received communication from National Grid apologising for any inconvenience caused by security lighting during both daytime and nighttime hours over the Christmas period. National Grid stated that moving forward, lights will only be activated at night when maintenance work is underway	

13.01.185	Apologies	
	Cllr Knowles & Cllr Ralphs	
13.01.186	Declarations of interest and dispensation	
	None	
13.01.187	To consider and approve minutes from the last meeting	
	Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 25 th November 2025, signed and approved in December.	
13.01.188	Matters Arising	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement of Concrete Posts at Buttercross: The completion of this replacement is scheduled after the frost subsides. Councillor Horton will provide a progress report at the following meeting. • Buttercross: The Clerk is currently consulting with a surveyor. An initial visual assessment is forthcoming, after which an estimate for the required work will be prepared. The Clerk will present an update during the next meeting. • Hedge Road Obstruction: A response is still pending. Councillor Batson will follow up on this matter. • Playground Inspection Results: A quotation has been obtained from Street Cleaning Services. Additional work will be completed by an alternative provider. Councillor Batson has requested further quotations, and Councillor Horton recommended contacting Broxap. Councillor Batson also requested more details to be presented at the next meeting and asked Councillor Horton to engage with Street Cleaning Services regarding these concerns. • GOV.UK Emails and Website: The Clerk has received new email addresses. The website is now finalised. A Teams meeting will be arranged shortly for training purposes. The Clerk will distribute the new email address along with instructions and provide a website update at the next meeting. • Highway Routine Maintenance: Councillor Baston has discussed gritting matters with Councillor Ralphs, which are being addressed. Councillor Batson reported a grit bin omission from the map, which has since been notified to the relevant authorities. The Clerk will pursue outstanding maintenance and weedkilling tasks in coordination with Councillor Egginton and conveyed concerns regarding inadequate responses to correspondence sent to local councillors. 	<p>Clerk to continue to liaise with surveyor.</p> <p>Cllr Batson to follow up.</p> <p>Cllr Horton to contact Street Cleaning Services.</p> <p>Clerk to gather further info for next meeting.</p> <p>Clerk to send out instructions to Cllrs to set up new email addresses.</p> <p>Clerk to follow up maintenance issues.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding at Greenway Cottage: An assessment visit has taken place, and instructions have been issued for jetting to be carried out. • Lamp Light of Peace: An email regarding this initiative has been received and will be reviewed in November. • Grant Application: Councillor Egginton notified the council of an available grant and committed to submitting the application on behalf of the council. Follow-up emails have been sent to Councillor Egginton and remain unanswered. • Springsbank: Councillor Batson will confer with the Lengthsman regarding the necessary works at the end of the month. • Climate Change: Councillor Batson has been processing applications concerning BESS sites in the vicinity. He has sought the Parish Council's support to propose at the next Parish Assembly that SMDC review its climate change commitments. Councillors have endorsed Councillor Batson's motion, and he will draft his proposal and circulate it prior to the meeting. • Email from Parishioner: An email was received challenging the electoral commission's authority to allow the government to postpone elections; although there is dissatisfaction, no action can be taken. Councillor Batson intends to raise this issue at the forthcoming Parish Assembly. 	<p>Cllr Batson to meet with Lengthsman.</p> <p>Cllr Batson to draft proposal.</p>
13.01.189	To receive a report from police	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police inquired about any recent issues; parishioners raised no concerns. Councillor Horton addressed problems with speeding motorcycles over the summer but noted that the situation has since improved. • Police reported several abandoned vehicles on Thorney Edge Road. Automobile theft remains a significant issue in Staffordshire, with high-performance cars being specifically targeted. • The police provided security recommendations, advising against leaving car keys near entryways and suggesting the use of a Faraday box for key protection. They warned that external key safes are increasingly being removed and may no longer be secure. • Several arrests have been made in connection with these incidents, and an operation is currently underway to address the problem. • Councillor Batson requested feedback regarding a press report about a councillor allegedly being attacked with an axe. Police clarified that there was no attack or 	

	<p>weapon involved; rather, a group of children were present, and the incident was exaggerated in media reports. Witnesses exist, but no individuals have been identified. The matter was reported to the Chief Inspector, and no further action was taken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Dabell requested details about police walk-in surgeries. These events are published on Facebook, and the Clerk will contact police via text to obtain the link, which will be added to the website. The nearest location to Bagnall is Post Lane Endon. • Police also highlighted that anyone could register for Smart Alert notifications. The Clerk will complete registration for this service. • Councillor Batson sought information on contacting the local police representative, and police provided a mobile number for direct communication. • Please refer to the link below for parishioners to report concerns to the police. https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/ro/report/ 	<p>Clerk to contact Police.</p> <p>Clerk to register for Smart Alerts.</p>
13.01.190	To receive a report from SMDC District Cllr, County Cllr (if available)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No apologies or reports have been received from Councillor Egginton or Councillor Edwards. 	
13.01.191	Account/Finance: To Consider/Approve	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Batson reviewed and authorized the December invoices. 	
13.01.192	Planning Reports	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMD/2025/0197: The planning application for a bungalow and garage has been submitted. The Parish Council has recorded its comments, and the Clerk informed Councillors that both Highways and Environmental Health have also provided feedback. • Councillor Batson noted that some planning applications were incorrectly assigned to the wrong area and has contacted the relevant authorities via email to request correction. • Councillor Dabell volunteered to collaborate with Councillor Horton on future planning matters. • Red Bank: An appeal has been registered, and no decision has yet been reached; the matter is currently under review by the planning inspector. • Dog Exercise Paddock: Enforcement officers have visited the site. Individuals continue to reside there, and the land is not being used for agricultural purposes. Two 	

	<p>Mercedes vans are present, and a temporary garage has been constructed. Dogs are frequently observed being trained using equipment. The Clerk will contact enforcement officers for an update and has sent an email to planning authorities requesting clarification on the current status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BESS: The last BESS site application was refused. Staffordshire Fire Service submits a letter with each application outlining the requirements expected by the Fire Chief Council for battery installations. The planning department did not address these requirements. The Fire Service cannot make formal representations; similar sites may not meet the necessary standards. Currently, Councillor Batson is unaware of which applications are under review. Some individuals may hold planning permission, but this does not guarantee project progression. 	Clerk to email planning.
13.01.193	Footpaths	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpath 3 – Inspected by Area Officer Andrew Frost. The landowner has been notified, and the footpath is currently in satisfactory condition. It will be reviewed again in the future. • Footpath 12 – Issue resolved 	
13.01.194	Highways	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Batson has consulted with Highways regarding the water issue originating from the inspection chamber at the bottom of Clewlow Bank. Staffordshire County Council has inspected the location, and the matter has been added to their list of pending jobs, including an outstanding task dating back to 6th September 25. Councillor Batson will continue to liaise directly with Highways to seek resolution. 	
13.01.195	Devolution	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A parishioner raised concerns about the possible loss of greenbelt land associated with devolution. They recommended that councillors be contacted in writing to obtain their views on the matter. 	
13.01.196	Defib	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The defibrillator at the Rose and Crown has been inspected. The Village Hall defibrillator will be inspected by Councillor Knowles. A parishioner has volunteered to conduct these inspections in the future; the Clerk will contact the parishioner to arrange relevant training. 	Clerk to contact parishioner.

	<p>Additionally, discussions regarding training should be held with Les and David.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Knowles requested that the Clerk contact AED Donate to confirm the access code for the Village Hall.	<p>Clerk to contact AED.</p>
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