

**BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL (BPC)**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 13th April 2017**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL, BAGINTON.**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Wallace Redford	Warwickshire County Council
Councillor	Pam Redford	Warwick District Council
Councillor	Julie Keightley	Chairman
Councillor	Chris Goodwin	(Vice Chairman)
Councillor	Roger Horsfall	
Councillor	Rob Newman	
Councillor	Nigel Thomas	(on behalf Village Hall & Lucy Price Relief in Need)
Councillor	Walter Bush	
Councillor	Robert Taylor	
Clerk	Phil Clark.	
Mrs S Burrows	Baginton United Charity	
Mr Alan Brown	Wasperton Estate and Lucy Price Sunday School	

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor	Nick Harrington	Warwick District Council
Councillor	Steve Williams	
Councillor	David Hewer	
Mrs Louise Given	Lucy Price Relief in Need Chairman	
Mrs Alison Beese	Village Hall Management Committee Chairman	

Public 4 members present.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 8:00pm and welcomed those present, stating that this was an opportunity for residents to hear about and comment on the work undertaken by organisations within our village.

1. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April, having been circulated and approved at the May 2016 Parish Council Ordinary meeting and distributed for this meeting, were duly noted.

There were no questions arising from last year's minutes.

2. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.**

The Chairman gave a detailed report covering last year's activities. A copy of the Chairman's report is appended to these minutes.

2.1 A member of the public asked how the Baginton and Bubbenhall Neighbourhood Plan was progressing. The Chairman informed those present that a meeting was to take place with WDC to discuss items within the plan which WDC feel oppose their Local Plan. Following any amendments, the Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted for independent inspection.

3. **REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD.**

County Councillor Wallace Redford gave a report covering items on the West Midlands Combined Authority, HS2, Highways maintenance, HGV's, Staff, Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership and Fire & Rescue restructuring. A copy of his report is appended to these minutes.

3.1 A member of the public raised an issue with speeding traffic not giving way at the Rowley Road / Coventry Road roundabout. He suggested the use of raised platforms at the intersection, such as can be found in areas of Coventry City to slow vehicles. County Councillor Wallace Redford explained that Warwickshire County Council has different traffic calming policies to Coventry City Council. Councillor Goodwin also highlighted that significant changes

to road layouts are generally only made following reports of accidents to the Police, which haven't occurred. Councillor Keightley suggested adding the issue to the Police Priority list at the next Community Forum.

3.2 A member of the Public asked if requirements for social care were being met. Councillor Pam Redford said things were OK at the moment and that Codes of Conduct were being put into place to ensure continued success. All complaints were being investigated immediately, the County had been split into Zones and care givers work within those zones to minimise excessive travel. Training and Qualifications requirements are being introduced, with particular emphasis on language barriers to ensure that carers and clients can communicate effectively. The imposition of these additional requirements and subsequent cost mean that some carers and contractors have walked away from contracts.

A member of the public whose mother is currently being cared for indicated that they were very happy with the service and congratulated Councillor Redford.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for his report.

#### **4. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCIL**

District Councillor Pam Redford gave a report covering items on Council Tax and Budget, WDC Local Plan, Gypsies & Travellers, Fly-Tipping, Waste Bin replacement policy, Leisure Centre & park improvements, relocation of WDC offices, integration of armed forces personnel back into the community and finally spoke about how well Warwickshire had performed in the Sara Beeny Channel 4 programme 'UK's Best Places to Live'.

4.1 A member of the public complained that dustbins were being left in front of driveways, forcing residents to either 'shunt' the bins out of the way with their vehicles, or to stop their vehicles in the middle of the main thoroughfare before getting out of the car to move the bin manually. Councillor Pam Redford said that WDC policy was for bins to be returned to the place where the resident had originally left them and that she would talk with the department responsible.

4.2 Questions were asked about Gypsies and Travellers. Councillor Pam Redford informed those present that WDC must create a site for 15 permanent caravans and hoped to create Transit Sites which would allow Police to move travellers on using Court Injunctions. However, it was proving difficult to identify sites as criteria such as public transport routes, schools, medical facilities etc. must be locally available. A site can't simply be created in a field in the middle of nowhere.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Redford for her report.

#### **5. REPORT BY PAROCHIAL CHARITIES REPRESENTATIVES.**

##### **i). LUCY PRICE RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY**

Councillor Nigel Thomas gave an informal report, explaining who the Charity supports (residents under the age of 25, for education and training), who to contact if you wish to apply for a grant (Mrs D Thomas, Mrs L Given, Mr N Thomas, Mr R Horsfall, Mr D Hower, Mrs S Williams, Mr A Brown), how grant monies had been spent the previous year (£36577 including School uniform, school trips, music lessons, driving lessons etc.) and details of the current financial strength of Charity Funds (Approx. £1.5 Million).

As this was an informal presentation, no written report is available.

There were no questions arising and the Chairman thanked Councillor Thomas for his report.

##### **ii). BAGINTON UNITED CHARITY**

Mrs Susan Burrows gave a comprehensive report, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Mrs Burrows also confirmed that after 12 years as the Chairman, she was looking to step down and asked for volunteers to be sought to replace her.

There were no questions arising and the Chairman thanked Mrs Burrows for her report.

**iii). BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL Management committee**

A report had been received from the Village Hall Management Committee, which was read by Councillor Nigel Thomas and is appended to these minutes.

There were no questions arising and the Chairman thanked Councillor Thomas for his report.

**iv). LUCY PRICE WASPERTON ESTATE TRUST**

Mr Alan Brown gave a report on the Lucy Price Wasperton Estate Trust, which is appended to this report.

Mr Brown was asked what would happen if the assets were sold. Mr Brown indicated that if the Trust assets were sold or if the Charity could no longer function as described within its constitution, one third of the monies raised would pass to the Lucy Price Relief in Need Charity and the remaining funds would be transferred to the Diocese of Coventry TheWasperton Estate Trust would cease to exist.

The Chairman thanked Mr Brown for his report.

**v). LUCY PRICE SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND**

Mr Alan Brown gave a report on the Lucy Price Sunday School Trust, which is appended to this report.

There were no questions arising and the Chairman thanked Mr Brown for his report.

**6. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR.**

- 6.1 There were no further matters arising from the floor.

**7. Any Other Business.**

- 7.1 There was no other business raised for discussion.

**8. CLOSURE.**

The Chairman thanked Parish Councillors for their support during the year and thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting closed at 9:07pm.

**APPENDICES – ANNUAL REPORTS.**

**NOTES FOR CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017 MEETING**

- Baginton Parish Council has met for eleven scheduled ordinary meetings this year. An attendance record is attached as an annex below. An average of 4 members of the public attended each meeting and we thank them for their contributions.
- County Councillor Wallace Redford and District Councillors Pam Redford and Nick Harrington have continued to provide the Parish Council with regular updates on activity and support with the administration of our Parish, for which we offer our sincere thanks.
- Police presence in the Village has been regular. The number of reported incidents remains similar to previous years, with 9 reports of Vehicle Crimes, 7 Thefts and 5 Burglaries or attempted burglaries.
- We thank Ken Richardson for his dedication to the role of Neighbourhood Watch coordinator over the years. However, due to ill health, some changes may be become necessary in the coming months.

- Baginton Events continues to organise a variety of events for our community, for which we thank the team. New volunteers are always welcome.
- There were 19 planning applications received during the last year. The Parish Council made objections to 2 applications and made recommendations on 3 others.
- An immense amount of time has been expended by Councillors in connection with the Warwick District Council Local Plan and our two-Parish Neighbourhood Plan. I would like to thank all Councillors for their continued efforts and particular thanks go to Councillors Bush, Taylor and Williams for their work on the Neighbourhood Plan and to Councillor Bush for work on the Local Plan.
- Liaison with all departments within WCC and WDC continue to be productive, although we acknowledge there are some delays apparent with highways maintenance.
- The Parish Council would like to thank residents for their positive feedback for the way in which the Traveller invasion of the Millennium Field was dealt with. We received support for our decisive action and we thank those residents who offered or provided help following the eviction. Particular thanks goes to Walter Bush and Oak Farm, who have used their vehicles to block gates to the field for the last 10 months while a permanent solution was sought. Having won grants from Warwickshire County Council and Baginton Events, work is now underway to enhance security at the entrances.
- The Parish Council would like to thank those volunteers who undertake work in maintaining and improving our village. In the last year, volunteers have maintained hedges and fences around the Lucy Price Playground, cleared nettles and brambles along the path from Hall Drive to the Church, cut back bushes at the entrance to Roman Way, cleared leaves from paths and much more. Particular thanks go to Fred Amphlett, for organising work around the Spinney and Pond on Church Road.
- On the financial side, the Parish Council has again operated stringently against its budget and consequently was able to set a Precept for the coming year that limits the use of reserves and allows for money towards various projects. This has been made possible in part by monies received from the continued rental of the Old Smithy, and we appreciate Mr Gavin Golby for keeping this facility in use.
- On behalf of all Councillors, I would like to thank Phil Clark, who has continued over the last year as an effective Parish Clerk and Financial Officer.

Councillor & Chairman, Julie Keightley 10.04.17

### **ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS AT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS MAY 2016 - APRIL 2017**

There have been 11 full meetings of the Council since the last Annual Parish Meeting. The following attendances were recorded:

Councillor	Julie Keightley	Chairman	11
Councillor	Chris Goodwin	Vice Chairman	8
Councillor	Walter Bush		11
Councillor	David Hewer		10
Councillor	Roger Horsfall		10
Councillor	Rob Newman		8
Councillor	Nigel Thomas		7
Councillor	Robert Taylor		10
Councillor	Steve Williams		9
Clerk	Phil Clark		11

## **Report from County Councillor Wallace Redford** **COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANNUAL REPORT 2017.**

Another difficult year with a further £60Million reduction in spending required by Central Government over the next 4 years. In addition, the responsibility of providing Adult Social Care was given to WCC. Although WCC has been allowed to raise the Council Tax by 2% for the next two years to pay for the requirements of the care it does not fill the gaps left by the withdrawal of the support grant.

### **WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY**

WCC became an associate member (cost 25,000 per year) but no decision has yet been taken regarding becoming a full member at a cost of 5000,000 per annum. This decision is being left until after the County Council elections in May this year.

### **HS2**

The decision was taken to construct a new bridge across the A46 at Stoneleigh, adjacent to the existing bridge. This will assist in keeping HS2/HGV traffic away from villages.

2018 will see the commencement of construction of the maintenance/storage sites throughout. Throughout the construction phase there will be considerable disruption to our road network, with road closures and diversions etc. Every effort will be made to minimise the disruption where possible.

### **HIGHWAY**

Although WCC has been successful in obtaining additional funding (one off grants) for the repairing of roads, pot holes repairs carried out by contractors have not been entirely satisfactory, resulting in them having to come back and complete the work again. Issues such as this and the length of time it is taking to get repairs carried out are being addressed with the main contractor, Balfour Beatty with the expectation of better performance levels.

### **HGVs**

Traffic is increasing, as was reported last year. This is going to be aggravated by the onset of the construction of HS2 . Every effort is being made to maintain safe traffic flows throughout the County

### **Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership**

The partnership have agreed a further £44million growth deal to develop economic growth. Warwickshire have put forward 4projects totalling £16.1million.

### **FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES / BLUE LIGHT CO-OPERATION**

The Government maintains its policy of the Police, Fire and Ambulance service to combine in the use of backroom services to increase efficiency and economy. The \Police Commissioner is responsible for creating these joint areas of better use of resources.

### **TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS**

WCC has applied for Central Government funding which is to be targeted at areas subjected to serious flooding the amount requested is £1.7million.

### **STAFF**

As a result of the financial constraints created by removing of Central Government Support Grant it is expected that by 2020 the staffing levels will have been reduced 45%. The great majority of the reductions are being met by early retirement and natural wastage.

## **Report from District Councillors Pam Redford**

### **ANNUAL REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS 2017.**

In the last year your District Councillors have kept all Parish Councils informed of WDC issues:

To recap:

WDC's element of the Council Tax has this year risen by 3%, meaning an increase of £5 per year for a "band D" property. This has been largely due to the reduction of Government grant, this is the first increase in the Council Tax for a number of years. However, WDC continues to manage their finances prudently and are achieving a balanced budget for the benefit of residents.

The Local Plan has been an ongoing issue which will have an impact on some Parish Councils more than others. The inspector has now informed WDC of the further amendments/alterations he requires and following discussions with officers these amendments/alterations will go out to the public for a 6 week consultation period. Following this it is hoped that the Plan will then be adopted towards August/September time.

WDC still need to consider the question of Gypsy and Traveller sites within our District. This is not an easy subject to address, as the subject always raises concerns with local residents. However, the need to identify areas for this use is now becoming urgent. As we all know over the past months there has been a large increase in illegal encampments across the District and with these comes the problem of, one, the legalities of trying to move them on and secondly, the cost to WDC, and ultimately to the Council Tax payers of the cost of the removal of rubbish and the clearing up of the areas use by the Gypsies and Travellers. This costs runs into thousands of pounds. The positioning of transit sites must be looked at, together with a possible site for fifteen caravans. This will be an ongoing issue for WDC to address"

Another problem is the increase in fly tipping within the District. WDC officers will be bringing forward a report sometime in April, looking at what can be done to discourage this activity. I would ask that if you see fly tipping occurring then take as much information as you can, such as registration No of cars, date and time of incident and any further information you may believe to be useful and pass this to WDC Neighbourhood services, or your local District Councillor.

Over the past year WDC has brought in a scheme for charging for lost or damaged grey and green bins, boxes and replacement bags. So far this scheme is working well and has been fairly well received by all residents. The bins damaged by WDC lorries or machinery will have no charge for replacements, if your bins are damaged in this way the collection team will leave a leaflet with your bin so that you may claim a replacement. This scheme has saved WDC some 200,000 in the past year. The only problem, although small, is that there now seems to be something of a "Black Market" in bins. So your Councillors advise to you would be, make sure your name, number or some identifying Mark is on your own bin.

The Leisure Centre improvement/upgrade in Leamington and Warwick are ongoing and we look forward to Newbold Comyn Leisure Centre re-opening by the Summer.

There are plans to relocate WDC offices from Riverside House to a new building in Covent Garden, this is a more central location and will enable easier access for most residents. The land at Riverside House will be sold to enable more housing within the town. A percentage of which will be for affordable housing.

The Districts objective of upgrading its parks and open spaces is continuing, Jefferson Gardens has over the past years seen an upsurge of visitors and has won an award for its displays. There are plans in the pipeline to revamp the green space around the Bandstand and the bandstand itself will undergo refurbishment. WDC's Collection and Engagement manager has advised the Council that the Royal Pump Rooms has been voted No 35 in a list of top attractions in England

As most of you may know WDC signed the Armed Forces Covenant in 2012 and since then we have taken a number of steps to demonstrate our commitment to help serving and ex- service people and their families to integrate into the local community. This is an ongoing objective and we have two Armed Forces champions Cllr George Illingwoth and Bernadette Allen who have worked on a number of projects to promote the needs of this community.

Warwick District has been named as one of the UK's top places to live. The latest ranking has come from Channel 4's UK Best Place to Live programme presented by Sarah Beeny. According to the survey Warwick is the eighth best place to live in the UK in terms of job prosperity and quality of life for those aged between 20 and 29 years. Sadly we were beaten by neighbouring Rugby who came seventh. However we can make up for this disappointment with the news that Leamington Spa is the second best place to live in the Midlands.

Lastly, your District Councillors continue to work on your behalf with any issue or problems that you may feel needs to be addressed.

Baginton United Charities

Parish Council report  
13<sup>th</sup> April 2017

To cover period 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2016 – 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2016

Income: £132.46      Dividend from Charities Investment Fund (COIF)

Expenditure:    £39

Assets on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016:

COIF value 1359.07p each)	£3960.16	(293 units at
Business money manager account	£640.77	
Community account	£794.16	

**Village Hall Report for 2016**

Alison apologies for not being here in person. I'll read out what she has prepared

This year has seen one committee member leave us and even though we've had adverts in the village news letter, we've had no new members come forward.

The core committee agreed to stand again for a further year

The hall has maintained a good steady income from letting with the majority of the money still coming for dog shows

We are please that Della and Chris have agreed to continue holding the leggings diary, which is a very valued voluntary job

Minimal maintenance has been needed on the hall over the last year to keep the standards up. More will be spent in the coming months to improve the appearance of the hall

Last year's Spring Fayre saw a similar number of people attend but unfortunately the Christmas Fayre wasn't very well supported at all. This is the second year running. We will re-evaluate this after the November 2017 date as to whether there is still a desire from the villagers for us to provide this event. We run it primarily so that the local groups and charities can raise much needed funds but without suitable support, this may not be viable.

Alison wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for their continued contribution towards the village newsletter.

This concludes the chairman's report

### **Lucy Price Sunday School Trust**

The Baginton School closed in 1975. In 1983 the Charity commissioners created the Lucy Price Sunday School Trust as part of the 1982 restructuring of the original 1814 Lucy Price Foundation. The school building plus the surrounding land plus £30k created the assets of the Trust, but lack of further income and high maintenance costs of the building caused it to close in 2010 on health and safety grounds. Recently the trustees have tried to get planning permission to demolish the building and build 2 houses on the site. It sounds easy but the difficulties and frustrations with WDC have been enormous. Slow progress is being made but the remaining cash deposits are dwindling! The plan is to use the proceeds of a sale to acquire a small timber chalet building for use as specified by the constitution of the trust and this will either be located on adjacent land or on churchyard land.

It is important to the village that this project is successful as the terms of the trust dictate that if the management trustees fail to deliver the terms of the Charity Commissioners scheme, then the assets fall into the hands of a custodian trustee which in our case is the Coventry Diocesan Board of Finance. A new planning application will be submitted to WDC in May for consideration by the June planning committee. Fingers crossed!

Alan Brown.  
Trust treasurer.

## Lucy Price Wasperton Trust

The original Lucy Price Foundation, which Lucy Price set up in 1814 to fund Baginton school, was restructured by The Charity Commissioners in 1982 because the school had closed and the income from the farm was accumulating and not being used. The farm continues to generate income to this day and approx. 1/3 now goes to the Lucy Price Relief In Need charity within Baginton and approx. 2/3 now goes to the Diocesan church schools.

The farm covers 97 acres and the land quality is Grade 3 on a national scale of 1 to 5. The land has *an* approximate value of £650k.

The level of income now generated is small as all the sand and gravel deposits have been exhausted and the land is now used for crops and pastures. The Royal Leamington Spa fishing club pay for the fishing rights on the River Avon which runs through the land. Total income is about 8k per year.

The farm is leased out on contract until 2020 but because the financial return on assets is currently well under 2% the land could be sold in 2021 and the income distributed to the two beneficiaries. Prudently invested income today can *generate* 6%+. Discussions *are* planned with the beneficiaries to agree a strategy for the way forward.

As a result of distributing income 6 monthly to the Lucy Price Relief in Need and The Diocesan church schools the cash held by the trust is minimal.

Alan Brown.  
Trust treasure

