

**BAGINTON PARISH COUNCIL (BPC)**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON**  
**THURSDAY 11th APRIL 2024 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, BAGINTON.**

**PRESENTERS:**

Councillor Chris Goodwin	Parish Council Chairman
Miss Julie Keightley	Village Hall Management Committee
Mr Phil Clark	Baginton United Charities Chairman & Parish Clerk

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Wallace Redford	Warwickshire County Council
Councillor Pam Redford	Warwick District Council
Councillor Josh Payne	Warwick District Council
PCSO Ed King	Warwickshire Police
Mr Alan Brown	Lucy Price Sunday School Trust Secretary
Mrs Frances Parkes	Village Hall Management Committee Chairman
Mrs Della Thomas	Lucy Price Relief in Need Charity Secretary

**PUBLIC:** There were 8 members of the public present.

**INTRODUCTION**

The Annual Assembly fulfils a legal requirement to hold a Parish Assembly once a year between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> June that is open to all electors of the Parish. Unlike a Parish Council meeting, electors have a right to speak openly at this meeting and the Agenda is not fixed.

**WELCOME**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:30pm, welcoming those present.

1. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023, having been circulated and approved at the May 2023 Parish Council Ordinary meeting were duly noted. There were no questions arising.

2. **PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

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

2.1 There were no questions arising from the floor.

3. **REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

County Councillor Wallace Redford had apologised beforehand due to previous commitments, but had sent a report, which was read by Mr Phil Clark and is appended to these minutes.

3.1 There were no questions arising from the floor.

4. **REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

District Councillors Pam Redford and Josh Payne had apologised beforehand due to previous commitments. No reports were available and no questions arising from the floor.

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

### **5.1 LUCY PRICE RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY**

Mrs Della Thomas had apologised and sent a report, which Councillor Chris Goodwin delivered and which is appended to these minutes.

5.2 There were no questions arising from the floor.

### **5.3 BAGINTON UNITED CHARITY**

Phil Clark delivered a report on behalf of Baginton United Charity. A copy of the report is appended.

5.4 There were no questions arising from the floor.

### **5.5 BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Julie Keightley presented a report on behalf of Baginton Village Hall. A copy of the report is appended.

5.6 A question was asked about the £35,000 deficit indicated in the Village Hall report. Julie confirmed this was a function of timing, with the money having been received through grants in 2022, but the money not spent until January 2023.

The Chairman thanked Julie for her report, which is appended.

### **5.7 LUCY PRICE SUNDAY SCHOOL TRUST**

Mr Alan Brown had apologised but confirmed the Sunday School Trust had nothing new to report over the last 12 months and nothing new was planned. A short financial summary was read by Mr Phil Clark and is attached.

5.8 A question was raised about the lack of activities of the Sunday School Trust, as this was the third year that there was nothing to report. Councillor Chris Goodwin asked the Parish Clerk to enquire further.

## **6. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR.**

6.1 There were no general questions arising from the floor.

## **7. CLOSURE.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting closed at 7:50pm.

## **APPENDICES – ANNUAL REPORTS**

### **PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT** **FOR 11th APRIL 2024 MEETING**

- Baginton Parish Council held 11 scheduled meetings over the last year, with an average of 5 members of the public attending each meeting.
- At the elections in May 2023, we said goodbye to Councillor Julie Keightley after 14 years of service and welcomed Councillor Andrew Parkes. In September we sadly lost Councillor David Hewer but welcomed Councillor Craig Biggerstaff. At the District level, the elections saw the loss of Councillor Trevor Wright, but we welcomed Councillor Josh Payne.
- County & District Councillors have kept the Parish Council fully informed of matters via e-mail and personal reports at meetings, for which we thank them.
- Police maintained a presence within Baginton last year, updating us with regular reports and attending incidents within our Parish. Of particular note has been the antisocial behaviour in the Community Park and the dangerous antisocial driving along Rowley and Firefly Roads. The Parish Council are working closely with Police, District Council, County Highways and other organisations to resolve these issues.
- There were 21 planning applications made this year, compared to 15 last year and 19 the year before. The Parish Council considered each application carefully and lodged an objection to 2 applications.
- Baginton Events continued to organise a variety of entertainments for our community, for which we thank them.
- The Village Website, Newsletter, Notice Boards and Parish Council Facebook page continued to provide information for the community.
- Financially, the Parish Council operated stringently against its budget. By keeping the precept unchanged last year, approximately £2000 of Bank Reserves were used to maintain the Parish. This year, the Precept increase was kept to less than 1p per day for a Band D household.
- Finally, volunteers have undertaken many projects and jobs throughout the year. There are too many people to mention, but the Parish Council wishes to thank them all.

Councillor & Chairman Chris Goodwin 11.04.2024

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR WALLACE REDFORD REPORT

It has been a particularly difficult year having had to cope with rising costs in all aspects of our daily lives. For WCC this has shown not just in rising costs of materials but in their availability as well

We have also suffered a very wet Autumn/Winter which has resulted in an unprecedented increase in water run off from the fields. For the first time we have experienced flooding of property which had never been considered at risk of flooding . drainage courses etc being checked and appropriate action being taken to ensure excess water is carried away. Grips are regularly dug out and a programme of road side white lining has been taking place where there are no kerbs to indicate the road edge. Damage to our Rural Roads/lanes by HGV,s is a continuous problem with repairs being hampered by the lack of infilling material. HGV traffic also adds to our pot hole problem . Highways carry out repairs as quickly as possible but it is a never ending problem. Trials are being carried using different materials to improve the pot hole repair performance.

Road and pedestrian safety is always given priority, the speed of vehicles is always an issue and where requested Traffic data cables are being used to ensure up to date traffic data is being collated and anylised for any road safety action needed.. New road signage has been erected in many places this year and will be an on going programme of replacement.

Wallace Redford

## **Report from the Trustees of the Lucy Price Relief in Need Charity to the Baginton Parish Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

This report relates to the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

The trust was initially set up by Lucy Price in 1814 to fund and run the village school; in 1982 the Charity Commissioners restructured the trust into its current structure.

The trust was set up to support Baginton children and young persons up to the age of 25, who are “in need”. The trustees are very supportive of educational needs and also address cases of hardship brought to their attention. It is important that all village families are aware of the benefits that the trust can deliver to children and young persons.

### **Trustees**

Current trustees are:-

Appointed by the Baginton Parish Council, Louise Given (Chair), Nigel Thomas, Andrew Parkes and Rob Newman.

Appointed by the Baginton Parochial Church Council; Sue Williams and Lisa Deslandes

The trustees are not paid and do not receive any expenses.

### **Meetings**

Within the year we hold 4 meetings to consider grant applications (Usually on a Quarterly basis). Grant applications are only considered at Trustee meetings. Applications for funds are made on forms that are available from the clerk, Della Thomas and any of the trustees.

### **Auditor**

Luckman Duckett Parker are currently auditing the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

### **Financial management**

The trust assets are split into two, a capital fund and an income fund. The capital fund is ring fenced and generates income and growth, which as and when required can be allocated to the income fund. The income fund provides the cash to support grant applications. The capital fund is expected to rise in line with inflation each year so that future generations of village children can enjoy the ongoing benefits.

The trust assets are invested in a diverse portfolio comprising of different asset classes to provide maximum potential returns within the agreed risk

profile. The fund objective is to maintain consistent long-term performance within a low to medium risk profile in order to protect the earnings and growth achieved to date. The portfolio value is approximately £1.8 million, and it continues to grow in line with expectations and the investment approach taken by the trustees remains cautious. The portfolio asset allocation includes commercial property and fixed interest which provides the defensive qualities to maintain the risk agreed profile and try to protect the capital value of the fund in volatile market conditions which we are currently experiencing.

## Grants

Grants are made for the following categories:

- University courses or equivalents
- A level courses or equivalents
- School uniform
- Extra-curricular activities such as music tuition, swimming, drama etc
- Extra-curricular tuition to bring up to national standards
- School trips
- Driving lessons
- Hardship issues
- Discretionary grants
- Christmas parties

## Expenditures

Total expenditure during the year was £40364 and the main elements of expenditure were: -

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| • Academic Grants      | £ 17650 (including university, A level & equiv) |
| • School uniform       | £ 300   |
| • School trips/outings | £ 2833  |
| • Extra-curricular     | £ 2947  |
| • Discretionary        | £ 6111  |
| • Driving lessons      | £ 1200  |
| • Swimming tuition     | £ 2736  |
| • Christmas parties    | £ 1515  |
| • Audit & admin costs  | £ 5125  |
| • Miscellaneous        | £ 293   |

It is important to emphasise that grants are available to all children and young people up to the age of 25, who live in Baginton. We hope that everyone is aware of this. If anyone needs advice on what to apply for and how to apply, then please contact a trustee for the necessary support.

On behalf of the Trustees - 11<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## **Baginton United Charity Report 2023**

The United Charity was created to give aid to those residents in need, originally in the form of helping to fund Apprenticeships and Christmas gifts to the poor.

Latterly, it paid for pensioner refreshments at Village Events such as the May and Christmas Fairs.

After paying for refreshments at the Spring Fair in 2017, various factors including Covid, meant the outlet for Charity payments were lost.

When Covid restrictions were lifted in 2022, the Trustees met to discuss the future of the Charity. It was decided that if promoting the Charity within Baginton could not create an outlet, the Charity would be closed.

Having received no request for financial help for over a year, the Charity closed on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023, with the £7858.79 being transferred to the Lucy Price Relief in Need Charity so that the funds could continue to benefit residents.

**Phil Clark**  
**Chairman – Baginton United Charity**

## **Baginton Village Hall - Chairman's Annual Report**

This is my first report as chairman and I have to say I have enjoyed the first year in my new role.

I do feel the Village Hall has been very successful this year, making some significant improvements and ensuring the hall continues to be a valuable asset to the community.

We began 2023 with the successful completion of the toilet refurbishment, which has been appreciated by all users of the hall.

More efficient lighting in the main hall reduced the running costs from £1 to 10p per hour, the car park lights have been updated to LEDS and now have sensors too. The fire alarm system has been upgraded and, following intruders, we now have security cameras.

Remediation work has been carried out on the flat roof and the committee wish to thank Baginton Events for their donation of £1000 towards that.

Two events were organised this year. The King's Coronation Lunch on 7<sup>th</sup> May was very successful with over 40 attendees; and the Race Night in September, which was also thoroughly enjoyed by all involved and raised £328 towards Hall Funds.

The Warm Hub has become one of our success stories, providing a meeting point for villagers every Tuesday morning. We were successful in obtaining several grants to allow the Hub to continue throughout the year, even occasionally providing lunches for the attendees of whom there are usually between 25 and 30 people.

The team of volunteers, who we must thank as they are not all committee members, served Christmas lunch to 30 - another successful event, appreciated by all.

We've had a major development with the introduction of an online booking system. Most of our customers now use it. New pages for the Village Hall were created on the village website and new hirers are directed to the online schedule. This should reduce the amount of time that the committee member responsible for bookings has to commit and our sincere thanks go to Della for doing such an excellent job for so many years; a job that does require services above and beyond. Also thanks must go to Lucy and Julie for working together and liaising with Della to get this system up and running. It really should move the Village Hall forward and Simon our well established caretaker is able to monitor the bookings.

Income for 2023 was £25,724 and expenditure £60,034. £44K was spent on maintenance; all of which has been extremely necessary and should help keep the hall in the good condition that our users expect.

I would like to thank the committee members for working amazingly hard to ensure the Village Hall continues to be a successful, welcoming asset for the local community.

Frances Parkes



**Lucy Price Sunday School Fund**

The Sunday School Fund had nothing new to report and nothing planned.

From the Charity Commission website, there are 2 Trustees overseeing a trust worth about £300,000

Last reported income was £3723 from investments, with an Expenditure of £256.

**END**