

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held at Winterbourne Monkton Church on Wednesday 9th November 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Bill Buxton
Cllr Stephen Fulford, Cllr Jill Petchey
Cllr Tony Iles, Cllr Nick Burnet
Mrs Janice Pattison (clerk)

1. Apologies for absence
Cllr Simon Mellor
2. Declaration of Interests
There were no declared pecuniary interests in items on the agenda
3. Questions from the public
There were no members of the public present
4. Minutes of meeting of 14th September 2016
The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the meetings
5. Matters Arising from meeting of 14th September (not covered elsewhere in the minutes)
Directional road sign at Berwick Bassett. Residents of Berwick Bassett had been consulted by village email and verbally about the erection of a sign to direct Tonic and heavy farm traffic to relevant entrances rather than enter the village. It was considered that the sign would not make any difference to the amount of traffic as current hand written and business signing has been ignored. A vote from councillors was unanimous that no sign would be erected and the hand painted sign would be removed. Action Cllr Burnet
6. Reports
 - a. Finance
The external audit has been returned and approved
Interest rates on the Parish Council savings account have been reduced from 0.07% to 0.04%.
An invoice was presented for hire of church for the remainder of the calendar year
 - b. Planning
New Inn Enforcement Notice. No response has yet been received from Wiltshire Council
16/08964/FUL 16/08965/LBC Owl Cottage - 2 storey side extension
A notice was placed on Winterbourne Monkton Notice Board and on the Parish website to inform residents of the application. All councillors were canvassed and no objections were received. A response of no objection was returned to both applications. It was noted that the listed buildings consent has received objections

c. Rivers

It had been reported that there was a tree fallen across the bourne from Winterbourne House to the fields of Whyr Farm. Cllr Iles will investigate and remove

d. Footpaths

Footpaths are generally in good shape with little re-growth and ground not wet

e. Roads

The Parish Steward Scheme is being introduced in November. The Steward has been advised of the five areas that councillors consider most important. These include verge cutting not relevant at this time of year. The steward has been requested to look at the soakaway opposite Monkton Lea and the railings in Berwick Bassett

f. Broadband

Investigations have continued to find a way to obtain faster broadband speeds for Berwick Bassett. The Notspot installation as described at the last meeting was not successful but further investigation has led to recent successes Notspot installation first with O2 and then improved with EE. This will give around 20Mbps download and the cost of a Data Sim card will be around £29 per month for 32 GB of data. Information will be shared to residents in Berwick Bassett who can obtain grants for the installation of the Notspot system as their download speed is less than 2MB/s. Speeds achievable in Winterbourne Monkton are Higher than 2MB/s due to the connection to Avebury exchange so are not eligible

Other Reports

g. Avebury World Heritage Site

There has been nothing of significance to report

h. Marlborough Area Board

Cllr Iles attended the recent open meeting. It was well attended

i. Police

Cllr Petchey reported that WPC Ritchie has now retired

j. Clerk

A previously reported problem of parking at the Beeches has worsened with additional vehicles including a camper van and another food van. The road is excessively narrowed so that wider vehicles cannot pass. If the parking in front of the unused garages could be used it would ease the situation. The clerk will contact Aster Housing

7. Preparation of budget for 2017/18

The clerk proposed a budget based on the budget for 2016/17. There is likely to be some under spending on the budget in 2016/17 which will be carried forward to future years. Additional funding was allocated to grounds maintenance to allow for cutbacks in Wiltshire Council spending. A small increase in precept and individual rates payment was agreed by councillors. The budget will be finalised for approval at the January meeting. Action clerk

8. Byway and Bridleway ownership and repair updates

Stephen Leonard has advised that Wiltshire Council intend to resurface the bridleway to Berwick Bassett but not in the current Financial Year. The reason is lack of finance for byway repair but also the lack of materials which is a by product of lack of finance for road repair.

Councillors considered that without the byway repair there was little point in repairing the bridleway for it to be destroyed again. It was also considered that the sign should not be re-erected as the bridleway is difficult to pass

The landowners of the bridleway will be contacted to discuss future repairs Action Cllr Burnet

Mapping of the ownership of the minor highways continues. Action Cllr Buxton

9. Adoption of Emergency Response Plan

A draft document has been compiled by Councillors Buxton and Petchey.

Councillors will talk to those persons nominated on the plan to confirm their willingness to assist prior to adoption and publication Action Councillors

10. Confirmation of items for Press Release

It was agreed to include information about the MyWiltshire App and public thanks for maintenance of public spaces such as verges as well as a Festive greeting

11. Date of next meeting

11th January 2017 in Winterbourne Monkton Church

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm