

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held at Winterbourne Monkton Church on Wednesday 14th September 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Simon Mellor (acting chair)
Cllr Stephen Fulford, Cllr Jill Petchey
Cllr Tony Iles, Cllr Nick Burnet
Mrs Janice Pattison (clerk)
1 member of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Bill Buxton

2. Declaration of Interests

There were no declared pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

3. Questions from the public

A resident asked whether the anti-skid/speed management surface at the junction of Hain Lane with the A4361 could be replaced with another surface which was not as noisy. The surface was installed by Wiltshire Council as part of the speed management scheme on the A4361. It has now deteriorated, is more than usually noisy and further deteriorates in bad weather depositing amounts of gravel at the end of White House residential area. Wiltshire Highways has recently looked at this issue and do not consider it a priority for replacement. Cllr Fulford will write to Mr Cook at Wiltshire Highways to request that when the surface requires replacement it be replaced with a less noisy surface such as red tarmac

4. Minutes of meeting of 13th July 2016

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the meetings

5. Matters Arising from meeting of 4th May (not covered elsewhere in the minutes)

The railings at Berwick Bassett have been made safe with a temporary repair. It is unlikely that they will be replaced

The 5.45 service 43 has been reinstated

The cost of a sign at the entrance to Berwick Bassett will be approximately £50 if supplied and erected locally

Wiltshire Association of local Councils have confirmed that the manner of publication to website and name content in minutes agreed at last meeting is appropriate

6. Reports

a. Finance

Since the last meeting the following cheques have been issued and banked

100341 Clerk - Stationery	£68.05
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The following cheque has been issued and not yet banked

100340 Link Scheme	£30.00
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Donations were agreed Link Scheme £30, Upper Kennet News £30, Church Building Fund £30, Citizens Advice Bureau £30

The November meeting will be the budget setting meeting. The precept request will be required in mid January. There may be additional expenses next year such as additional grass cutting due to Wiltshire Council cutbacks.

b. Planning

Land at rear of Old School House, Winterbourne Monkton SN4 9NW

This land has now been offered for sale with outline planning permission.

The New Inn. Cllr Petchey has contacted the enforcement office regarding the perceived continued occupation of the New Inn. This has been acknowledged but to date no action has been taken. Councillors considered that continuing to pursue the reopening of The New Inn as a public house may not be the best use of resources. There is no incentive for the owner to finish his works and clear the site. It was agreed to raise this issue at the Annual Parish Meeting in order to gauge the opinion of residents.

c. Footpaths

The footpath towards Berwick Bassett between Christmas House and Winterbourne House has been cut. Other footpaths are also being cut by residents. Thanks will be publicly given on website and Upper Kennet News

d. Roads

The Parish Steward Scheme is being introduced in the autumn. The Steward has been advised of the five areas that councillors consider most important

An application for reduction of speed to 20mph on the roads in both villages had been proposed. Councillors considered that a speed of 20 mph through either village was still too high. If required councillors can apply for a speed reduction to 20mph through the Marlborough Area Board Transport Group but the Parish Council will be required to contribute to investigative and implementation costs. Councillors agreed not to pursue this further

e. Broadband

A resident of Berwick Bassett has identified a means of potentially increasing Broadband speeds in Berwick Bassett. The company is called Notspot and uses what is called a Mastband system although they can also install satellite. There is some physical installation per household. Each household must apply individually As the broadband speed is so low in Berwick Bassett there is a grant available. The grant will cover most of the cost of installation and first years running costs. This would not be available to Winterbourne Monkton Properties. The first installation has not yet taken place so no details of improvements are yet available. Residents of Berwick Bassett have been advised via the council email list and the Upper Kennet News and many residents have expressed interest. Cllr Burnet will liaise for the Parish Council.

Other Reports

- g. Avebury World Heritage Site
There has been no meeting since the last Council meeting
 - h. Marlborough Area Board
Cllr Iles will attend the next meeting. This meeting will include a session open to all councillors discussing matters of interest to councillors for example planning, area plans and the 2017 elections.
 - i. Police
Cllr Petchey reported that there was a Police 4x4 regularly patrolling the byways in the area.
 - j. Clerk
It was agreed that councillors would advise the clerk of periods when they would be away from the area and/or out of contact. Dates will not be published. This will help when quick response on council issues is required
7. Byway and Bridleway ownership, map preparation
It continues to be requested by a resident of Cherhill that the Bridleway and Byway at Berwick Bassett be repaired so that they are passable, that the hedges are trimmed so they don't overgrow the bridleway and signage is re-erected. Communications from an off road motorcycling group puts blame for the destruction with 4x4 drivers and recommends repairing the byway, so that it is not so much fun, in the manner of the Byway to Windmill Hill. The Bridleway could then be repaired but narrowed and the hypotenuse blocked off. Councillors agreed with the recommendation from the motorcyclists. Stephen Leonard will be contacted to request the Byway be resurfaced. Action Clerk. The landowners of the bridleway will be contacted to determine possible repairs to the bridleway. Action Cllr Burnet
Mapping of the ownership of the minor highways continues. Action Cllr Buxton
8. Implications of Wiltshire Council's reduction of works
Wiltshire Council is significantly cutting back maintenance works in forthcoming years. In particular they will only be cutting non 'A' road verges and other areas once a year. 'A' road verges will be additionally cut as required. It was recommended that all councillors download the MyWiltshire App and that residents are recommended to do so. This can be used to report overgrowth at road junctions and bus stops as well as faulty lights and other issues. As the 'mini-henge' green by the A4361 will only be cut once a year it was suggested that it may be laid to wild flower meadow with only the edges cut. This will be investigated and put to the Annual Parish Meeting for volunteers to manage. A sum will be included in the next budget to cover gardener payment for additional cutting in other areas
9. Soakaway by Winterbourne Lodge
Cllr Fulford has discussed this with Martin Cook of Wiltshire Council. Mr Cook has confirmed that the operation of the soakaway is the responsibility of Wiltshire Council but will not be undertaking any works to improve its operation. Any work carried out to improve drainage towards the bourne will not be funded so will need to be done by landowners and/or Parish Council

10. Preparation of Emergency Response Plan

A draft document has been compiled by Councillors Buxton and Petchey. This has been circulated to councillors for additional comments with recommendation for adoption at next meeting Action Councillors

11. 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

12. Date of next meeting

9th November 2016 in Winterbourne Monkton Church

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm