

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held at Winterbourne Monkton Church on Wednesday 5th July 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Jill Petchey (chair)
Cllr Stephen Fulford, Cllr Mark Saunders
Cllr Andrew George-Perutz, Cllr Gary Higgins
Mrs Janice Pattison (clerk)
County Cllr Jane Davies
Mr Peter Gallagher, Ramblers Association
3 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence
Cllr Lyn Bennett-Nutt
2. Declaration of Interests
There were no declared pecuniary interests in items on the agenda
3. Questions from the public
There were no questions not directly related to specific items on the agenda
4. Minutes of meetings of 10th May and 21st June 2017
The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the meetings.
Proposed Cllr Petchey, Seconded Cllr Fulford
5. Matters Arising from meeting of 10th May and 21st June 2017 (not covered elsewhere in the minutes)
It was noted that a secondary action list containing outstanding actions from the previous council should be addressed and re-assigned
6. Peter Gallagher from Wiltshire Ramblers “Lost Paths”
Mr Gallagher was pleased to be invited to the meeting. To date this is the only Parish Council in this area to invite him to talk to a council meeting
Mr Gallagher outlined the “Lost Paths” project. There are a number of footpaths and bridleways in current use that are not recorded on the definitive footpaths map as public Rights of Way. There may also be paths in historical use. There has always been an adage “Once a highway, always a highway” but this will not be the case after 1st Jan 2026. Footpaths designated for public use will retain that title, however those not official public rights of way are not identified and registration not applied for by this date may be lost. The deadline has been set because, from a land-owners point of view, they do not wish a path out of use for many years to be reclaimed by walkers. The Ramblers Association are looking to identify the un-registered paths and register them while they are still useful, however legislation is not available and delayed due to Brexit but the most likely definition will be “Paths in Regular Use”
The definitive footpaths map may be obtained from Wiltshire Council and also available on line.

The Prescription Act defines a path in regular use as one that has been used for 20 years or more without secrecy. To claim a footpath, evidence needs to be supplied of its continued use, and maps and enclosure award.

Who owns the footpath is not directly relevant. Once a path is recorded then Wiltshire Council are deemed to own enough of the surface of the path required to maintain it. The underlying land is still owned by the landowner who will be advised of the application.

The records office in Chippenham holds enclosure awards for both villages which will show historical footpaths.

The ramblers association recommends that councils commence with footpaths in regular use but not officially designated as footpaths

7. Reports

a. Finance

The following cheques have been presented since the last meeting

10345 Church rental (outstanding from last financial year)	£15
10351 Church rental (outstanding from last financial year)	£15
100354 Council Insurance (WALC)	£157.78
100355 Church Rental May	£10
100356 WALC subscription	£84.55

The council has not been invoiced for recent church rental– 2 meetings at £10 each (no heating). Nor has the council paid (or been invoiced for) the first verge cut carried out at the egress of Hain Lane to A4361

The accounts documents have been sent to the external auditor and receipt acknowledged

The legal announcement of the public right to view the accounts has been displayed (1st July)

For the last 3 years Mr Bob Pawsey has acted as internal auditor. He has expressed a wish to discontinue. Jane Parker has offered to take on the role A document required to add signatories has been circulated. Once received by HSBC councillors will need to show documents at the bank.

b. Planning

Planning application 17/04666/REM

Land to the Rear of Old School House Winterbourne Monkton Wiltshire SN4 9NW

Reserved Matters Application seeking approval for all reserved matters, including Appearance, Landscaping, Layout & Scale, on application 15/02818/OUT (Erection of 3 bed dwelling)

Cllr Saunders advised the meeting that no formal response had been submitted from the Parish Council. The formal deadline was 4th July and no extension had been permitted by Wiltshire Council. Cllr Saunders had submitted a series of questions to Wiltshire Council as agreed at the meeting on 21st June. A response was received on 4th July which included responses from the agent, Mr Akers, and the planning officer Mr Peter Horton.

Wiltshire Council advised that infill on that site has already been agreed. The drainage, which was one of the primary concerns of objectors, will be addressed prior to commencement of development. The developer confirmed that a professional contractor would be instructed to undertake a survey and that this survey would be fully implemented. Wiltshire Council drainage engineers will inspect this prior to construction.

The applicant confirmed that the brick and slate design was yet to be formalised but that he wished the property to be 'in keeping'. Wiltshire council could ask to see materials prior to commencement.

The passing bay will be surfaced with tarmac, have a ground level kerb to demark it from road and edged on the property side with a raised kerb. Wiltshire Council Highways Offices will determine the appropriateness of the shape of the passing bay

The issue of protection in the case of fire will be included in the building regulations

The supplier of building materials will be Marlborough Building Supplies who also delivered materials to the most recent development n School Lane. They have a vehicle that is small enough to travel down the lane and the property drive will be surfaced so that the deliveries will be made direct to site. The applicant will be on site to receive all deliveries.

The Ash tree on the site will need to be felled as the roots will undermine foundations. The willow is showing signs of rot so may also be felled. Both trees are on the land owned by the developer. The property boundary is under dispute. The developer is taking legal advice to formally recognise the boundary and register with land registry. The developer does not believe that this affects the application.

The residents at the meting commented that they did not feel as if they had been truly consulted by Wiltshire Council

The Parish Council agreed that the formal response to Wiltshire Council would be that, subject to Wiltshire Council's recommendations, in particular those on drainage, highways and fire prevention, the Parish Council had no objections. Proposed by Cllr Fulford, Seconded by Cllr George-Perutz and unanimously agreed

Wiltshire Council has proposed that only electronic data will be available for future planning applications. It is recommended that these be projected for discussion at council meetings! There is a consultation. It was agreed that the Parish Council ask for the option to be available to have hardcopies for at least more complex plans. It was also noted that there had been a number of errors in accompanying data to planning applications for example local area maps which are sometimes difficult to identify without paper copies. [Action Clerk](#)

c. Rivers

Cllr Higgins requested a copy of the council Flood Action Plan to maintain as part of the Emergency Response Plan [Action Clerk](#)

d. Footpaths

Residents of Church Lane have erected notices requesting that dog excrement is cleared away. It was suggested that additional notices could be erected, perhaps

with some humorous content. ([Action Cllr George-Perutz](#)) and that a new litter bin be requested for either end of the footpath ([Action Clerk](#))

e. Roads

Cllr Bennet-Nutt reported that the verges had been cut the length of the A4361 and included the egresses at Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton. County Cllr Davies advised that Wiltshire Council should always cut verges where egress visibility was compromised. Cllr Bennet-Nutt to report such issues to steward and highways. The resident who has been cutting the verge at the end of Hain Lane will be advised. [Action Clerk](#)

Potholes at the end of Private Road have been report to Wiltshire Council
A new resident at the Beeches has left property in the parking bay outside the bungalows occupying a large parking space making parking difficult again. Aster Housing are reluctant to intervene in parking issues. The situation will be monitored. [Action Clerk](#)

f. Broadband

Cllr George-Perutz advised that those residents in Berwick Bassett who had moved to a 4G service were now receiving 20mbps. Those in Winterbourne Monkton with the new fibre service were still not seeing any improvement. Cllr Davies reported that Wiltshire Council were now working with Gigaclick as well as BT. There is a meeting in September with Claire Perry which Cllr George-Perutz hopes to attend

Other Reports

g. Avebury World Heritage Site

There has been nothing to report

8. Provision of defibrillator

Councillors had attended defibrillator training in Avebury with their new machines. Avebury have leased their machines from South West Ambulance Services with donations from businesses and a grant from Marlborough Area Board. Cllr Petchey will discuss a similar provision for Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton which would probably require 3 machines. There are also grants available from the British Heart Foundation.. Grant request for Marlborough Area Board must be submitted by 12th September. [Action Cllr Petchey](#)

9. Review of Parish Projects

There are outstanding actions from previous council which would be divided between current councillors

Cllr Petchey will confirm whether Mr Iles is willing to continue the proposed re-channelling at Christmas House. [Action Cllr Petchey](#)

Cllr Higgins will take over the Emergency Response Plan

Cllr Fulford will take over the mapping of boundaries and footpath ownership
There has been no further correspondence in relation to the Bridleway/Byeway intersection at Berwick Bassett. Progress on resurfacing will be checked with Wiltshire Council. [Action clerk](#)

10. Confirmation of items for Press Release

There was nothing to report. It was agreed to publicise again the Parish Council email list after the September meeting

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday September 6th

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

