

DRAFT

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at 7.30pm.at St Mary Magdalen Church, Winterbourne Monkton

Present: Cllr Jill Petchey, Cllr Mark Saunders,
Cllr Helen Ramsay

Mrs Janice Pattison (clerk)
One member of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Neil Kirk, Cllr Andrew George-Perutz, Cllr Gary Higgins, Cllr Lyn Bennett-Nutt

2. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest

3. Questions from the public

One member of the public addressed the meeting regarding concerns about the safety of secondary school age children travelling to school by school transport.

The number of children using the bus this year has risen again to an estimated 12 children. The bus time has reverted to 7.33am. The number of children is likely to increase with siblings growing older and new residents moving to new properties.

Discussions between Wiltshire Council School Transport and the resident have confirmed that responsibility for the safety of the children remains with the parent until they board the bus. If parents were also to stand at the bus stop with the children, there would be insufficient space for all.

The resident confirmed the Highway Code stopping distance at 60mph is 73 metres which is before the bus stop becomes visible by traffic travelling from the north.

The Parish Council has been successful in canvassing for a speed reduction on A4361 to 50mph, but this cannot be implemented until 2021/22 at the earliest.

A recommendation by the resident was an enlargement of the bus stop hard standing to accommodate the children and parents at a safe distance from the road together with a roadside barrier.

Councillors agreed to request that Wiltshire Council carry out a risk assessment of the bus stop. Highway Code approved signs showing children crossing would be purchased and erected on both sides of the road at Parish Council expense. Community First would also be contacted to see if they could help or advise.

The resident agreed to monitor the situation and, in particular, the number of children using the bus stop which may not be the same as the number of children eligible to use the bus. It was also recommended that parents write to Wiltshire Council, both school transport companies and our county councillor Jane Davies

4. Appointment of Vice Chair

Cllr Andrew George-Perutz was proposed by Cllr Saunders and seconded by Cllrs Petchey and Ramsay

5. Minutes of meetings of 1st July 2020

The minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting

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6. Matters Arising from meeting of 1st July (not covered elsewhere in the minutes)
The Memorandum of Understanding from SWAST with reference to the defibrillators had been circulated
A response from Wiltshire Council confirming a directional sign to toilets from the lay-by is awaited
7. Reports
 - a. Finance
Forms required by the external auditors were completed and signed
 - a.i The Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2019/20 was approved by council and signed
 - a.ii The Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 was completed and signed
 - a.iii The Accounting Statements 2019/20 were agreed and signed

The accounts book will now be passed to internal auditor

The donations for this financial year were agreed as follows

£40 each to St Mary Magdalen Church Building Fund, Upper Kennet News and Marlborough Link Scheme with donations to the maintenance of the Community Response vehicles as required

No Cheques have been issued since the last meeting

The excess funds from the current financial year will be transferred from the current account to savings account. This is accrual to pay for the speed limit reduction on A4361 and for the renewal of lease for defibrillators

b. Planning

20/06197/DOC Manor Farm Dairy, Winterbourne Monkton

Discharge of condition 11 of 18/11456/VAR

There was no objection to this application

20/06424/TPO The White House, Winterbourne Monkton

Beech - Crown raise over driveway to 5m and reduce overhang by 20- 30% on the NW side of the trees where they overhang Brambles

A response had been submitted commenting on the inaccuracies in the submission, requesting more detailed information of the pruning to be executed and that pruning be undertaken by an approved contractor

20/06817/FUL East Farm, Winterbourne Monkton

Partial change of use from B8 Storage to farm shop and café

Cllr Saunders has received some objections from residents mainly pertaining to the proximity of this shop to the existing Avebury Community Shop

It was noted that the applicant had declared an intention of selling only produce relating to the goats on her farm, however there is no planning commitment to do so

Objections were raised at the meeting to the increased traffic use of the farm entrance.

The entrance is very close to the new 'Old Dairy Lane' leading to the new houses in Winterbourne Monkton. The entrance to the proposed site already takes traffic for the storage unit which includes large distribution vehicles, domestic vehicles for the swimming pool open to the public as well as farm traffic. The council will object to the application on the grounds of vehicle access onto the 60mph road. Action Cllr Saunders

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c. Rivers

There have been no further flooding issues to report. Prevention of property flooding is aided by clearing undergrowth from the bourne. Riparian landowners are responsible for clearing the section of the bourne abutting their land to the middle of the bourne. All riparian landowners have been sent copies of the environment agency booklet "Living on the edge". Some riparian landowners employ someone to clear the bourne and it is understood that other landowners contribute also to this. Some of the more agricultural land has changed hands recently. The clerk will send them a copy of "Living on the Edge" when names and addresses are confirmed by councillors

d. Footpaths...

Recent meetings with the owners of East Farm appear to indicate that there is no longer any hope of creating a direct footpath between Avebury and Winterbourne Monkton. The farm is not willing to allow the footpath inside the farm boundary even within the 'set aside' or if it were completely fenced. The farm has offered to keep the hedges well trimmed so a footpath could be enabled on the outside of the hedge. The verge is, however, uneven as the field is lower than the road and would not be very wide. It was considered that this would not satisfy Wiltshire Councils safety requirements although it may help walkers stand off the road from the traffic. Discussions between landowners may continue

e. Roads

Cllr Higgins has written to Wiltshire Cllr Jane Davies to ask for support in getting the A4361 resurfaced opposite the latch where the rumble strips have decayed. BB & WM PC are still awaiting a response.

f. Broadband

There was nothing new to report. The website will be updated with newer pictures. It was agreed to limit the documents to 3 years

g. Community Building

The first meeting has been held with a committee appointed. It was agreed to apply for charitable status with all members of the committee acting as trustees. A name for the building was being sought. The most popular suggestion from this meeting was Bourne Hall and this will be taken back to the committee

8. Other Reports

h. Avebury World Heritage Site

Cllr George-Perutz is the council representative. It will be confirmed that he receives reports

i. Marlborough Area Board

Only one meeting has been held since January. The next meeting is scheduled for 29th September

j. Police

The PCSO has been away from work and no reports have been issued in her absence

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9. Safety of South Bound Bus Stop at Winterbourne Monkton

This was discussed at the head of the meeting

10. A4361 issues and CATG progress

All meetings have been cancelled and works under CATG have been postponed for this financial year. It is unclear whether works will continue as scheduled in 2021/2 year which will position the speed limit reduction on A4361 to 2022. It is also not known whether Avebury and Broad Hinton Parish Council have paid their share of the A4361 survey. If not, then the speed reduction cannot take place unless Wiltshire Highways are willing to separate the Winterbourne Monkton and Berwick Bassett stretches from the rest (as originally applied for). This has already been discussed at the last CATG between clerk and Steve Hinds. A letter will be sent to Steve Hinds to confirm the schedule of works from CATG and the future prospects of the application from this council if the other Parish Councils will not comply. Action Cllr George-Perutz

11. Emergency resident contact list

It was agreed that residents would be encouraged to join the official list by applying through the website. Any formal parish council notices such as controversial planning or road closures would be sent by Mailchimp using this list. In an urgent emergency it was agreed that any member of the public including councillors could use all means available to contact residents including the village club list, whatsapp and facebook

12. Village Clean Up

The usual Spring clean up was abandoned this year due to Covid-19 but a number of jobs would be better undertaken before the winter. This includes strimming the main footpaths and painting bridge metalwork. Cllr Saunders will arrange a date. Cllr Ramsay will contact the steward to obtain extra paint so the railings at Berwick Bassett can also be painted. Action Cllr Saunders

13. Preparations for Winter

There are plenty of unfilled sandbags in 3 locations across 2 villages. Gel bags can be purchased by residents if required. Some of the grit bins are half empty. The clerk will ask for these to be filled. Action clerk

14. Defibrillator Training 2020

It was decided to postpone any further training until 2021 due to the inability to train on CPR due to Covid 19

15. Confirmation of items for press release

Dates for the village clean ups will be published once they are available

16. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 4th November, at Winterbourne Monkton Church or Willow Cottage

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm

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