

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held on Wednesday 1st September 2021 at 7.30pm.at St Mary Magdalene Church Winterbourne Monkton

Present: Cllr Andrew George-Perutz (chair),
Cllr Colin Pattison Cllr Helen Ramsay

Mrs Janice Pattison (clerk)
One member of the public

1. Apologies for absence
Cllr Mark Saunders, Cllr Neil Kirk
2. Declaration of Interests
There were no declarations of interest
3. Questions from the public
A member of the public who was a member of the volunteer footpath working group expressed concern that finance had not been forthcoming to hire a chipper in order to shred the broken branches by the School Lane Footpath bridge to reform the footpath . He was advised that the amount requested was significantly higher than the amount allowed in the budget. The clerk will investigate alternative sources of funding
4. Minutes of meetings of 4th August 2021
The minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting
5. Matters Arising from meeting of 4th August (not covered elsewhere in the minutes)
Matters Arising are covered elsewhere
6. Reports
Finance
The Accounting Statements 2020/21 were agreed by councillors and signed by Cllr George-Perutz. These documents would be displayed on the website. Mrs Jane Parker will be asked if she will carry out the internal audit.

There have been no cheques since the last meeting
There are commitments to spend on stationary for printing annual report and hall survey and on training for new councillors (£55) all within budget
The cost of the A4361 speed reduction advertising has been confirmed at £375 but no invoice has yet been received and no indication of final cost of implementation has been given. Payment for this will come from the accrual of Parish Project monies over recent years.

HSBC have announced that they will be moving the Parish Council accounts to business account which will incur charges from November 1st . It was decided to open a Treasurer's Account with Lloyds Bank which will incur no charges. 2 councillors and the clerk will be signatories. A new banking mandate will need to be sent to HSBC to add another signatory to enable the money in those accounts to be moved.

b. Planning

Ref PL/2021/07641 - Ryders, Winterbourne Monkton, SN4 9NW

Proposed replacement front garage door with 3 panel glazed bifold door to west elevation; Proposed replacement rear patio door with 4 panel glazed bifold door to east elevation; Proposed new lean-to carport to south side elevation

Cllr Pattison had contacted one neighbour who had no objection. The other property was in the process of being sold and the current owner was away from the property.

Councillors had no objections to the application

c. Emergency and Flooding.

There was nothing further to report

d. Footpaths...

Councillors agreed that the footpath beside the Church Lane Footpath had been so well cleared by the group of volunteers that it would be difficult to get help from Wiltshire Council through the My Wiltshire App. The tarmaced path is completely clear. Another tree is due to be felled. This would be paid for by the landowner. The materials from the previous fellings had been left to be cleared by the volunteers. The landowner will be asked to clear away better and so reduce the cost of equipment to repair the footpath. The landowner has been reluctant to make footpath improvements. The footpaths are passable. The ramblers association have recommended the PIGS grant managed by Marlborough Area Board. The clerk will investigate. Other ways of reducing the costs below the budgeted amount will also be investigated

e. Roads

Repairs to lower Church Lane will be carried out on 9th September. The road will be closed from the junction with A4361 with some limited access for residents. All residents in Church Lane and A4361 have been directly advised. A notice is on the website. No notification of the resurfacing of the main Winterbourne Monkton road has yet been received

The damaged railings on the bridge at Berwick Bassett have been repaired

There was an accident on August 31st at the junction of the main Winterbourne Monkton village road and the A4361. A motorcyclist travelling North up the A4361 collided with a car leaving the village road. The car driver was shocked but unhurt. The motorcyclist was taken to hospital by air ambulance where he is recovering

f. Broadband

There have been no improvements to the broadband speeds but Cllr George-Perutz is investigating the company F1 which has some local connections

g. Community Building

See below

8. Other Reports

There were no other reports since the last meeting

9. Consideration of candidates for co-option to the Parish Council

Ben Woodward from The New Inn was considered for co-option. Councillors present unanimously confirmed their acceptance of Mr Woodward. Cllrs Saunders and Kirk will be asked to confirm

10. Traffic issues on A4361 and village roads

The period of consultation for the speed limit reduction has finished. Cllr George-Perutz will contact CATG to determine conclusion and obtain estimated date for implementation

11. Community Building

Queries from the solicitor in respect of Building Control and surveys have been passed to the Section 106 Officer at Wiltshire Council. A response is awaited..

No transfer documents or updated anticipated dates have been received from Rivar's solicitors or Wiltshire Council. The Rateable Value has still not been set. Means of funding the solicitor by Rivar, Wiltshire Council or from the section 106 grant are being investigated

The concern about the height of the drop from the low wall round the churchyard to the gardens in the new development has been voiced to Rivar. A response is awaited.

It was noted that the surface of the car park has been gravelled. The environmental plan shows this as The Green with the material as reinforced grass. Cllr Pattison will contact Wiltshire Planning to query this. No fencing or gate has yet been erected

The residents' survey has been circulated to every resident in both villages. A good number have been returned. Responses were unanimously in favour of adopting the hall. Cllr George-Perutz composed an article printed in the Upper Kennet News with the results of the survey.

The 60 chairs from Ashton Keynes are expected to be available in September at a cost of £300. Tables similar to those in the church are available at around £100 each with short leadtime for arrival. Storage for these may need to be found outside the hall. A better idea of where such storage will be sited will be possible once the all and surrounding landscaping is complete .

The Community Hall Committee visited Kennet Valley Hall to investigate their door entry system. They use MIDAS which is an on-line booking system linked to a key coded door entry. This allocates a code to the hirer which lasts 15 minutes either side of the hire period. This would cost around £15 per month. This will be further investigated A £100 deposit is required from hirers who receive the return deposit once the premises are checked for damage

The Community Hall Committee continues to form a list of potential hirers and estimations of purchase of equipment such as a projector and window coverings depending on future hirers. Cllr George-Perutz has checked the terms of the Section 106 and determined that any use that helped fund the hall to maintain the hall for community use is possible, provided it was in keeping with the ethos of a village hall in a residential setting

There remains a number of formalities to be carried out before the hall can be hired such as PAT testing, fire risk survey, hirers risk assessment and terms of hire. It is anticipated that the hall will now not be available to hire until January for weekly hire

Use of the Playground grant is still being considered

12. Confirmation of items for press release

An article will be written for Upper Kennet News if there are any developments in the next few weeks. Action Cllr George-Perutz

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on October 6th

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm