

Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held on Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 7.30pm.at St Mary Magdalene Church Winterbourne Monkton

Present: Cllr Mark Saunders (chair), Cllr George-Perutz,
Cllr Colin Pattison, Cllr Simon Petchey, Cllr Helen Ramsay,
County Cllr Jane Davies

Mrs Janice Pattison (clerk)

1. Apologies for absence
Cllr Neil Kirk, Cllr Ben Woodward
2. Declaration of Interests
There were no declarations of interest
3. Questions from the public
There were no members of the public present.
4. Minutes of Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting of 4th May
The minutes of both were accepted as reflective of the meetings and signed by the chairman of the meeting.
5. Matters Arising from meeting of May 4th
Solstice – There were some issues in the obtaining of the parking permits due to the change of arrangements and the very short notice the clerk was given of what the specific arrangements were. Residents of Winterbourne Monkton requiring permits were required to collect the permits at given times from a shop in Avebury. Affected residents of Winterbourne Monkton residents were then advised directly by the clerk but this had to be done over a bank holiday weekend in order to advise the residents before the first collection date. Councillors requested that the clerk contact the chair of Avebury Parish Council to request the a representative of this council be involved in discussions with Wiltshire Council and the Police over arrangements for next years solstice

Other Matters arising are covered elsewhere in the minutes

6. Reports
 - a. Finance
 6. a.1.Audit
The certificate of exemption has been returned to the auditor and published on this Parish Council website. The accounting statement has been reconciled and was agreed and signed at the meeting. This too will be posted on the website as required by the auditor. The notice of inspection of accounts has been published on the website and notice board with the 6 weeks starting on June 30th
On completion of the Year Book it will be ready for inspection by the internal auditor

6. a.2 Finance

Cheques are required for

£50 gazebo poles (Tim Pearce)

£136.07 Charles Arnold Baker (clerk)

£325 reissue of missing cheque for A4361 speed publicity (Wiltshire Council)

£526.78 Expenses for Jubilee Event (Cllr Woodward)

To be paid in next 2 months

Expenses for Annual Parish Meeting (Cllr Woodward)

Trophy for Jubilee Event (Cllr Kirk)

Payment for No Parking signs (Cllr Saunders)

Charge for renewal of defibrillators (no physical equipment renewal)

Payment for A4361 speed reduction. In total around £7,500.00

Donations to local organisations will be considered at the next Parish Council Meeting. The clerk advised that the amount that can be spent under section 137 arrangements is almost reached due to the Jubilee Event. Much of the money being spent at this time is carried over in savings from previous years

The Parish Council Office Laptop has a damaged screen connection making it difficult to use. As the current laptop is around 7 years old Cllr Saunders recommended purchasing a new laptop which he will source. Action Cllr Saunders

The bank charges continue to increase. The charges now include £1 per cheque. The clerk has reapplied for internet banking which may reduce the costs for cheques. A move to an account with no charges was recommended by the clerk.

Cllr Saunders confirmed that the contract made between the Parish Council and solicitors carrying out conveyancing of the Community Hall has been amended so that the contract is between the Community Hall CIO and the solicitor to reflect the direct transfer of the hall to the Charity

b. Planning

Cllr Pattison reported on the following applications

Application Ref PL/2022/04660 -

Address: Winterbourne House, Swindon Road, Winterbourne Monkton, SN4 9NF

Proposal: Replace two existing dilapidated garden sheds with single building in a more acceptable location.

Councillors had no objections to the application

The access from Church Lane to a house in the Old Dairy development is the only outstanding issue. This has now been closed.

c. Emergency and Flooding.

The contract for the defibrillators will be renewed in July. There will be no visible changes.

Cllr Kirk will continue to work with Cllr Woodward on completing the Emergency Plan and identifying volunteers

d. Footpaths....

Cllr Saunders and Cllr Ramsay had walked the footpaths between the Old Dairy Lane development and the bus stops to identify any access problems for pedestrians accessing public transport. Cllr Ramsay will identify the numbers of children requiring access to the bus stop for school transport

Cllr Saunders will liaise with Stephen Leonard, the footpaths officer of Wiltshire Council for footpath improvements by Kissing Gates. Action Cllr Saunders

A resident has raised with Wiltshire Council the existence of Giant Hogweed on the byway from Westfields, behind Manor Farm Cottages and onto Yatesbury Manor Farm. This had been passed to County Cllr Jane Davies. Cllr Saunders will also raise this with Stephen Leonard. Action Cllr Saunders

Cllr Saunders proposed the erection of a second large stone at the end of the footpath beside the Community Hall to help prevent vehicle parking which in turn was blocking access by pedestrians with wheelchairs or pushchairs. Action Cllr Saunders

e. Roads

(Speed Limit reduction and signage on A4361 are considered later together with a proposal to reduce village speed limits to 20mph)

The three potholes along School Lane Footpath that Cllr Ramsay had reported to Wiltshire Council for repair had not been filled in. A response from Wiltshire Highways confirmed that this footpath was owned by each resident over which the footpath crosses. It was therefore the responsibility of the individual landowner to repair. Parish Councillors agreed that parish council money should not be spent repairing private land but recommended that the landowner pay for the materials with which to repair the hole and a group of local volunteers led by Cllr Saunders would provide the labour. Action Cllr Saunders

Mr Martin Cook from Wiltshire Council had agreed on a site visit to the area 18 months ago that the principal road through Winterbourne Monkton, known as Haine Lane, needed a new surface. Wiltshire Council has now advised that Haine Lane should be tarred and chipped. This is likely to take place in the next financial year (2023-24) although this is not guaranteed

It was requested that rumble strips through the village of Winterbourne Monkton on the A4361 should be removed when next resurfacing. Wiltshire Highways advised that he has made a request to his colleagues that when the next re-surfacing is carried out in the financial year 2023/24, the rumble strips will not be reinstalled.

A request for road sweeping was made along Haine Lane and instruction by Highways was made for this to be done.

It had been agreed to purchase and erect 'No Parking' signs at the end of the footpath between Church Lane and Old Dairy Lane. and by the treatment plant for the Old Dairy Lane houses. This action continues. Action Cllr Saunders

g Community Building

Further delays have been incurred primarily caused by Wiltshire Councils refusal to transfer to an embryonic charity and the charity could not exist without the object of the charity. This has now been resolved due to extensive work by the solicitor, Cllr Saunders and a local legal advisor.

As Wiltshire Council have held the sum of money intended to support the Community Hall for over 12 months Cllr Saunders has requested that interest be added. He has been advised that the sum will not be transferred to the CIO bank account until 28 days has elapsed

7. Other Reports

There were no other reports. No external meetings had been attended

8. Traffic issues on A4361. CATG progress

The speed limit reduction on the A4361 has now been implemented for some months. The signs erected at the ends of Haine Lane and Berwick Bassett triangle have National Speed Limit on the side entering the village and 50mph leaving the villages implying that traffic can drive faster within the villages. Cllr Ramsay had made a request to Wiltshire Highways to remove the National Speed Limit Signs but this has been refused. Cllr George-Perutz has also raised this at CATG and sent photos of the signs at Berwick Bassett which are very confusing due to the bend of the A4361 – the signs appear to imply a speed limit increase on A4361 for about 10 metres. Wiltshire Highways have agreed to investigate a better way of presenting this.

Reports of near collisions involving overtaking vehicles had been reported. At least one of these involved a van from DPD. At the Annual Parish Meeting residents reported an increase in heavy traffic. It had been surmised that some of this may be due to the expansion of Earthline at Wroughton airfield. A resident had offered to supply a list of company vehicles that were exceeding the 50mph limit. Cllr Ramsay will contact the resident to see if any further information about the incidents has. Cllr Ramsay will write to DPD and Earthline to remind them of the new speed limits. Action Cllr Ramsay

9. Speed Reduction on All Village Roads to 20mph

As the road signs indicating National Speed Limit cannot be removed Councillors agreed to proceed with the process of changing the official speed limit in both villages to 20mph. The first step is to request a metro count. This will need to show that the average speed on the village roads is 24mph or less. Avebury Parish Council has a similar signage issue at the entrance to Avebury Trusloe so a joint application may be pursued to share costs. Cllr George-Perutz will contact Cllr Stacey at Avebury PC.

10. Public Open Space Contribution – Section 106 Agreement

Cllr Saunders reported that the Open Space Funding can only be spent on council owned land in the “vicinity” of the new development. The Parish Council does not own any land and none was allocated as a public open space in the new development. Cllr Saunders will request a formal definition of the word “vicinity”. Action Cllr Saunders

11. Lighting of Lower Church Lane Footpath

A discussion was held as to the nature of possible lighting, source of power and removal of hedges. The area under discussion is from the bridge over the bourne to Church Lane by The Granary. This is private land so permissions would need to be sought. Further consideration will be made for the next Parish Council Meeting. Action Cllr Saunders

12. The Queens Platinum Jubilee

Several events were held in Winterbourne Monkton to celebrate the Jubilee. The flower festival in the church was well attended and the flower arrangers congratulated. There were several events at The New Inn hosted by the landlords which were also well attended. The weather was less kind for the Parish Council organised event but over 60 people of all ages attended. It was noted that people attended from all parts of Winterbourne Monkton although not from Berwick Bassett. Councillors considered the event a success and attendees enjoyed the picnic, cake, prosecco and games

12. Confirmation of items for press release

There are no upcoming events to publicise

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on September 7th 2022

The meeting closed at 10 pm

