Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council

**Meeting of the Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council**

**held in The Bell Inn, Winterbourne Stoke on**

**Monday 19th September 2016 at 7.30 pm**

In Attendance: Parish Councillors: Dr A Shuttleworth, Mrs S Zacks-McGoldrick, R Watts,

A Zacks-McGoldrick, I West

Parishioners: Nil

Clerk: J Carr

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| **1** | **Opening Statement by the Chairman.** | |
|  | Another summer is almost over, the harvest largely gathered in, but far from entering a restful period, the Parish Council activity is slowly ramping up to face a series of issues that will affect our future forever going forward.  The two issues likely to have the greatest impact are the future of the A303 and the coming of superfast broadband.  We will be speaking about both these issues in more detail later in the agenda, so I’m not going to say too much here, other than that both issues are likely to throw up a series of other challenges for us, both as a council and collectively as parishioners.  These are going to range from digital inclusivity for the whole community, to the disparate views of parishioners when it comes to putting forward a cohesive view of the village preferences to planners and the like.  A key tool in enabling us to communicate and gather information, rapidly and effectively, will be the new village website.  When it is operational, it will enable us to canvass public opinion rapidly and in a timescale that matches the requirements of those to whom we need to respond.  Clearly, this isn’t the whole solution and we will still need to doorstep those few individuals who don’t have internet access; but it will go a long way to eliminating nugatory and time consuming activities. | |
| **2** | **Adjournment for Parishioners’ Questions.** | |
|  | No parishioners present. | |
| **3** | **To confirm the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 18th July 2016.** | |
|  | The Broadband statement in July’s minutes required clarification because Autumn 2015 refers to the date assurance had been received from BT and is not the delivery date for Superfast broadband. Following the clarification, the minutes from the previous Parish Council meeting were agreed by all present and signed by the Chairman. | |
| **4** | **To report, for information only, any matters arising from the minutes.** | |
|  | The following actions were outstanding from the previous meeting:  a. (11/14-04) This action may be OBE due to the number of cars now parking at the northern end of Church Street causing a natural slowing of traffic; however, leaflets would still be requested from the Amesbury Neighbourhood Policing Team to be delivered to Church Street residents to remind them of their responsibilities as motorists towards speeding and parking.  b. (09/15-02) Contact has not been made with the Wiltshire Council “lighting man” (Stuart Brown); however, things may have moved on with Wiltshire Council now driving the issue. The action is now to establish where Wiltshire Council stands with respect to street lighting. Informal contact with Wiltshire Council has led to the understanding that Wiltshire Council will be leading towards measured light reductions across the county. Official notification is awaited though the Clerk will continue to push for a reply.  c. (01/16-01) The Clerk has discussed the play-park inspection routine with Mr A Dengel. Contact has been made and new inspection documents have arrived from the equipment provider(s). **Action Closed**.  d. (03/16-01) The Parish Council’s website was hoped to be fully functioning by the end of August; however, the website designer required additional information – biographies and photographs of cllrs. Cllrs are to provide the Clerk with these details by Monday 26 Sep 16 for him to pass to the website designer.  e. (03/16-02) An application had been submitted to the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) via the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) for a grant to cover the one-off development costs. A grant to cover the full costs has been received. **Action Closed**.  f. (07/16-01) Cllr Dr Shuttleworth noted that the hedge on the south side of the footpath from the bottom of Church Street over the bridge towards the campsite has become rather overgrown. The Clerk established that Druid’s Lodge is responsible for maintaining this hedge and will approach them to get it cutback.  PMN – The clerk has engaged with the Druid’s Lodge Farm Manager who has agreed to review the problem. **Action Closed**.  g. (07/16-02) Cllr Dr Shuttleworth noted that the verge next to phone box on the A303 has become overgrown and consequently rather un-sightly. The Clerk established that Highways England is responsible for maintaining this verge and approached them to get it cut and was informed that as there is no safety issue it is a low priority. The Clerk will continue to engage with Highways England.  h.(07/16-03) Cllr Dr Shuttleworth noted that many villages had “village gates” at their speed limit entry points and these both enhanced the presence of the speed limit sign and informed drivers that they were entering a possible area of conflict with other road users. The Clerk will established that Highways England (as the “owner” of the A303) would install “village gates”; however, they will not fund the installation. The following discussion it was decided that the Clerk would approach the Area Board for a grant to fund installation.  i. (07/16-04) No one was available to attend the English Heritage Summer Solstice 2016 debrief on 28 July as it is in the morning; the Clerk contacted the Solstice Coordinator and inform them that no issues were noted in the Parish. **Action Closed**.  j. (07/16-05) Cllrs congratulated Mr and Mrs Grant on their success and actioned the Clerk to write to Mr and Mrs Grant to congratulate them. The Clerk wrote to Mr and Mrs Grant. **Action Closed**. | **Action**:  Cllr West -  on-going  **Action**:  Clerk - on-going  **Action**:  All cllrs & Clerk - on-going  **Action**:  Clerk - on-going  **Action**:  Clerk - on-going |
| **5** | **Planning Applications.** | |
|  | Nothing to report. |  |
| **6** | **Services including Recreation Facilities.** | |
|  | **General** **–** It has been noted that the old red BT phone box is in a poor state of repair.  **Play Park** – The Chairman reminded Councillors that should there be a need to use the play park for anything above normal recreational use permission should be sought from the Parish Council via the Clerk.  **Broadband** – BT have approached Mr Turner (the manor House) for permission to installed the DSLAM (digital subscriber line access multiplexer) next to the current green box near the old red BT phone box. |  |
| **7** | **Highways & Byways.** | |
|  | **General** – It was agreed that Cllr West would remain the point of contact for the Parish Steward scheme. The current concerns are grips, gullies and drains with the approach of wetter weather.  **Church Street** – The Amesbury Community Area Transport Group (CATG) require assurance that parishioners have been fully consulted before they can move forward on parking restrictions at the northern end of Church Street. Cllr Dr Shuttleworth agreed to contact Julie Warden (CATG Secretary) after having consulted parishioners on the issue.  **A303** – Cllr West informed the meeting that, following yellow–box markings being installed on Countess roundabout, work is in progress to remedy the traffic-flow issues attributed to Longbarrow roundabout | **Action**:  Cllr Dr Shuttleworth (09/16-01) |
| **8** | **Environment including Emergency Planning.** | |
|  | The Environment Agency had written to parish and town council Clerks seeking information on historic groundwater flooding to allow them to extend their groundwater flood warning service to areas that currently do not benefit from it. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would write back asking what the service actually offers.  It was noted that the season of garden bonfires had arrived with complaints already having been made of inconsiderate parishioners. Cllr Dr Shuttleworth agreed to pass words to Cllr West for insertion into the Parishes magazine on the subject.  Cllr Dr Shuttleworth informed cllrs that a watching brief is being made on Mr Dutton’s trees and information is awaited from the tree surgeon. It was noted that the “widow maker” bough had been removed. | **Action**:  Clerk (09/16-02)  **Action**:  Cllr Dr Shuttleworth & Cllr West (09/16-03) |
| **9** | **World Heritage Site.** | |
|  | Kate Davies, Stonehenge’s General Manager, had informed Cllr Dr Shuttleworth that regrettably the footpath leading to the stones from the A303 at Stonehenge Bottom will remain closed until next season due to the lack of growth. The permissive footpath on the adjacent National Trust land will remain in use. |  |
| **10** | **Police.** | |
|  | The Clerk attended the Amesbury Rural Neighbourhood Tasking Group (NTG) on 15th September where he received a brief on the new Community Policing Team (CPT). Information can be found at:  <http://www.wiltshire.police.uk/information/community-policing-pilot>  The CPT model will be rolled-out across Wiltshire Police this autumn, starting with the county of Wiltshire on 17th October 2016 and followed by Swindon on 7th November 2016.  The next NTG will be on 16th March 2017 |  |
| **11** | **Finance.** | |
|  | Money in Account (at close of business 8 Aug 16): £7,868.60  Less un-cleared cheques: Nil  The certified Annual Return was received in August. No matters giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met were noted; however, the auditors drew attention to the following:   * The Parish Council considered, approved and signed the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statements on the same day and under the same reference. In future, the Annual Governance Statement must be considered, approved and signed before the Accounting Statements and the references should reflect this. * The Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Elector’s Rights was announced on the same day as the beginning of the inspection period where there should be at least one working day before the inspection period begins. * Box 8 of Section 2, total cash and short term investments, for the year ended 31 March 2016 was incorrectly stated as £1,086; it should have stated £868. This error will be corrected in next year’s Annual Return. |  |
| **12** | **Reports from Councillors.** | |
|  | **I West, Cllr, Wiltshire Council.**  Cllr West informed the meeting of Baroness Scott of Bybrook’s intention to push for the merger of Wiltshire Police and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service less than six months after the merger of the Wilshire Fire and Rescue Service merger with Dorset Fire and Rescue Service. |  |
| **13** | **Correspondence received since the last meeting.** | |
|  | Correspondence had been received from WEL Medical regarding public access defibrillators (PAD). Cllrs agreed that the installation of a PAD in the village would be a good idea but that more information was required. The Clerk would seek more information and the topic would be discussed at the November meeting. | **Action**:  Clerk (09/16-04) |
| **14** | **Items to be discussed at the next meeting** | |
|  | The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 21st November 2016 at a location to be confirmed starting at 7:30pm. Cllrs are to note the precept will be discussed, with the aim to establish a figure, at this meeting. The meeting closed at 8:55 pm. | **Action**:  All cllrs. |

J H Carr

Clerk of the Council 21st November 2016

A Shuttleworth

Chairman of the Council 21st November 2016