

Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council

Meeting of the Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council held in The Solstice Rest, Winterbourne Stoke on Monday 16th January 2017 at 7.00 pm

In Attendance: Parish Councillors: Dr A Shuttleworth, Mrs S Zacks-McGoldrick, I West
R Watts, A Zacks-McGoldrick,
Apologies: None
Parishioners: Six
Clerk: J Carr

1	Opening Statement by the Chairman.
	<p>As a village, we are on the verge of having to make the most momentous decision that I expect villagers have ever been asked to make in respect of something that is going to have such a profound effect on the future of ALL our lives.</p> <p>At this first Parish Council Meeting since the announcement of the Public Consultation, you may have a number of questions for us. The irony is, the protocol for Parish Council meetings limits our ability to debate the issue.</p> <p>As the Public Consultation on the A303 Stonehenge Scheme involving a bypass for Winterbourne Stoke has begun, it seemed sensible that I should put my personal views on which bypass route I preferred into the public domain; simply as a matter of transparency. I hope that the other members of the Parish Council will do the same. For what it's worth, I would prefer the Northern route and you can find my reasons for this on the Parish Council website. If you do not have internet access, ask a Parish Councillor, or a neighbour, to help you see what is going on. If you did not go to the presentation on Saturday, get across to the next one in Shrewton on the 20th or here at the Manor Barn again on Friday 27th January.</p> <p>As a Parish Councillor, I'm not putting my personal views on display to try and influence you towards one solution or another, but so that everyone is aware when it comes to the Parish Council taking a view on the issue, that the Parish Council has taken an objective view of both options – despite our personal views. If it turns out that all the Parish Councillors share the same personal view, I would want to involve some of those who share an opposing view in a sub-committee to discuss and examine the evidence supporting both options to formulate a parish consensus.</p> <p>The emphasis here is on the evidence. For example, what is the source of noise and how will it move around the village for each scheme, the same for vehicle fumes and light pollution? What is the impact on agriculture - what changes would each route force upon the farming community and how might these be mitigated - what are costs involved? What are the cost implications to other villagers in terms of house prices, or increased travel times and distances? In all cases, we need to offer up real numbers, or show that the Highways Agency doesn't have them.</p> <p>The Parish Council needs to take an evidence-based view of the impact of each of these routes on the village and villagers. Even if 100% of the village was behind a single route, and I'm certain that won't be the case, we would still need to present the evidence in a well-argued and bullet-proof case in our submission to Highways England. Simply saying "100% of the village prefer the x-route", whilst evidence of a sort, is hardly compelling – we need more. Much, much more.</p> <p>If the Parish Council does eventually support one route over another, we will also need to fairly represent the substantive minority views. In doing so, we need to identify measures that would reduce the perceived negative impacts of our preferred scheme on the minority and represent those</p>

to Highway England and others.

So, this isn't going to be a simple exercise of "we want the northern route", or "we want the southern route", we are going to need ALL the village to play its part. I urge each and every one of you to put in a personal submission to Highways England – if you are old enough to respond, do so. This is the biggest decision you are ever going to be asked to get involved in with respect to the village, **PLEASE GET INVOLVED.**

2 **Adjournment for Parishioners' Questions.**

The informed all present that the purpose of this section is for parishioners to raise issues and ask questions and that cllrs would not enter into discussion except to seek clarification.

Cllr West informed the meeting that he would not participate as he wished to remain impartial as a Wiltshire Cllr in matters relating to the potential bypass routes.

Q1. Is the Parish Council satisfied that the noise and pollution issues have been fully addressed for both southern and northern options?

A1. See Section 7.

Q2. Will the Parish Council ask for details of any acoustic surveys carried out?

A2. See Section 7.

Q3. The website is very slow, why?

A3. It has been undergoing routine maintainance.

Q4. Why does the website not have a legal disclaimer?

A4. This is work in progress and is waiting for the adoption of the Website Terms & Conditions and Email & Website Policy (See Section 6).

PMN: Netwise have been tasked to put the following form of words at the foot of the Home page.

DISCLAIMER

Entries in the Village Directory and Classified Adverts sections of this website are offered in good faith and the Parish Council can take no responsibility for the quality of goods or services offered and there is no endorsement of any advertisement, nor its content, products or services. The views expressed by individuals on this website are not necessarily those of the Parish Council, unless explicitly stated to the contrary. The content of Forums and Comments will be moderated, but this may only occur post-publication. Errors and omissions, whilst regrettable, may occur. Please advise the Parish Clerk, in writing, if you have any concerns and appropriate action will be taken.

Q5. Before any action is taken to relocate the telephone box will, at least, two quotes be obtained?

A5. See paragraph 4l.

Q6. Is the Parish Council satisfied that the noise and pollution impact of the two bypass options have been adequately addresses in the Highways England Report and, if not, what steps do the Parish Council plan to take to ensure that this information is published within the next few weeks to allow residents to make their submissions to highways England before the cut-off date of 5th March?

A6. See Section 7.

Q7. Someone claiming to be an Acoustics Consultant at the presentation at Winterbourne Stoke on Saturday (14th Jan 17) was unable to say what extent noise from traffic would be heard from the

southern option: the reason, she said, was that “full studies had not been done and will not be done until a final decision on the route is made”. Can the PC get clarification as a matter of urgency in order for villagers to make an informed decision?

A7. See Section 7.

Q8. The current proposals lack clarity in details such as the position of junctions, depth of cuttings, height of embankments and any mitigation of the adverse effects. Residents were astonished that there were no 3D models. Can the Parish Council request more information on this?

A8. See Section 7.

Q9. Undue weight is being put on archaeological concerns, rather than the impact that these proposals will have on those of the living, our environment and our community. HE’s proposals as they stand would mean that many of us would be worse affected than the status quo. Can the PC ask HE to address this?

A9. See Section 7.

3 To confirm the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 21st November 2016.

Prior to the meeting Cllr West had, by email, refuted the statement made in the November 2016 minutes regarding the Public Access Defibrillator (Section 6) by email. In his email Cllr West stated that *“it was not a counter proposal it was a quote from another supplier the more the merrier I did not withdraw this proposal as a council we have to be open and transparent we have to look at all options that are presented I have no preferred option just want value for money and the best apparatus for the village. We have St John's Ambulance offering free training for the volunteers in their quote, do the others offer this service ? or can we get another quote ? I fully support the idea of having a defibrillator in the village but we should look at all options and consult the Ambulance Service that we come under and the first responders rather than just look at one provider before any decision to purchase.”* He correctly raised this at the meeting.

In reply to Cllr West’s email the Chairman had replied with the following statements of fact:

- *On 15th September, the Parish Clerk sent out details of a PAD, from a company that were working closely with our local and many other NHS trusts and also the South West NHS Ambulance Service. This was sent to all councillors, yourself included.*
- *On 20th November, you sent out details and costs of another device (because you were unable to attend the November 2016 Parish Council meeting).*
- *On 21st November, the Chairman wrote: "I suppose, aside from price, we need to consider which one is recommended by/ supported by the local ambulance service and NHS Trust rather than St Johns Ambulance, who are not first responders for the local community."*
- *You replied the same day with: "Yes, I think that is spot on."*

At the November 2016 Parish Council meeting Cllrs took this to mean that the Parish Council should only consider those devices from suppliers working closely with our NHS trust. The PAD Cllr West had identified did not seem to be compliant and his last email appeared to endorse the idea that the Parish Council should only consider compliant models. The Parish Council duly did this as Cllr West’s response had seemed so unambiguous. A further attraction of the leading candidate was that it is designed for use in high-stress situations, by untrained users. The Parish Council felt this was preferable to a device that needed training to use. The minutes remain as published.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the closing statement for action **09/16–01** should have stated that the CATG would be informed that the Parish Council are content to fund the Church Street/A303 junction yellow lines to the tune of £500. The Clerk had informed the CATG prior to their January 2016 meeting.

	Notwithstanding the previous comments, the minutes from the previous Parish Council meeting were agreed by a majority of Cllrs and signed by the Chairman.	
4	To report, for information only, any matters arising from the minutes.	
	<p>The following actions were outstanding from the previous meeting:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c. (03/16-01) All cllrs had provided the their biographies within the required time frame except for Cllr West. The Chairman pressed him for a date by when he would provide a biography and gave the answer “next week” which was assumed to be Friday 27th at the latest.</p> <p>PMN: Cllr West provided a biography on 20 Jan 17. <u>Action Closed</u></p> <p>d. (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. It was agreed that reliance on either Wiltshire Council or Highways England to resolve this issue was futile and the issue would require a different course of action. <u>Action Closed</u> – see below</p> <p>See Section 12 for Cllr West’s Wiltshire Cllr report</p> <p>Cllr West commented that the use of a private contractor to maintain these areas should be considered and all cllrs agreed. Cllr West was actioned to provide the Clerk with details of such contractors he had cognisance of, through his Wiltshire Council connections.</p> <p>e. (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 had 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.</p> <p>f. (09/16-02) 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</p>	<p><u>Action:</u> Cllr West - on-going</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Clerk - on-going</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Cllr West (01/17 - 01)</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Clerk - on-going</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Clerk - on-going</p>

	<p>write back asking what the service actually offers.</p> <p>g. (09/16-03) 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. This action has been OBE. <u>Action Closed</u></p> <p>h. (11/16-01) The bearings on both sets of swings are dry and require re-greasing; the Clerk will liase with Mr Dengel rectify the issue. Mr Dengel has been contacted. <u>Action Closed</u></p> <p>i. (11/16-02) The Clerk informed all cllrs on Thursday, November 24, 2016 at 3:42 pm that as of 1 Jan 2017 Parish Council business should be conducted using website email accounts, this would aid requirements under Transparency Regs and also protect cllrs from potential intrusion into their personal email accounts. Those that need assistance with setting up their email account were instructed to contact Cllr Dr Shuttleworth in the first instance. Cllrs were reminded of this requirement on 31 Dec 2016, at 5:42 pm. <u>Action Closed</u></p> <p>j. (11/16-03) Cllr Dr Shuttleworth agreed that he would carry out a visual inspection the A303 bus shelter, all safety defects would be rectified but any cosmetic work would be postponed until the weather improves in Spring 2017. The inspection revealed that all that was needed was a good clean that would be carried out when the weather has improved in Spring. <u>Action Closed</u></p> <p>k. (11/16-04) – Parishioners were consulted about a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD), using the new website, with a variety of responses regarding location; however, having one was unanimously agreed as a positive action. A grant application has been accepted by the British Heart Foundation (see Section 13 – Correspondance Received) and the PAD will now become an agenda topic. <u>Action Closed</u></p> <p>l. (11/16-05) Parishioners were consulted, using the website, about the future of the telephone box as it is in a poor state of repair. Several options were discussed and the meeting agreed that there were three viable options: renovate it, dispose of it, or relocate it. Following discussion Cllr Dr Shuttleworth proposed that it should be renovated by a team of villagers (persons have volunteered their time and effort), but this renovation should be completed by the end of April. Cllr Zacks-Mcgoldrick seconded the proposal and all cllrs agreed. It was agreed that the Parish Council is prepared to underwrite the reasonable cost of materials (circa £200) but requires a written condition report and estimate first – this would have to be received and agreed ex-committee to allow renovation to progress as soon as possible.</p>	<p><u>Action:</u> Cllr Dr Shuttleworth (01/17 - 02)</p>
<p>5</p>	<p><u>Planning Applications.</u></p>	
	<p><u>Planning Application 16/11519/FUL</u></p> <p>Stoneleigh, Church Street, Winterbourne Stoke, SP3 4SW</p> <p>Replacement Garage</p> <p>The application was considered by cllrs and it was unanimously agreed that Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council SUPPORTED the application.</p>	

	<p>Scotland Lodge Farm - Information has been received from Scotland Lodge Farm regarding an impending planning application; cllrs were encouraged to read it.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Services including Recreation Facilities.</p>	
	<p>Play Park. The play park litter bin liner is in a poor state of repair and requires emptying. The Clerk will source a replacement liner and contact Wiltshire Council’s waste disposal contractors to enquire the best way forward to get the bin emptied regularly.</p> <p>Broadband. Following correspondence with a Parishioner who had been informed by Wiltshire Online regarding the provision of fibre broadband to the village:</p> <p><i>“Unfortunately there has been a delay. The surveying has thrown up an issue as a large length of existing infrastructure is buried directly into the ground so there is no existing ducting we can utilise. We are looking to install 1.7km of new ducting and the land this will need to cross is private land. The team are working on the route and any necessary wayleaves that might be needed.”</i></p> <p>And:</p> <p><i>“It is certainly our intention to bring fibre to Winterbourne Stoke however, as my colleague (name redacted) has said we need to find a new route and get agreement from the relevant land owners which, depending on how receptive they are, can be a long process. I honestly cannot say what timescale we are looking at, it is a significant length of new ducting but of course it is none of our interests to delay the build.</i></p> <p><i>I would suggest contacting us again in the new year when we are likely to have a better idea of the proposed route and the challenge we face.”</i></p> <p>This seemed very different to the information that had been provided to the Parish Council two months previously. The Chairman had approached high-level contacts at BT for clarification.</p> <p>BT’s view was somewhat different:</p> <p><i>“Work is progressing on bringing fibre broadband to Winterbourne Stoke. There are no outstanding way leave issues but we will need to use a “mole plough” to install the fibre along part of the route which may require a road closure - the detailed plans are in preparation to identify whether this will be needed. We anticipate that the new cabinet will be installed and accepting orders in the spring of next year.”</i></p> <p>The Parish Council has requested monthly updates from Wiltshire Online who following this meeting have confirmed:</p> <p><i>“I can advise that there will be some activity in the area next week as the contractor who will undertake the Mole Ploughing will be completing their final checks along the route. Following on from this further works are scheduled mid-February. Dates to be confirmed following the completion of the route check”.</i></p> <p>Unfortunately, information received subsequently from another Parishioner suggests that Wiltshire Online are still offering misleading and incorrect</p>	<p>Action: Clerk (01/17-03) & (01/17-04)</p>

	<p>information in response to telephone queries.</p> <p>Website. The website went live in the last week of Nov 16 and underwent an upgrade last weekend. Adoption of the Website Terms & Conditions and Email & Website Policy (circulated to cllrs on Saturday, December 24, 2016 at 8:43 pm for comment, none received) was proposed by Cllr Dr Shuttleworth and seconded by Cllr Watts. Cllrs Mrs Zacks-Mcgoldrick and Cllr Zacks-Mcgoldrick agreed to the proposal; however, Cllr West objected to the Scope (paragraphs 3.1 & 3.2) of the Email & Website Policy:</p> <p><i>3.1 This Policy applies to the Clerk and Councillors in respect of their use of the bespoke Council email address. No other email addresses, private or otherwise, are to be used directly or indirectly, for communication as a member of the Council.</i></p> <p><i>3.2 This Policy also applies to the Clerk and Councillors in respect of their use of the Council’s website.</i></p> <p>as he “already has two email addresses – a private email and a wiltshire.gov.uk email”. The Chairman pointed out that both of these emails were inappropriate for Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council business and contradictory to the unanimous decision made to adopt sole use of Winterbourne Parish Council emails for Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council business at the Nov 16 Parish Council meeting (Section 6 of the Nov 16 minutes).</p> <p>Telephone Box. See paragraph 4l.</p>	
7	<p>Highways & Byways.</p>	
	<p>All Parish Cllrs, except for Cllr T McGoldrick, attended the closed session presentation on Friday 13th Jan concerning the A303 bypass options. Following rigorous discussion by “all” present at the meeting the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lack of data makes making a decision very difficult, as the available underpinning information is very scant. • Cllr West will only participate in the discussion as a Wiltshire Cllr. • The level of knowledge of those “presenting” was very poor. • We are being asked to make a strategic decision with tactical knowledge. • It was a nice overview with very little detail. <p>It was decided that the Chairman would write to John Glen MP, Wiltshire Council, Highways England <i>et al</i> telling them the information we require to make an informed decision.</p> <p>It was suggested that joining forces with Berwick St James may be an option; however, it was also considered that three arguments are better than one. Cllr West, as our Wiltshire Cllr, was in the best position to present a consolidated argument.</p> <p>Cllr T Zacks-Mcgoldrick proposed a general meeting involving the whole parish as soon as possible to bring together as many interested persons as possible to discuss the way forward from which a selected team can be drawn to formulate a plan to present to the Parish Council that could be presented as</p>	<p>Action: Chairman (01/17-05)</p> <p>Action: Cllr Zacks-Mcgoldrick (01/17-06)</p>

	<p>the view of the Parish Council. Cllr West seconded the proposal and the remaining three cllrs agreed. Parishioners would be informed via the website and by a door-to-door campaign next weekend (21/22 Jan). Cllr T Zacks-Mcgoldrick volunteered to formulate questions to ask door-to-door.</p> <p>PMN: A “Meeting of the Parish” will be held in St Peter’s Church on Thursday 26th January at 7 pm. The idea is to capture the concerns of villagers about both of the two routes proposed for the Winterbourne Stoke bypass.</p>										
8	Environment including Emergency Planning.										
	<p>Cllr West questioned the situation with the Parish’s Emergency Plan; the Clerk will contact Mr Rennie to discuss.</p> <p>Cllr Dr Shuttleworth informed the meeting that the Tilshead borehole is currently 8m below its historic average for the date.</p>	Action: Clerk (01/17-07)									
9	World Heritage Site.										
	Cllr Dr Shuttleworth has met with the Stonehenge General Manager’s stand-in; Kate Davies is currently on maternity leave.										
10	Police.										
	Nothing to report										
11	Finance.										
	<table> <tr> <td>Money in Account (at close of business 30 Dec 16):</td> <td></td> <td>£6,895.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less un-cleared cheques:</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>£56.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Clerk’s salary</td> <td>£224.60</td> </tr> </table>	Money in Account (at close of business 30 Dec 16):		£6,895.40	Less un-cleared cheques:	HMRC	£56.20		Clerk’s salary	£224.60	
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12	Reports from Councillors.										
	<p>I West, Cllr, Wiltshire Council</p> <p>I recently contacted Adrian Hampton Wiltshire Highway Manager South regarding the disgraceful state of pavements, lack of road sweeping, vegetation and litter on the (High Street A303) His reply and the official position of Wiltshire Council is as stated below</p> <p>Sweeping Pavements</p> <p>There is no legal responsibility on anyone to sweep pavements.</p> <p>If on the A303 you would like to think the HE would do it, but there would be no legal requirement, unless a safety issue.</p> <p>Sadly the WC Parish Steward cannot do this work as not our highway.</p> <p>There is a time when detritus can be classed as litter and at that point WC would clean the area, as again the provider of last resort, but this is purely a statutory minimum level. But this would not be weed growth, encroachment, surface break up. All that is the HE. Litter (including detritus) is an assessment issue by the team against Code of Practice guidance. In essence if off our highway I am not aware of any pavement sweeping, as not covered by the PS scheme, unless it is really bad and classed as litter by WC. But there is no legal requirement to sweep any pavement.</p> <p>Lots of vegetation growing by the side of kerbs in lay by? There is no</p>										

legal responsibility on any one to remove this. There is not even a requirement to sweep roads. HE or WC can choose to sweep roads. WC do, HE don't. However, when we sweep the highway we trust this removes the weeds. Again for WC on our Highways we have the Parish Steward Scheme. HE have no such scheme. But neither WC or HE have a legal responsibility.

The issue is that WC provides above the statutory level on WC roads and HE don't on theirs. Hence for HE roads they are maintained at the statutory minimum (where this exists) with regard to cleanliness.

Adrian agreed to meet me with his supervisor Craig Campbell in the village to witness the problems I asked Andy Shuttleworth to join me which he did. Adrian was concerned with what he saw and would try and seek authority for the parish steward to do this work as yet I have not received a reply.

Litter Pick

I requested a litter pick of the A303 from Hill Farm entrance to the Burger van lay-by this has recently been completed with seven sacks of rubbish collected.

A303 Road Surface

Reply from Highways England:

Dear Mr West,

Thank you for your email. I understand you recently met two of my colleagues at Winterbourne Stoke and discussed your concerns about the road surface and vegetation growth with them.

We have re-measured the surface deformations and found that they do not require action to be taken at this stage. We are contractually obliged to make repairs if the deformations are greater than 40mm in depth when measured under a 2m straight edge. The deepest deformation is currently around 25mm deep.

However, we have also noted that one area adjacent to The Bell Inn is showing early signs of deterioration following work carried out by Wessex Water. As this work is still under warranty we will be asking Wessex Water to repair the surface at their earliest opportunity.

During our visit we also inspected the vegetation and compared it to our boundary data. At this location, Highways England are responsible for maintaining the road and footpath, but the vegetation adjacent to the footpath is outside Highways England's boundary. Litter picking and street cleansing are the responsibility of the local authority. Under the circumstances, I regret that we can't assist with your concerns in these respects.

I accept this may not be the answer you are seeking. Should you wish to raise a formal complaint with Highways England, the following link will provide you with details of their complaints procedure.

13	Correspondence received since the last meeting.	
	The Clerk informed the meeting that he had received confirmation of a grant application he had submitted to the British Heart Foundation for an Automatic	

	<p>External Defibrillator (AED), case and training package. The grant is part of a joint initiative with NHS Hospital Trusts and Ambulance services including the South Western Ambulance Service.</p> <p>PMN: Information was received on 20 Jan 17 stating that the grant application has been successful. The PAD to be supplied, is the same model selected for purchase by the Parish Council, had funding not been available. (See Sections 3 and paragraph 4k)</p>	
14	Items to be discussed at the next meeting	
	<p>The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 20th March 2017 in The Solstice Rest following the annual Parish Meeting. The Parish Meeting will commence at 7:00pm. The meeting closed at 9:00 pm.</p>	<p><u>Action:</u> All cllrs.</p>

J H Carr
Clerk of the Council

20th March 2017

A Shuttleworth
Chairman of the Council

20th March 2017