

Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council

Winterbourne Stoke Annual Parish Meeting
held in The Stonehenge Visitor's centre, Winterbourne Stoke
on Monday 11th March 2019 at 6.30 pm

In Attendance: Parish Councillors: Dr A Shuttleworth, Mr A Zacks-McGoldrick, Mr R Watts,
Mr A Pywell, Mr T Dengel
Parishioners: Nil
Clerk: Mr J Carr

1	Opening Remarks by the Chairman of the Parish Council
	The meeting opened at 6:30pm. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all present.
2	Presentation by the Chairman of the Parish Council
	<p>Welcome to the Stonehenge Visitor Centre and the Annual Meeting of the Parish. Thank you for coming and I hope you will be warm enough this evening.</p> <p>I don't intend to speak for any great length of time this evening as it is really your time to raise and discuss issues important to you. I intend to honour that and leave the lion's share of the time to you, the parishioners.</p> <p>The last year has seen considerable changes in the shape of the parish council - in particular the departure of Tom de Jonge, the arrival of Tony Pywell and the re-appearance of Tony Dengel. As 60% of the Council is now called Tony, you could be forgiven for thinking that Richard and I might be contemplating changing our names for conformity.</p> <p>Work wise, the Council has been very busy. Much of this work may not be apparent as it falls into that boring, but necessary pot called administration. Essentially, in our attempts to answer what should have been a very simple question raised by a Parishioner, we realised that we had no legal basis for a response - any response. It seems that over the years, many policies that should have been put in place, had been overlooked. Worse still, mandatory documents were missing. These were rapidly drafted over the Summer and are now in force.</p> <p>At the same time, much has been going on in respect of the A303 Stonehenge to Berwick Down scheme. There have been numerous meetings attended by Councillors looking at different aspects of the scheme, responding to requests for additional information from Highways England and most recently, in discussing, reviewing and redrafting a document called the Statement of Common Ground. This is essentially a document which says where the Parish Council agrees with Highways England's proposals and., more importantly, where we don't. There are several key areas relating to noise and visual screening in the village, byways, green bridges, etc. where we strongly disagree with Highways England proposals - those same areas that we drew attention to in the formal consultation last year. As soon as we see and agree the final draft of this document, we will publish it on the website. That is likely to be in a matter of a few weeks at most, as it has to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>We also offered Parishioners the opportunity to propose legacy and benefits suggestions that might be raised in the Community Forum. I hope to hear in the Parish Council meeting that the Clerk has been inundated with them - but I suspect the silence means no one has taken the time</p>

	<p>to offer any up. If that is the case, it is either very sad, or you are all very content with your lot and once the road is built, nothing else could be done with a bit of investment to improve your lives. The Parish Council has formally submitted a number of ideas that it believes would benefit Parishioners and the wider area, and these will be mentioned in the following Parish Council Meeting.</p> <p>Perhaps our greatest success of the year was borne out of a near-tragedy - Richard Simms' accident. In response to this and the way in which the issues it raised were resolved, The Parish Council set up a Facebook Notifications Group for villagers and those carers needing to be aware of events in the village. It seems to have been something of a success and has been used to warn villagers of accidents on the A303, road closures, criminal activities. Changes to church services and a raft of other short-notice issues that can now whip round the village in an instant where before it might have taken hours of phone calls and knocking on doors of empty houses.</p> <p>As a village, our collective greatest failure has been to get on top of the dog mess problem. Make no mistake, I am seeking evidence that will allow the Wiltshire Council Dog Warden to bring a prosecution for an offender. Please note, that fines up to £1,000 can be levied on conviction - rather more than the £75 spot-fine in Salisbury. If only the guilty could be encouraged to travel to Salisbury to empty their dogs, as it would be cheaper.</p>
3	Questions from Parishioners
	No questions raised.
4	Next Meeting
	The next Annual Parish meeting will be on 16 th March 2020. The meeting closed at 6.40 pm.



J H Carr
Clerk of the Council

15th March 2019