

Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council

Annual Meeting of the Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council held in The Village Hub, Winterbourne Stoke, on Monday 20th May 2024 at 8.30 pm

In Attendance: Parish Councillors: P Smith, T Pywell, T Ewart, A Parkin, A Shuttleworth,
Apologies: Nil
Parishioners: Nil
Others: Nil
Pro tem Clerk: A Shuttleworth

1	Opening Statement from the Chairman	
	The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting and reflected on his statement and outcome from the earlier Meeting of the Parish.	
2	Apologies Received	
	No apologies received.	
3	To confirm the minutes from the previous Parish Council meeting	
	The minutes from the meetings held on 2 nd April 2024 were accepted and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.	
4	To report, for information only, any matters arising from the minutes	
	Action: AP-(12/23-03) Some information yet to be provided. Cllr Pywell will complete new bank signatories action asap.	Action: TP & AP (04/24-01)
	Action: PS -(04/24-07) Chair to review extant PC policies etc and recommend which could be continued without need for formal review. Action deferred.	Action: PS (04/24-07)
	All other Actions completed.	

5	<p>Motions for Approval</p>	
	<p>Motion 1 - To review and agree the annual financial return (AGAR Part 2)</p> <p>The RFO (Cllr Pywell) presented the financial returns and the evidence underpinning their creation. The examination of the accounts by an external auditor were duly noted. The questions in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return were agreed and answered by all Cllrs and the various documents signed off by the Chair, RFO and Clerk as appropriate. The RFO to send out the completed exemption form to the appropriate authority</p> <p>The Clerk to place copies of these documents on the PC website as usual.</p> <p>Motion 2 - To review and agree funding for the Village Hub.</p> <p>Cllrs discussed the continuing need to provide financial support to allow the church premises to be used for secular activities (Parish Council Meetings, functions organised by the Community and Events Group (the new name for the Village Preservation Society), etc). It was agreed that the Parish Council should fund at the same rate as in 2023-2024: £520 agreed.</p>	<p>Action: TP (05/24-01)</p> <p>Action: AS (05/24-02)</p> <p>Action: TP (05/24-03)</p>
6	<p>Verbal reports on A303 Scheme, LHFIG (local roads), etc</p> <p>A303 Stonehenge to Berwick Down Scheme: The Chair represented the Parish Council the recent Stonehenge Community Forum - Cllr Shuttleworth also as attended as a member of the Stonehenge Traffic Action Group. The notes from the meeting and the vu-graphs used have been posted on the Parish Council website. Amendments to factual inaccuracies in the notes have been sent to National Highways.</p> <p>Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG):</p> <p>Issues in relation to the B3083 continue. Cllr Shuttleworth advised that the Secretary to LHFIG had turned down a request to add distance plates to the “pedestrians in road signs” erected last year. They are needed to inform drivers for what distance the hazard persists. The grounds for rejection were that there were no footways at either end of the scheme so it was impossible to show a distance between them to define the hazard area. The Secretary was advised that there were indeed footways at both ends of the scheme - off the A303 and in Berwick St James. Moreover, a similar scheme in Stapleford has the distance plates and no pavements or footways.</p>	

	<p>[Since the meeting, Wiltshire Council has agreed to provide costings for the plates and the Parish Council will be advised at the next LHFIFG meeting.]</p> <p>No progress as yet on the revised speed limit.</p> <p>A303:</p> <p>Various issues have been raised with National Highways in relation to the A303. These include: inappropriate signage, damaged sign support poles (spotted by parishioner), potholes, etc. As the A303 is not managed or maintained by Wiltshire Council, villagers can and have reported issues directly using the National Highways website: https://report.nationalhighways.co.uk/</p> <p>Please let the Parish Clerk know if you have done so to avoid duplication of effort.</p>
7	<p>Correspondence Received</p> <p>Clerk's Position: Applications were received from 3 potential candidates for the position of Clerk and RFO. One candidate has since withdrawn. The two remaining will be interviewed asap.</p> <p>Footpaths: A parishioner has complained that he has twice been challenged by an estate employee whilst walking on on WSTO6A/BSJA10/STAP13 and on STAP04, demanding to be told who he was and what he was doing. The villager was advised that, as he was on a public right of way, he should be able to proceed without let or hindrance, 24/7. The parishioner was given a local rights of way map derived from the Definitive Map and referred to the excellent advice offered by the Ramblers for this and other common rights of way issues: https://www.ramblers.org.uk/go-walking-hub/intimidationissues</p>
7	<p>Adjournment for Parishioners Questions/Comments:</p> <p>There being no parishioners present and wishing to raise questions or comments, the adjournment was not made.</p>
8	<p>Closed Session</p> <p>An issue was discussed <i>in camera</i> pursuant to s.1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act (1960).</p>
	<p>The Next Meeting</p> <p>The date of the the next meeting to be confirmed.</p>