

MINUTES OF BERWICK ST JAMES A.G.M. OF 12TH AUGUST 2003 No.17

Apologies

Stephen Bush, Charles Street, Ken Woodford
16 people attended the meeting

Minutes of the Last Meeting and Actions Arising

The Oak Tree by the Millennium Stone was supplied by Hans Klaenschki. Millennium Book nearly ready. Ian Fisher wrote letter re: the Parker Plan and The Old Forge Farm Shop. Neighbourhood Watch now reactivated and participants are receiving email which is printed in the village magazine. Fete was very successful. Hedge trimmers have cleared up trimmings. The minutes were approved by Richard Brasher, seconded by Nicki Street and signed by Ian Fisher.

Election of Officers 2003-04

Joyce Hughes proposed all officers for re-election. Seconded by Lyanne Street. It is requested that next year we will need new officers and we would like volunteers to come forward.

Accounts

It seems that the old and new audit schemes are not working as 2001 and 2002 accounts have not been looked at or approved and a recent letter is asking us to re-submit both. At present we have not heard what we will be charged and will send a letter requesting more information. Our Treasurer's account at Lloyds Bank is changing to a non interest account. Will seek another interest paying account.

A36 Wylve Valley Bypass – an update from Cllr Ian West

Ian West told us that the route being submitted is not the most popular one and does not bypass Stapleford; it is also costing more - from £16 to £34 million. It will be accessible from the roundabout being built at Stapleford. Any comment please as there is a campaign being run by John Brake. The Chairman will speak to him to see if we can help.

A303- update from Cllr Ian West

The Winterbourne Stoke bypass. All questions of access considered and planned to everyone's satisfaction. The Brown Sign at present on the A303 at the end of Berwick road giving information about the Boot Inn and the Old Forge Farm Shop will not be allowed on the new bypass. The reason given is that the first village off the bypass is Winterbourne Stoke not Berwick St James. The Chairman will write to the Highways Agency, copy to the Council, reinforcing our argument for the sign. Ian West asked if we would write individually to support the bypass. He suggested that to mention disapproval of the tunnel might not be wise. The tunnel is 2.1k long and is the shortest we can have. National Trust wanted 2.4k and other agencies wanted 2.7k. It was suggested that if the present tunnel plans were cancelled it would give them a chance to campaign again. A letter has been received from Atkins Highway Consultants asking for parishes bordering the A303 to identify congestion areas so that consideration could be given as to

how such congestion could be reduced. Suggestions were rumblestrips or a central reservation. Cllr West asked to make enquiries.

Any Other Business

Speeding. There has been a complaint about speeding and dog mess in Asserton Lane; a remark about this had been put in the Parish Magazine. Speeding also happens through the Village and Ian Fisher mentioned that the police have a new speed gun and perhaps could use it here very soon.

Old Mill. The Street's historic water mill, built 1840, needs maintenance. Is there a historic type of grant to help or can the village take it on as a project. Nicki Street said that if the village helped they would have to grant public access and it is much too dangerous as it stands. The Street family will explore grants for the moment.

Girl Guide Centre. The Girl Guide Association occasionally rent out their building to other associations and on one particular weekend very noisy amplification was used until midnight. We are very happy to have the guides among us but would like to be informed when they are letting it out. Write letter to Girl Guide Association as well as local Guides saying we are happy to have the Guides here but to ask for limited amplification in future.

Waste Paper Bin. The Chairman said that we have £38 of our grant monies left and are hoping to provide a bin at the playground. The Meeting does not mind if the cost is a little more as we have enough precept money.

Agreed and signed at parish meeting N° 18, held on 3rd February 2004

