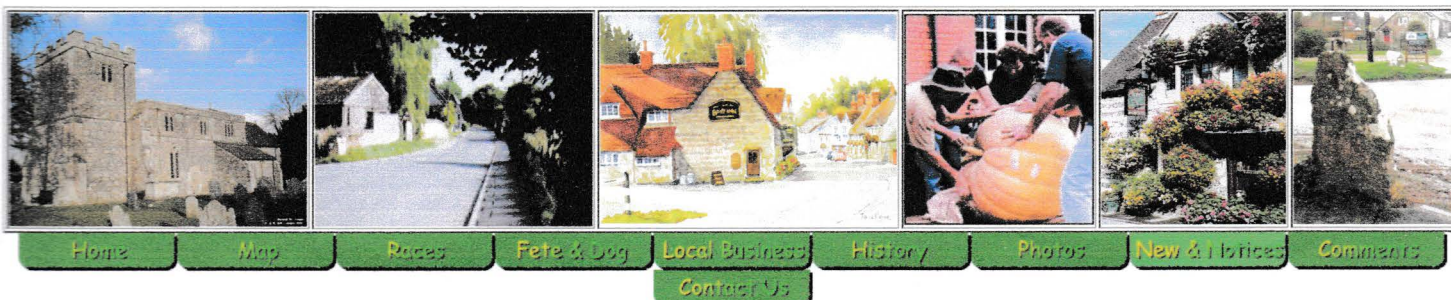


Berwick St James

Village meeting



Berwick St James Village Meeting

Notes of the Berwick St James Parish Meeting 20 January 2011

25 present plus Chair Richard Brasher and Jacqueline Webb, Clerk. 8 apologies for absence.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting Agreed

2. Matters Arising

Discussion re pros and cons of keeping a village defibrillator in the Reading Room. The cost is about £1200 and trained volunteers are needed to use it. A decision to have one was deferred. Meanwhile Chris Lange asked to find costs etc of running a First Aid Course for village residents in the Reading Room.

3. Wiltshire Council – Latest News from Ian West (County Councillor)

Work costing £4.63m installing lights at the Countess Roundabout starting soon. Theoretically the traffic lights will reduce accidents (27 accidents from 2005 to 2009). Regulating the flow of traffic should also reduce traffic jams where A303 changes from dual to single lane east of Stonehenge.

Assuming a secure storage area is available villages can have a ton of salt for use on public lanes and roads (contact person sarah.peterson@wiltshire.gov.uk or ring 01225 713377).

4. Accounts/Financial matters

The treasurer, Tina Woodford, sent message to state £798 in Parish account. Sarah Humphreys proposed and it was agreed that the parish precept (portion of council tax paid to village) should remain at £750. Chris Lange reported £2365 in Village Fund (includes substantial contribution from the Village Run).

5. Planning applications

Asserton House - Extension to drawing room, applied for but not yet approved – listed building so process convoluted and time consuming.

The Leat House - Two small windows – permission granted. Permission pending to enlarge the garage.

Hazel Cottage - Charles Street, who is renovating the cottage, reported that he needs arboriculturalist's advice before trimming yew tree on a boundary with Berwick House.

Update on Stonehenge Caravan and Camp Site

There will be a full 2-3 day public enquiry at the City Hall. Date TBA. William Grant is appealing against the decision to refuse 'change of use' permission and against a Council enforcement notice re days permitted for temporary events on the site. A request to update planning permission to build a house, office and ménage on the site, granted in February 2008 will be considered separately as will a second enforcement notice re operational use of the land.

6. Village War Memorial (a brass plaque situated inside the church) and Church Roof Appeal

The memorial has now been refurbished. Stephen Bush reported that £754.65 will need to be found after receipt of a grant from the War Memorial Trust and a refund of VAT from the Inland Revenue. He proposed that Berwick Church and the Village Fund should split the cost. All present accepted proposal. Stephen and Henry Coulthurst thanked all residents for giving so generously to the successful church roof appeal. In turn the Chair thanked Stephen for his hard work raising funds and organising the remedial work. Stephen reported that the latest quotes for mending the church roof have been about £24,000. Permission to replace the stolen lead with steel has been favourably received by the Wiltshire CC and the CofE but has to be OKed by English Heritage before work can proceed. Stephen has arranged for more £10 trips to view the Salisbury Plain bustards. The bustard charity and the church roof appeal will halve the proceeds.

7. Any Other Business

- All present agreed that the village should do something to mark the Queen's Jubilee in 2012. William Grant suggested planting trees to commemorate the event.

- Nicky Street will arrange a meeting to form a committee to organise a street party to celebrate William & Catherine's Wedding 29 April 2011. It was agreed that the event should be admission free.

- Sarah Humphreys asked the meeting if it wanted a fete this year. A vote was taken which showed overwhelmingly that those present wished to have one.

- Amesbury Carnival will be raising money for Help for Heroes this year. Durrington Council is hosting a wine and cheese evening in their Village Hall at 7pm, 19 March if you would like to learn more.

- Work has gone ahead to restore the verges of the triangle at the top of Duck Street. The Chair has spoken to Nick Cowen of Wiltshire Council

Bridleways about the dangerous potholes at the start of the lane. Druid's Lodge Estate may be responsible for repairs further down the lane.

- Rod Crossley believes more people would attend the Parish Meeting if it was advertised better. The Clerk stated that she would 'twitter' dates for the next Meeting on the parish website. The Chair will try to let Nicky Street know Meeting dates before the printing deadline for parish magazine.

- At the request of the Wiltshire County Council Richard Brasher and Stephen Bush have put together a 'community plan'. This is available on request from Richard.

- The Chair asked Ian West to pass on the meeting's objection to excessive planning bureaucracy.