

# Minutes of Berwick St. James Village Meeting Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2016.

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In attendance: Neil MacDougall (Chairman)  
Bill Hiscocks (Treasurer)  
Jacqueline Webb (standing in for Parish Clerk)

Guests: Ian West (County Councillor)  
Martin Western (Wiltshire Air Ambulance representative)

Total in attendance: 37

## Summary of issues discussed and decisions made

### 1. Introduction - Chairman

[Action](#)

The chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone especially guests Ian West and Martin Western.

### 2. Apologies for Absence

Tim and Olivia Marchant, Helen Riding, Barbara Last, Linda Doggrell, Henry Colthurst, Jackie and Ian Fisher, Sarah and Toby Humphreys, Ian Gibb, James Hardy, Carolyn MacDougall, Jane Lock-Smith, Virginia Weissmuller and Mary MacDermot.

### 3. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

- a. Proposed playground. The Wadsworth Brewery have written to say that the area behind the Boot Inn cannot be used as a playground. They will not permit the land to be purchased or leased and the brewery will not consider a shared management arrangement for a playground.
- b. Superfast broadband. Finally work has started to activate the green box. Michael Marten is content with the financial compensation he will receive on completion of the work on his land by the contractors. See more below.
- c. Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. The invitations have now been delivered. See more below.
- d. Bus Service. The Chairman emphasised how important it was to complete the questionnaire about the proposed cuts in the service. Even if villagers do not use the bus at present they may want to use it in the future, the service will be lost for ever if it is withdrawn. Neil will re-issue the questionnaire, he implored those who have not already done so to make their views known about the cuts via the questionnaire.

[All  
Residents](#)

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed unanimously to be a true reflection of the meeting – proposer Mike Doggrell, seconded by Janey Campbell-Johnson.

### 4. Report by Ian West Wiltshire County Councillor

- a) A303 route around Stonehenge. Ian has lodged his recommendations for a surface route, this and any other proposals will be discussed at the next Public

Consultation which is not due to take place until 2017.

Action

- b) Ian was disturbed about County Council money (£32,000) being spent to improve the former A360 road running from the Visitor Centre to Stonehenge. An alternative budget provider for work on the road has not been announced yet.

## 5. The Queen's Birthday Party update

Sally Hiscock reported that a team of six headed by Carolyn MacDougall have started to organise the event which will take place Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June. The party is intended to be self funding but not fund raising. Hopefully the raffle should cover much of the costs. The party will be free to villagers and £10 per person to non-villagers. Sally emphasised the importance of returning the reply form issued with the invitation so that the organisers have an accurate grasp of numbers attending. The jazz band that Chris Lange has organised is popular and has a following of fans who might turn up on the night and skew the numbers to be catered for.

Tim and Olivia will provide the wonderful venue for the celebrations which will start at 3pm with a Duck Race. There will be a Berwick Bake Off – the organisers hope that men as well as women will compete. There will also be a Best Dressed Dog competition – the theme for the dress being the Queen.

There will be a break then celebrations will commence in the evening to the music of the jazz band. There will be al fresco supper for which everyone is invited to wear a queen style hat

The organisers tried to obtain Amesbury Board funding for the event but found that this was not available for the Queen's celebration as a general funding. However the Board were open to applications for capital equipment only, such as tables, chairs and marquees. The village intends to use this opportunity to apply for a grant to cover the funding of a new 6x8 metre, 'commercial quality' marquee, by ensuring that the total cost of the marquee remains below £1,000. This, along with the older and smaller existing marquee will remain available for villagers to rent.

Chairman

## 6. Superfast Broadband

Unfortunately some problems have arisen connecting power to the Green Box. An investigator, senior to the original contactors, has examined the situation. Neil feels confident that the problems should be remedied fairly soon. He warned residents that they will not be notified individually when the faster broadband is available. Neil will check Telecom's website regularly then issue an email when the faster system is available. If they want their broadband upgraded villagers will have to arrange for it to be made available by their Broadband provider. The extra cost of several pounds per month will be dependent on the speed of the internet available. The speed may not be as fast as urban areas because the optic fibre cable is connected through the village telephone junction box rather than directly to people's houses, but the improvement should be significant.

Chairman

## 7. Wiltshire Air Ambulance presentation by Martin Western

Martin Western is a volunteer for Wiltshire Air Ambulance. He outlined the history of conveying injured people to hospital by air. The first known incidence of this was in 1914 but it was not until March 1991 that Wiltshire had its first Air Ambulance Service.

The purpose of the service is to act quickly (getting victims to hospital in the 'golden hour') and reach incidents which occur in inaccessible locations but even more importantly ferry seriously injured victims to the correct specialist trauma centre (eg for burns, neurological, spinal injuries)

Originally the service was jointly run by Wiltshire Police and WAA but the liaison was severed in 2015 because of government police reorganisation. The service is now completely independent and totally self funding. There is no government funding for the service which runs 19 hours a day, 365 days a year. To maintain the service an average of £8904 per day (nearly £3.25 per annum) has been raised by the people of Wiltshire.

Action

A new headquarters is due for completion in Semington and has been mostly funded by one major, anonymous donor. The new HQ will have presentation rooms which will be used, for example, to spread the message of their Stay Alive accident prevention work they do with 17 year olds. As well as the helicopter WAA have a rapid response vehicle which acts as a backup to the helicopter service or the Wiltshire Ambulance Service.

Over the years helicopters used have gradually become more sophisticated, practical and purpose built for the role. The one leased since the severance of the partnership with the police is the Bell 429 which is designed for handling and transporting injured people. It has room for the crew of the pilot and two paramedics, the injured person one other, perhaps a family member or a doctor.

In 2015 the WAA attended 537 incidents, 56 were sports injuries, 24 riding accidents and 145 road traffic accidents. Turn out will be greater this year as on average the air ambulance is going to three incidents a day. Twelve percent of incidences attended are 'out of county', the service works flexibly with the Hampshire and Dorset – the helicopters from each of the counties going to the most appropriate incident.

All Residents

Martin gave some advice to horse riders – take your phone with you so that the helicopter can find you!

## 8. Village Diary

Nicky Street reported that the Cancer Breakfast at the shop made £517. The raffle was won by Keith Lovett. Nicky said she would like to pass on everyone's thanks to Marilyn and her team for all their hard work.

The Lent Lunch was a success. The organisers have passed on £148.50 to Naomi House and the Salisbury Hospice.

The next film night will be held 21<sup>st</sup> April and the film will be The Lady in the Van.

There will be a sausage night at the Boot, Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

The Church Annual Meeting will be Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

Dates to be confirmed for a talk on Bruegel and The Reading Room AGM.

## 9. Speedwatch

The speed of 629 cars have been monitored during 16 sessions. 6% of motorists were speeding.

Bill Hiscock proposed and Greville Bibby seconded funds be made available to purchase speed warning signs to be stuck on rubbish bins. All but one voter agreed with the expenditure.

Marie Perry

## 10. Neighbourhood Watch

James Hardy is to take over the running of Neighbourhood Watch. He was unable to attend the Village Meeting as he was attending a police meeting on the topic.

## **11. Any other business**

**Action**

- a. Neil MacDougall apologised for not thanking Stephen Bush at the last village meeting for all the work that he has put into finding funds and organising the repairs to the church roof.
- b. There is a stray lurcher wandering around the village – probably brought here by illegal hare coursers. Please do not try to run after it as it is nervous and frightened. If anyone catches sight of the dog please contact Pauline Stephenson on 01722 790959 or Salisbury Missing Dogs on 07989 381509.
- c. Jacqueline Webb reported that a Wiltshire County Council App mentioned in one of James Hardy's flood management reports is very effective. She reported fly tipping using the App (designed to report all manner of antisocial acts) and a council employee arrived to clear up the mess within a few days.
- d. The next Parish Meeting, which will be the AGM, will be 19<sup>th</sup> May.

**All  
Residents**

**Neil MacDougall**

**Chairman Berwick Parish Meetings**