

Donhead St Andrew

Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at St Andrew's Church, St Bartholomew's Street
Donhead St Andrew

Thursday 3rd November 2022 @ 7pm

Present: Cllr Malcolm Cullimore (Chairman)
Cllr Simon Barkham Cllr Jane Sullivan
Cllr Clive Burrows Cllr Patricia Maxwell-Arnot
Cllr Simon Luck

In Attendance: Wiltshire Councillor; Nick Errington
The Parish Clerk; Simon Pritchard

Members of the Public: One

Controlling Light Pollution on Cranborne Chase AONB
6:30pm to 7:00pm
Before the start of the formal meeting, Steve Tonkin, Dark Sky Advisor for the Cranborne Chase AONB, addressed the meeting on the importance of the Dark Sky Reserve and what can be done to support its preservation.

Questions or Statements from Residents:

None

Report from Wiltshire Councillor Nick Errington:

- Ukraine refugee page on the Wiltshire Council website has been updated to give options for refugees coming to the end of their initial temporary arrangements.
- New 'Cost of Living' page on the Wiltshire Council website, bringing together all the information and advice in one place.
- The Area Board has grant money to support warm spaces being provided.
- The Highways department have been testing their gritting lorries ready for winter.
- The Station Works planning application in Tisbury is on the Southern Area Planning Committee agenda for its meeting on Thursday 10 November 2022.
However, the applicant has appealed to the Planning Inspector citing non-determination. This means Wiltshire Council can no longer determine on the application, but the inspector has indicated that he would like the committee to give an indicative response to the application. It was recommended for refusal by Planning Officers.
- The Nadder Centre in Tisbury is being offered as a warm space this winter.

A question was asked about why light pollution is not a planning consideration in the Wiltshire Council Local Plan and solar panels. Cllr Errington agreed that it should be and the AONB can always be asked to comment on applications.

Wessex Fibre Broadband to Residential Homes:

Nick Martin undated Members.

NB: The report will be on the Parish Council website and noticeboards.

Agenda
Item:

1 Apologies of absence:

Apologies had been received from Councillors;

- Cllr Shena Kozuba-Kozubska - Unwell
- Cllr John Barton
- Cllr Alistair Stoker - Away

2 Declarations of Interest:

None

3 Adoption of Previous Council Meeting Minutes:

• Thursday 1st September 2022

It was noted that the house recorded under 7B as Yeatmans House was now called Leat House.

The minutes of 1st September 2022 were proposed for adoption by Cllr Burrows, seconded by Cllr Luck and resolved: 5 For - 1 Abstention.

4 Precept / Budget 2023/24:

The Clerk had sent Members a very early draft budget demonstrating that with the current spending commitments, the precept would only increase by a very small amount. If any large projects were identified between now and January, then this may result in a larger increase.

It was noted that the litter bin at the triangle (West End / Bartholomew's Street) needs replacing as the door no longer closes and is looking tired. This could be added to the budget.

The idea of little fingerposts was also discussed. These would be placed around the Parish giving local directions. Cllr Barkham will get some costings

7 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE:

A. Approval of Payments:

1. S. Pritchard - Expenses - £77.42
2. The Royal British Legion - Remembrance Day Donation - £50.00

Cllr Luck proposed that payments be approved, seconded by Cllr Burrows and resolved unanimously.

It was noted that budget line 4070 would be better named 'Working from home allowance'. The Clerk will look to update.

B. Budget Vs Spend to Date & Earmarked Balances:

The Clerk reported that as there was little enthusiasm from Members to commission a new website, the £520 underspend on the website budget line is looking unlikely to be spent. The Clerk had spent quite a bit of time learning how to work the current website and updating it. The website has a subscribing facility where you can enter your email address and you are then kept up to date about local news and events, this is now working well, and residents should be encouraged to subscribe. The Clerk will also look to set up a planning applications page when all planning applications made within that year can be seen, with a link to the Wiltshire council website and information about the Parish Council's response.

C. Bank Reconciliation:

This had been circulated. It was noted that Cllr Sullivan needed to go through and check the bank recs against the bank statements and sign them after the meeting.

D. Grant Applications:

Wiltshire Citizens Advice - Ongoing support

This request had been deferred from the last meeting to allow time to collect more information.

It was proposed by Cllr Barkham that the council grant £100 to the Wiltshire citizens advice service, seconded by Sullivan and resolved: 5 For - 1 Abstention.

It was noted that the Donhead Digest mag should be asked if they require grant support, as it was understood that they are now self-funding.

E. Printer for the Parish Clerk:

The Clerk has been using his own printer. An opportunity has arisen to buy a ½ share of an almost new printer / scanner, to be jointly owned with St Mary Parish Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Luck to buy Swallowcliffe Parish Council out of their half share of the printer for £100, seconded by Cllr Barkham and resolved unanimously

6 Village Design Statement:

The Clerk had spent some time going over old emails to try and workout where the process of Wiltshire Council adopting the updated statement had got to. So far as can be deduced, the updated document had been adopted by the Parish Council and then submitted to Wiltshire Council for adoption, but this still hasn't happened. It seems that an Officer at Wiltshire Council had suggested some small cosmetic changes and that's when things stopped moving. Emails have been sent, but no reply as yet. The Clerk suggested that these changes could be agreed to, or not, by email once he get confirmation of the process.

7 Local Matters:

A. New Pedestrian Gate Scheme:

The Clerk has sent a few emails to the Wiltshire Council Footpaths Officer, but still no reply. Until the Footpaths Officer becomes responsive nothing can be taken forwards. Cllr Errington offered to help make contact.

It was noted that the Parish Council has the budget for two new pedestrian gates and the locations have already been agreed with the landowner.

B. Platinum Jubilee Stone:

The Chairman reported the recent development that the St Mary Village Hall Committee had agreed to offer the stone a permanent home and this had been gratefully accepted. The stone will be installed as soon as possible, a small tree will be planted next to it.

8 Verbal Reports:

For reporting matters only.

a) Highways / Parish Steward - Cllr Burrows

- The Parish Steward will be back in a few weeks' time, will have a lot to do clearing gullies and drains of leaves and debris. Cllr Burrows has also been out trying to clear gullies.
- A lot of water is coming down Sands Lane when it rains, and new springs have formed coming out of the road banks.
- Gutters coming down from Pile Oak are getting blocked by the builders' trucks acceding the site.
- Drains at Overway on the A30 are blocked.
- The Parish Council Should ask Lord Arundell what his plans are for Pile Oak Cottage and the water coming off the field. Noted application to demolish the cottage and rebuild has now been withdrawn.
- Noted there are some workmen signs that have been left in the Village, this has been reported online to Wiltshire Council by Cllr Burrows and he was surprised they still haven't been collected, will pursue.

b) Rights of Way - Cllr Maxwell-Arnot

- DSTA14 - Electric fencing wire still in place blocking right of way, this has been reported to Wiltshire Council.
- DSTA2 - Stile should be upgraded to a kissing gate.

c) Local Planning & Development

- With Cllr Errington's help, the Clerk has discovered that some planning applications are being changed but not re-consulted upon. This would normally happen if the change was in line with the original response from the Parish Council, but it seems there are cases when this is not the case and changes have been made that where not in the original application. The lack of re-consultation is also robbing neighbours of an opportunity to comment on any resubmitted plans.

d) Chairman's Reports

- Honoured to once again be laying the poppy wreath on Sunday 13th of November.
- It has been suggested that the next Parish Council meeting is moved, as the date is very early in January (5th). It was agreed to have the meeting on Friday 13th of January
- It was noted that the January meeting should review and agree the dates for 2023 meetings.

e) Parish Clerk's Reports

- Anomalies have been found in the cemetery records. Time needs to be spent onsite reviewing the books and digital map. Further, while the cemetery information has been uploaded onto an excel spreadsheet, it is not filterable and is spread over many pages, this can be much improved. The Council asked the Clerk to get costing from a friend who undertook the same work for St Mary.

9 Confidential Session:

The Chairman proposed that the Council go into confidential session for agenda item 10 as it related to staffing matters, seconded by Cllr Luck and resolved unanimously.

There was no press or public in attendance at this point, Cllr Errington was not asked to leave.

10 Parish Council Pension Provision:

A debate took place about the pension provision for the Parish Clerk.

The Council asked the Clerk to leave the room at 21:18, Cllr Errington left at the same time.

The Council resolved that it would join the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The Clerk re-joined the meeting at 21:25

End of Formal Meeting 21:25