

Winterbourne Stoke

Parish Council

**Meeting of the Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council
held in The Village Hub, Winterbourne Stoke, on
Tuesday 10th September at 7 pm**

In Attendance:

Parish Councillors: P Smith, T Pywell, T Ewart, A Parkin, A Shuttleworth
Apologies: Nil
Parishioners: Nil
Others: Nil
Clerk: S Bailey

1	Chairman's opening Statement
	<p>Firstly, the financial subcommittee made up of P Smith, T Pywell, T Ewart and A Shuttleworth decided that the clerk should be made treasurer of the finances and be made a signatory on the Parish Council bank account.</p> <p>Cllr Parkin arrived at 7:05 pm.</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting and said the following: <i>"Parish Council business has been dominated by the Government's announcement to cancel the Stonehenge tunnel and with it our bypass. We had a successful extraordinary meeting of the village on 13 August, and now have a list of action points to consider. I would like to thank those who took part in the small demonstrations over the August Bank Holiday weekend which resulted in coverage on the BBC.</i></p> <p><i>There is now a greater willingness for local villages to work together on the common issues which is helpful as our only lever is public opinion. To that end, I am attending the Shrewton Extraordinary meeting of the village on Thursday. However, Paul Clifton, BBC South Today, has spoken with National</i></p>

	<p><i>Highways who say that they have been told that they are to stop all work, that there will be no central government funding for associated projects, and that this is an issue for the next generation.</i></p> <p><i>It is clear that the government has funds for things it wants to spend money on: for example, pay rises for public sector workers with no promise of increased productivity; and it seems ready to stop winter fuel payments (WFP) for pensioners, and to put VAT on school fees. Interestingly, both latter policies are subject to legal challenges. Therefore, to oppose the decision to improve the A303, it seems to me, that we need to garner public opinion to put pressure on the government. We also need to hold National Highways to account to meet its statutory obligations, here I am thinking of the bridge on the River Till. Finally, we need to engage with our MP, Wiltshire Council and local villages on what we decide are our key priorities. We also need to support Andy's efforts with the petition.</i></p> <p><i>I would like this evening's meeting to decide our key messages to persuade others to get behind us, to agree who we are going to engage with, and then decide 3 or 4 key priorities to tackle in the short term, then to place other issues as medium to long term aims.</i></p> <p><i>As an aside, we have been offered a visit by Grish Rohani, a Wiltshire Council Roads Engineer for Stonehenge and Tidworth. She has visited Shrewton who discussed their traffic plan and potholes. We plan for her to visit Winterbourne Stoke in October."</i></p> <p>The clerk stated that she has asked to come on the 9th October 2024, 2:30-3:30pm.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth spoke about how he would like to show her around the village to highlight problems with the roads, traffic and current signage.</p>
2	To receive, consider and accept apologies for absence.
	No apologies received.

3	To confirm the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 20th May 2024, and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish on 13th August 2024	
	<p>The minutes from the Meeting of the Parish on the 20th May 2024 and the minutes from the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish on 13th August 2024 were both accepted by the Chairman.</p> <p>The minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on the 20th May 2024 were accepted and signed by the Chairman and Pro tempore Clerk at the time, A Shuttleworth.</p>	
4	To report, for information only, any matters arising from the minutes (by exception)	
	<p>Action: AS - (04/24-01) Cllr Pywell will complete new bank signatories action asap.</p> <p>Action: PS - (04/24-07) Chair to review existing PC policies etc and recommend which could be continued without need for formal review.</p> <p>Action deferred.</p> <p>All other Actions completed.</p>	<p>Action: TP & Clerk (09/24-01)</p> <p>Action: PS (04/24-07)</p>
5	Motions for Approval	
	<p>Motion 1 - To agree and prioritise the action points from the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish.</p> <p>The Chairman stated that the action points have been extracted in order directly from the Clerk's minutes from the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish held on the 13th August 2024.</p> <p>The Chairman explained that at this meeting the Parish Council will go through each point and prioritise each action point.</p>	

<p>AP1 - Installation of Air pollution monitors on A303</p> <p>The Chair didn't feel like this should be a high priority, but Cllr Shuttleworth pointed out that if we want to push the government to change the road then having data from air pollution monitors would help show the impact the A303 is having on the village.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth explained that getting the Environment Agency to monitor the situation would be ideal.</p> <p>The Chair agreed that we could ask, and Cllr Ewart pointed out that someone in the village works for the Environment Agency.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth also agreed and explained that it would cost the Parish Council very little to ask.</p> <p>The Chair will enquire with the villager who works for the Environment Agency to see if they can influence the situation, if not the Chair will send a letter to the Environment Agency to ask about air pollution monitors and whether the Environment Agency will monitor Winterbourne Stoke.</p> <p>AP2 - Winterbourne Stoke classed as an urban area by National Highways</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth has already submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to National Highways regarding this matter, however National Highways did not respond in time.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth will write again, telling them that unless they reply the matter will be passed on to the Information Commissioner's Office.</p> <p>The Chair felt that we should wait for the FOIA request to be answered before we decide what to do next.</p> <p>AP3 - Outcome of the legal appeal against the tunnel scheme due September/ October</p> <p>The Chair stated that the results have not yet been released.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth thinks it shouldn't be much longer.</p>	<p>Action: PS (09/24-02)</p> <p>Action: AS (09/24-03)</p>
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<p>The Chair and Cllr Shuttleworth will both monitor the situation and inform the Parish when the results are released.</p>	<p>Action: PS & AS (09/24-04)</p>
<p>AP4 - Shrewton Parish Council to press for changes to Rollestone crossroads.</p> <p>The Chair stated that he is monitoring the situation, but is hopeful he and Cllr Shuttleworth will find out more at Shrewton's Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish on Thursday 12th September 2024.</p>	<p>Action: PS & AS (09/24-05)</p>
<p>AP5 - A303 not fit for purpose as a trunk road.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth stated that this is part of the FOIA submitted to National Highway that was mentioned in Action Point 2. Cllr Shuttleworth went on to discuss that that the width of the road is currently too narrow to be a trunk road. Cllr Pywell was concerned that instead of doing a bypass National Highways will just widen the road and encroach upon the village even more. The Chair agreed that this could have unintentional consequences, but explained that National Highways needs to know that the road is not fit for purpose. As stated in Action Point 2, the FOIA request has gone unanswered, so Cllr Shuttleworth will write to National Highways again telling them that unless they reply the matter will be passed on to the Information Commissioner's Office. The Chair stated that this is a priority, but we will wait to see what the FOIA comes back with before making any decisions.</p>	<p>Action: AS (09/24-06)</p>
<p>AP6 - Rat runs in local villages. Wiltshire Council to be invited to implement scheme to use cameras to fine rat runners.</p> <p>The Chair discussed how he had seen on Somerset Live that Devon and Cornwall Police are using 3 free-standing Acusensus camera systems as part of a 12-month project. In the first 72 hours they detected 117 mobile phone and 180</p>	

<p>seat belt offences (total 297 offences). The system uses AI to detect potential offences, which are then verified by a person. The Chair proposes that maybe Winterbourne Stoke should look into a similar system.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth explained that these cameras cost approximately £600 each. However, Wiltshire Council does not like them as they don't want the data because it would be too much for them to handle.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth said that the parish could operate the camera and use the data as evidence.</p> <p>Cllr Pywell wanted to know where the camera would be placed.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth discussed that if the camera was on the A303 then National Highways would need to give permission, but if the camera was placed in a villager's garden, then no consent is needed. The camera company would just need to set it up.</p> <p>Cllr Ewart wanted to know whether the camera would work in both directions.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth clarified that it would only work in one direction, so ideally, we would need two cameras, costing approximately £1200.</p> <p>All councillors agreed that this is worth looking into. This is a high priority so Cllr Shuttleworth will send all councillors information regarding the cameras.</p> <p>AP7 - Cllr Kevin Daley keen to know what the villagers want regarding the A303 scheme.</p> <p>The Chair will email Cllr Kevin Daley and invite him to future Parish Council meetings.</p> <p>The Chair will also invite Kevin to contact Devon Council regarding views from Exeter and Plymouth councils on economic impacts of delays on A303.</p>	<p>Action: AS (09/24-07)</p> <p>Action: PS (09/24-08)</p> <p>Action: PS (09/24-09)</p>
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<p>Cllr Shuttleworth explained that unfortunately they could not do that. But said we could potentially invite National Highways to Winterbourne Stoke to observe how dangerous the crossing is.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth also discussed the idea of having cameras on the traffic lights to capture red light runners.</p> <p>The Chair will invite National Highways to visit the village to see the crossing and discuss cameras on the traffic lights.</p> <p>AP10 - Design of Longbarrow Roundabout contributes to delays on A303.</p> <p>Cllr Pywell felt that all the Parish Councils in the community should come together and write a letter explaining the problems with the design of Longbarrow roundabout.</p> <p>The Chair felt that we should bring this issue to National Highways as we already have the backing of Wiltshire Council as stated by Parvis Khansari at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish on the 13th August 2024.</p> <p>The Chair will raise this concern at the Shrewton Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish on Thursday 12th September 2024.</p> <p>AP11 - State of the bridge over the River Till on A303.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth stated that initial inspection of the bridge reveals spalling concrete and rusting steel rebar reinforcements.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth wrote to the Environmental Information Regulations to find out when the bridge was last inspected, what the inspection stated, and when the next inspection would take place.</p> <p>They replied saying that the general inspections are due every 2 years and tactile close-up inspections are undertaken every 6 years. They went on to say that the bridge was last visually inspected in July 2022 and recorded as 'good'. They</p>	<p>Action: PS (09/24-12)</p> <p>Action: PS (09/24-13)</p>
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AP17 - Vehicle controlled traffic lights are needed on the A303 and Church Street, to allow vehicles to more easily leave the village via Church Street.

Cllr Shuttleworth explained we need to move the existing pedestrian-controlled crossing eastwards to have a single set of lights at Church Street. This would help people cross the road and help villagers safely pull out of Church Street, especially people turning right.

Cllr Pywell brought up that more traffic comes from the B3083, so thought it might be more beneficial to have lights there instead.

The Chair was concerned that implementing either of these changes would make it easier for rat runners to pull out of the B3083.

Cllr Pywell pointed out that we would know if we had the cameras discussed in Action Point 6.

Cllr Shuttleworth stated that it has been proposed to make the B3083 a 'Quiet Lane'. Which means the road would be 20-mph and single lane. Thus, making rat running very unattractive, and solving the Shrewton/Berwick St James traffic issues for a very low cost.

Cllr Parkin, Cllr Pywell and Cllr Ewart all felt that this would be a bad idea and just make it harder for locals to travel.

Cllr Parkin wanted to know if there are any alternatives to solving the rat running without making the B3083 a 'Quiet Lane'.

Cllr Shuttleworth suggested that an ANPR system could be implemented to fine rat runners.

Cllr Parkin felt this would be a better way to stop rat runners and not impede locals. However, Cllr Shuttleworth noted that none of these changes would happen quickly.

	<p>The Chair will write to National Highways to see if moving the traffic lights is a viable option, but might be better to hold fire until we have more data.</p>	<p>Action: PS (09/24-22)</p>
6	Correspondence received	
	<p>Funding the Pedestrians in Road Sign on the B3083 towards Berwick St James:</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth stated the Sign will cost £1300 of which the Parish needs to contribute 25%, thus the Parish would need to pay £325. Ideally Berwick St James would pay for half, but unfortunately, they are not very keen to contribute.</p> <p>Cllr Ewart clarified if the sign is mostly there to help people who are staying at the campsite, and if so, could they not just walk in the field.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth stated that it is and that a lot of campers have prams and/or are elderly so cannot walk in the field.</p> <p>Cllr Pywell, Cllr Ewart and Cllr Parkin all thought that the money would be better spent on cameras for the village but would agree to the expenditure if everyone thought it was necessary.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth stated that we have a duty of care, and the sign should be in the right place.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council would fund the sign change: £325 agreed.</p> <p>Highspeed Fibre Broadband:</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth explained that Wessex Internet will be installing highspeed fibre broadband in the village. There are still lots of unknowns, such as whether this will be a Wessex Internet exclusive or if other providers can use the wires. There should be a public meeting fairly shortly at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre to discuss the details. Cllr Shuttleworth will let the Parish know when he gets more information.</p>	
7	Adjournment for Parishioner's questions / comments	
	<p>No Parishioners present.</p>	

8	The Next Meeting
	The date of the next meeting to be confirmed.

S Bailey
Clerk of the Parish Council

P Smith
Chairman of the Parish Council