

## **Avebury Parish Council**

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Avebury Parish Council held by Skype on Wednesday 1 April 2020.

In these minutes APC stands for Avebury Parish Council, ASSC for Avebury Sports and Social Club, ASSF for Avebury Sacred Sites Forum, AWHS for Avebury World Heritage Site, BB & WM PC for Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council, CATG for Community Area Transport Group, FB for Facebook, MAB for Marlborough Area Boards, MDNEP for Marlborough Downs 'Space for Nature' Nature Enhancement Partnership, NALC for National Association of Local Councils, NT for the National Trust, PC for Parish Council, RoW for Rights of Way, SWAST for South Western Ambulance Service Trust, WC for Wiltshire Council and WHS for World Heritage Site.

The meeting began at 20h15 and ended at 20h45.

**Present:** Mr Stephen Stacey (Chairman), Mrs Maggie Lewis and Dr Mike Bedford (Vice Chairmen), Mr Ben Butler, Mrs Donna Byatt, Mr Terence O'Connor, and Mrs Lynzey Paradise.

**1. Apologies.**

Mr Mike Daniel, Mrs Zandria Service. APC wished both a speedy recovery.

**2. Declarations of interest.**

It was noted that Cllr O'Connor had declared an interest in respect of an application for work to trees (20/01882/TCA).

**3. Minutes of meeting held on 3 March 2020.**

It was resolved to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Bedford, seconded by Cllr Byatt, and carried unanimously.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes.**

There was none.

**5. Planning applications for decision.**

- a. Work to trees in a conservation area at Bannings, Bray Street, Avebury, SN8 1RA. Ref: 20/02684/TCA.
- b. Fixing a plaque to the wall of the Museum, High Street, Avebury, SN8 1RF. Ref: 20/01392/LBC.
- c. Work to trees in a conservation area at Little Acre, Bray Street, Avebury, SN8 1RA. Ref: 20/02257/TCA.
- d. Work to trees in a conservation area at Fosse House, High Street, Avebury, SN8 1RF. Ref: 20/01882/TCA.

Members noted the discussion at an informal meeting of the Planning Committee held immediately before the present meeting and resolved to support each application subject, in respect of (d) above, to the two observations recorded in the minutes of the Planning Committee. The Chairman undertook to advise Wiltshire Council accordingly. Proposed by Cllr Paradise and seconded by Cllr Byatt and carried unanimously.

**6. Mandating the Clerk, the Chairman, and the Vice Chairmen for the duration of the current national lockdown to transmit Planning Committee decisions to Wiltshire Council following email or Skype discussion and decision by a quorum or greater of Planning Committee members.**

The Chairman explained that his understanding was that, although legislation was in prospect that would allow councils to meet virtually, it had not been implemented yet. He proposed that, in the interim, APC allows the Clerk or the Chairman or the Vice Chairmen to report APC's decisions on planning applications provided there had been discussion of them by email or Skype and that a decision had been taken by a quorum of the members. In discussion it was agreed that it was important for APC to continue to engage with the planning application process and that, given the current circumstances, this was the best and only safe way of doing so. Proposed by Cllr Paradise and seconded by Cllr O'Connor and carried unanimously.

**7. Finance and admin.**

The Chairman said that Liz Moore had asked for reconsideration of her hours from 1 April given the national lockdown over COVID-19. He was taking advice from Katie Fielding (WALC) and the Vice Chairmen and hoped to be in a position to make a proposal to members very soon.

**8. Date of next meeting.**

7:30pm on Tuesday 5 May 2020.

**9. Any other business.**

Cllr Paradise asked whether the Village Meeting would go ahead as planned or be cancelled. The Chairman replied that we are required to hold such a meeting annually. Whilst we are not likely to do so at the end of April, he hoped we would be able to have a meeting in the Sports and Social Club in September or October.

Cllr Lewis drew attention to the arrival that morning of the third defibrillator, which would be installed by ASSC on the sportsfield. Members thanked her for this happy outcome to her sustained efforts to provide this asset for the community.

Cllr Butler asked that the parish steward be requested to fill potholes on the road towards Yatesbury between the barn beyond his farm's grain store and the beech trees, one of which was dangerously deep. The Chairman undertook to make the request.