

Avebury Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Avebury Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 April 2022 at the Social Centre, Avebury SN8 1RF.

In these minutes APC stands for Avebury Parish Council, AONB for Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, CES for Chapel Exhibition Support, ASSC for Avebury Sports and Social Club, ASSF for Avebury Sacred Sites Forum, AWHs for Avebury World Heritage Site, CATG for Community Area Transport Group, FB for Facebook, GLEAM for Green Lanes Environment Movement, KV PC for Kennet Valley Parish Council, MADT for Marlborough Area Development Trust, MAB for Marlborough Area Boards, NT for the National Trust, PC for Parish Council, RoW for Rights of Way, SID for Speed Indicator Device, TTRO for Temporary Traffic Regulation Order, UKN for Upper Kennet News, WALC for Wiltshire Association of Local Councils, WC for Wiltshire Council and WHS for World Heritage Site.

Present: Mrs Maggie Lewis (Vice-Chair), Mr Ben Butler, Mr Mike Daniel, Mrs Lynzey Paradise and Mr Robert Parker.

In attendance: Miss Liz Moore (Clerk).

Time started: 19:30

- 1. Public question time:** there were no members of the public present.
- 2. Apologies:** Councillors Stephen Stacey (Chair), Dr Mike Bedford (Vice-Chair), Donna Byatt and Zandria Service.
- 3. Declarations of interest:** Cllr Butler declared an interest in respect of item 8.
- 4. Minutes of meeting held on 1 March 2022: it was resolved** to make the following corrections to the draft minutes: min ref. 9b. To state at the beginning of the minutes that CES stands for 'Community Exhibition Space', min ref. 11b. Queen's Platinum Jubilee: to include the full and correct names of NT staff 'Janinka Diverio and Hazel Barry-Scott' and to change the lighting of the beacon to 9:45pm. Min ref. 13 e. To add for clarification that 'the Social Centre has a WiFi connection but it is not publicly available being only for use by SC users. There was a Community WiFi node but this has now been removed'. Proposed by Cllr Daniel, seconded by Cllr Butler and carried unanimously. **It was resolved** to accept the minutes as a proper record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Butler, seconded by Cllr Daniel and carried unanimously.
- 5. Matters arising from the minutes:** a. Min. ref. 11d. Condition of byway 14: it was noted that the damage to byway 14 had been reported to WC. Members agreed that they would do more to highlight the problem via local media in order to pressure WC into carrying out their legal duty to repair the highway / byway. Cllr Butler said that byway 14 was impassable to most travellers and he was still frequently having to tow vehicles out of it.

Avebury Parish Council

6. **National Trust:** it was noted that the NT update had been previously circulated to members (see appendix 1). There was a general discussion on the Village plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the Clerk was asked to note that it was work in progress.

7. **Solstice Planning:** the Vice-Chair reported that the NT had confirmed that they would be hiring portaloos for the small High Street car park and that St John's Ambulance would be based in the Chapel in Green Street. Cllr Paradise reported that she was heading up the Security but needed to confirm to WC the dates for the TTRO before work on the permits could begin. **It was agreed** that the TTRO should be the same as the previous year and not to comment on whether there should be a TTRO along the Ridgeway to the A4. It was agreed that the Clerk should book the Social Centre for several dates in June at different times of the day so that residents and members of the public would have ample opportunity to come to the SC to collect their parking permit/s. It was noted that contact details and car number plate registrations would need to be recorded. The following members offered to help with the administration process: Cllrs Lewis (Vice-Chair), Butler, Daniel, Paradise and Parker. Clerk to ensure item on next meeting agenda for approval. [Under Data Protection rules members processing public data must have a mandate from the council to do so, the council being the data controller]. Plus, it was agreed that the process for obtaining parking permits should be advertised in the next edition of UKN. It was additionally agreed that Cllr Butler would ask Jeremy Sumbler for use of his Heras fencing to fence off the nursery site, as in previous years.

8. **Planning applications:**
 - a. Application for full Planning Permission for demolition of farm buildings; conversion of redundant traditional buildings to 2 x holiday lets, undercover parking and store; erection of 4 x new build holiday lets, erection of pavilion and associated landscaping works at: Manor Farm, Bray Street, Avebury SN8 1QY Ref: PL/2022/02139: it was noted that a **Planning Committee meeting** had been requested by members and arranged for **6pm on Thursday 21 April 2022**. The meeting would take place on-site outside the barns (opposite the Play Area) in Avebury Trusloe. The Clerk said that Nick Clark (WC Planning Officer) had agreed to an extension of time for submission of comments until Wednesday 27 April. It was noted that the application contained 26 documents and that Cllr Butler would bring his ipad for others to view the plans.

9. **Project Updates:**
 - a. **SID Project:** Cllr Daniel reported that Adrian Turnbull (PCC Office) was in the process of arranging a meeting with Wiltshire Police to decide in what format they needed the SID data. He said that two extra brackets for the SID had been ordered by the Clerk (£197.50 + VAT). In discussion it was agreed to leave the SID in situ for eight weeks before transferring it between locations. Cllr Paradise said that she would collect the data from the device at the end of the month. The SID next to the bus shelter near Rawlins Park could then be transferred to the southern location on 1 May by the Chair and Cllr Daniel. Cllr Parker said that it would be interesting to see whether the newly installed 50 mph signs on the

Avebury Parish Council

A4361 would influence vehicle speeds and whether the SID data would reflect that. In further discussion it was noted that in addition to the new 50 mph signs, WC had also installed national speed limit signs where previously there had been none. Members felt that this was not helpful especially as one of the signs was at the entrance into Avebury Trusloe and the other was next to the entrance to Beckhampton on the A361 which meant the signs would effectively act as a visual prompt to remind people that they could now accelerate up to 60 mph. Cllr Paradise said that she felt that the new speed limits had increased reckless overtaking. The Vice-Chair said she would contact WC Highways to raise the issue.

- b. **Avebury Chapel:** draft budget, draft lease and declaration document previously circulated to Councillors and see appendix 2. In discussion, the following points arose:
- the draft budget appeared sufficient to cover the running of the project for the first year.
 - it was agreed that Cllr Daniel be appointed to carry out the Fire and Risk Assessments.
 - the Vice-Chair agreed to ask Eva about internal signage / fire blankets.
 - any willing members would be recruited to help clean the building. The Clerk was asked to set up a Doodle Poll to arrange a convenient time and date.
 - the PC to ask the NT whether they could have access to the building to carry out the cleaning and fire + risk assessments before the start of the lease.
 - Cllr Paradise had received an email from a member of the public interested in exhibiting at the Chapel for non-financial purposes.
- It was resolved** in principle to sign the declaration document and draft lease with effect from 1 May 2022. Proposed by Cllr Daniel, seconded by Cllr Butler and carried unanimously. The following power was read out by the Clerk: [Under the s144 of the Local Government Act 1972, a parish council has the following power. “(1)A local authority may (either alone or jointly with any other person or body) — “(a)encourage persons, by advertisement or otherwise, to visit their area for recreation, for health purposes, or to hold conferences, trade fairs and exhibitions in their area; and “(b)provide, or encourage any other person or body to provide, facilities for....., conferences, trade fairs and exhibitions or improve, or encourage any other person or body to improve, any existing facilities for those purposes.”]
- c. **Play Area:** Cllr Paradise reported that the questionnaire was ready but further progress was not possible until after Easter as she was away for two weeks.

10. Local Issues:

- a. **Feedback on Community Litter Pick:** it was noted that the Vice-Chair had led a successful litter pick on Sunday; seven members of the public had taken part and eight sacks of rubbish had been collected.
- b. **SSE Electricity Cables:** Cllr Paradise said that she had spotted low hanging wires opposite the Old Vicarage and reported the issue to SSE.
- c. **Damaged Tree:** Cllr Butler reported that there was a damaged tree close to the footpath near Big Arch Bridge. He agreed to report it to WC.

Avebury Parish Council

d. **WC Bus Shelter:** a large wooden panel at ground level was missing from the back of one of the bus shelters at Avebury Trusloe. The Vice-Chair had reported this to WC using the on-line reporting tool.

e. **Branches at Play Area:** a collection of branches had been moved from the nursery site and piled up behind the bench at the Play Area. Cllr Butler reported that these had now been removed by the member of the public who was responsible for them.

f. **Wild About Wiltshire:** the Vice-Chair reported that following the PC's request for rewilding of the Beckhampton roundabout and reduced cuts on verges prior to Solstice, Martin Cook (WC Highways) had organized an on-site meeting to consider the PC's request in more detail. The meeting was arranged for 9am on 26 April in Beckhampton and the Chair and Cllr Lewis had agreed to attend. Other members were welcome too.

11. Parish Steward Priority Sheet: apart from highway work already discussed, priority highway jobs to be emailed to the Clerk in the usual way.

12. Communications: it was resolved to ratify the PC's response to the government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review (previously circulated and see appendix 3). Proposed by Cllr Paradise, seconded by Cllr Lewis and carried unanimously.

13. Correspondence: the Vice-Chair reported:

a. **Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks** annual Resilient Communities Fund is now open. The Vice-Chair read out the email that had been received by the PC:

“Following the storms which swept through central southern England earlier this year, bringing disruption to homes and businesses, SSEN has launched the fund with an enhanced allocation of £1 million.

This will be made available to Central southern England communities aiming to become more resilient in the face of storms, severe weather and prolonged power interruptions.

The deadline for applications to the fund is 1 June 2022 and applicants are asked to consider the criteria for funding which seeks to support projects falling under these two categories:

a. *Resilience for Emergency Events – To enhance community facilities, services and communication specifically to support the local response in the event of a significant emergency such as extended power loss.*

b. *Vulnerability – To protect the welfare of vulnerable community members particularly during significant emergency events such as extended power loss, through enhancing their resilience and improving community participation and effectiveness.”*

[Cllr Daniel temporarily left the room]. In discussion members felt that the PC could make use of the fund for purchasing items such as foil blankets and torches. The Vice-

Avebury Parish Council

Chair to discuss further with Judy Farthing and review the Emergency Plan. Cllr Butler additionally reported that new legislation from 1 April 2022 meant that commercial use of red diesel by farmers had been stopped.

b. **Friends of the Ridgeway:** notification of AGM 3 April + update and account of their successes in the first 40 years received.

c. **Free Monthly Fraud Safety Webinars** by Ashley Jones (Regional Fraud Protect Advisor) next session is at 2pm on the 22 April.

d. **Email from Green Lane Association:** it was agreed that the PC should invite them to look at byway AVE 14.

14. Finance and admin including:

a. **Draft Signage Policy:** previously circulated. Members agreed that the policy was difficult to enforce and not everyone was aware of it. Cllr Paradise suggested that the Social Centre (SC) could be asked to include the PC's Policy in its terms and conditions or as separate paperwork to users of the SC. The Vice-Chair as the PC's representative agreed to raise the request at the next SC meeting.

b. **It was resolved** to ratify the Clerk's £100 salary payment backdated from 1 April 2021. Proposed by Cllr Daniel, seconded by Cllr Paradise and carried unanimously.

c. **Cheques for ratification: it was resolved** to ratify the following cheque payments. Proposed by Cllr Lewis, seconded by Cllr Butler and agreed unanimously.

(i) Wiltshire Council: CATG Contributions: 25% contribution to advert process for B4003 waiting restrictions @£500 + 12.5% contribution to advert process for A4361 speed limit change @£375 Total = £875.00

(ii) Miss E. Moore: overtime + expenses 21 Feb – 21 March 2022 + backdated salary payment Total = £440.64

15. Date of next meeting: Annual General Meeting (AGM) 7:15pm on Tuesday 3 May 2022 followed by an ordinary meeting immediately afterwards. It was agreed to set the the annual Village meeting (this takes place between 1 March and 1 June) for 7pm on Tuesday 24 May 2022. Possible venues being either the Chapel or the Social Centre.

The meeting closed at 21:44

Appendices:

1. National Trust Update – April 2022
2. Draft Budget (prepared by Cllr Stacey) plus Declaration Document and Draft Chapel Lease (prepared by the NT's Solicitor)
3. PC's response to the government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review