



**Winsley Parish Council**

**CONFIRMED Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2018**

8.00pm, St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley

---

**Parish Councillors Present:** Ed Gilby (Chair), Jane Baddeley, John Barnes, Ian Berry, Zoe Elstone, Paul Fitzpatrick, Johnny Kidney, Linda Ladner, Richard Warren

**Apologies:** Robin Davies, David Elstone

**In attendance:** Selina Jobson (Parish Clerk)

**Members of the Public:** Six

---

117. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

118. **Minutes of Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2018 were signed as a true record.

119. **Public Participation**

Members of the public wanted to comment on the Winsley Hill Footbridge Canal Scoping Project item & it was agreed that their comments would be taken under that agenda item.

120. **Planning**

120.1 17/12525/FUL Dorothy House, BA15 2LE: To change the use of the playing field to use as a car park for a temporary period of six months during construction works. Councillors supported the application but noted that:

- work to restore the playing field and boundary walls should be undertaken as soon as possible after the completion of the works to build the new car park;
- construction traffic and those vehicles using the residual car parking were likely to put at risk vehicles parked along the road between the entrance to Dorothy House and Bradford Road. It was suggested that parking along that stretch of road should be suspended at times when construction was underway and that alternative provision be made for residents in the temporary car park.

***Supported.***

120.2 17/12159/FUL 29 Dane Rise, BA15 2NF: Demolition of garage & utility room and construction of two-storey rear extension, front porch & minor internal alterations. The current poor state of the property was noted. A letter from residents of a neighbouring property regarding the application was drawn to councillors' attention.

***Supported.***

120.3 18/00557/106 Upper Bearfield Farm, Ashley Road, BA15 1RT: Discharge of planning obligation – erection of further agricultural workers dwellings. Councillors considered the applicant's argument to discharge the planning obligation placed on the owner in 2003 was reasonable and that the planning obligation appeared to serve no useful purpose. Councillors supported the application to discharge the 2003 planning obligation. However, it was noted that Upper Bearfield Farm was situated within Green Belt, and therefore any further application for erection of dwellings on this site must be considered on merit and not simply instigated under General Permitted Development Rights.

***Supported.***

120.4 18/00487/TCA 15 Late Broads, BA15 2NW: Fell Leylandii Cypress.

***Supported.***

120.5 18/00871/TCA 3 Winsley Manor, BA15 2LT: Fell Beech tree.

***Supported.***

121. **Clerk's Report on Matters Arising**

The Clerk reported on progress with actions arising from the last meeting, noting that:

Minute 110 Unitary Authority Councillor's Report: The Chair had written to the Head of Winsley Primary School regarding the growth in pupil numbers and the potential impact on pupil intake of moving to an academy school. Cllrs Kidney and Baddeley had attended a Governors' meeting at the School and reported that:

- There had not been an increase in the percentage of in-catchment children attending the School;
- The numbers of pupils at the School had increased;
- The School had not conveyed a clear message as to whether the intention was to keep growing the number of children at the School.

Cllr Baddeley had written a report of the meeting which would be circulated to councillors. The School considered it had provided answers to the questions in the Chair's letter at the Governors' meeting and would not be sending a letter in reply. Cllr Baddeley had agreed to be the point of contact between the Parish Council and the School.

Clerk

Minute 115.5 Maintenance Advisory Group: A letter of thanks had been sent to Mr Godwin for cutting back the hedge by Winsley Cricket Club.

122. **Police Report**

A report by PCSO Andrew MacLachlan had been circulated. There were no crimes of note reported in the area. However, it was reported that a contractor had recently had an item of equipment stolen from a front garden whilst working at a property in Winsley.

123. **Unitary Authority Councillor Report**

Cllr Kidney reported that:

- The Bradford on Avon Area Board meeting on Wednesday 7 March 2018 would be held at Dorothy House, Winsley. Local community groups were encouraged to consider submitting grant requests to the Community Grants Scheme and to contact Cllr Kidney or the Community Engagement Manager, Peter Dunford, for further information or help.
- Wiltshire Council had announced its budget proposals for 2018/19. Wiltshire Council had delivered a balanced budget in recent years but reductions in central government funding meant that Wiltshire Council needed to make savings of approximately £25million to maintain a balanced budget. Wiltshire Council was proposing a council tax increase of 2.99%. A 3% Social Care Levy would also be applied for a final year. This Levy was being spent on transforming services with the aim of reducing service costs in the longer term.
- The MyWiltshire App had been updated to include two new functions, the reporting of unlicensed waste carriers and scrap metal dealers. Pot-holes, other road maintenance issues, fly-tipping etc, could also be reported via the App.

124. **Winsley Hill Canal Footbridge Scoping Project Report**

Members of the Winsley Hill Traffic Action Group (WHTAG) attended for this item. A scoping project report by Cllr Berry and members of WHTAG to assess the need and viability of building a pedestrian footbridge alongside the roadbridge at the bottom of Winsley Hill had been circulated to councillors. Two members of WHTAG highlighted concerns with the area around the canal bridge posing a risk for pedestrians. Problems were sometimes exacerbated by inappropriately parked cars blocking the footpath. The use of this area for walking and leisure was noted.

Dr Trisha Waters, Chair of Winsley Hill Traffic Action Group, presented the main points from the scoping report:

- That problems around the canal bridge area were seen to include lack of pedestrian footpaths, difficulties for residents by the canal bridge in exiting driveways and excess speed of cars coming down the hill;
- Reducing the width of the carriageway and incorporating a raised pedestrian path on the bridge was not possible due to problems with the sight line for vehicles approaching the bridge, and the significant modifications required to raise the parapet;

- Wiltshire Council were drawing up designs for possible modifications to the road and pedestrian area, but these would not physically separate pedestrians from traffic;
- Case studies of other pedestrian bridges parallel to road bridges had been provided, locally at Widbrook (Bradford on Avon), Hilperton, and Bathford, and further away at Crick (Daventry);
- Based on the costs of other bridge projects and the groundworks required, an initial estimate of costs of about £130,000 was given;
- WHTAG were willing to lead the project, and to investigate finance options, grant possibilities and fundraising and a website, WHTAG.co.uk, was being set up;
- Winsley Parish Council and Limpley Stoke Parish Council were being asked to support the project.

During the scoping project representatives of Winsley Parish Council and WHTAG had met with a structural engineer from the Canal and Rivers Trust (CRT) and a member of Wiltshire Highways Structures Team. Both had recognised the safety concerns and were supportive of the proposal. A scheme to install a pedestrian bridge would need be registered with the CRT and a fee paid. As a community project some engineering and design advice would be provided free of charge by CRT and some engineering and surveying costs would be covered by Wiltshire Council. The owner of Conkwell Grange Racing Stables attended the meeting. He had been consulted during the scoping project and indicated that he would be willing to provide land to extend the footpath to enable access to a footbridge.

The proposals would be presented to the Limpley Stoke Parish Council meeting on 6 March 2018. It was suggested that WHTAG should present their report to the Bradford on Avon Area Board on 7 March 2018.

Councillors thanked Cllr Berry and members of WHTAG for the work that had been undertaken in providing a thorough scoping project report.

Councillors voted to accept the proposal to support WHTAG in a campaign to provide a safer and easier pedestrian link between Limpley Stoke and Winsley through the installation of a pedestrian bridge parallel with RCT Bridge No175 that crosses the Kennet and Avon Canal on the B3108.

It was suggested that members of WHTAG should bring an initial funding proposal to the Parish Council meeting on 6 March 2018.

125. **Footpaths**

The Chair reported that Cllr Fitzpatrick had agreed to take a lead on footpath issues on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Fitzpatrick had met with the footpath secretary for the West Wilts Ramblers and some local residents who had outlined issues with footpaths in the area. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council had undertaken some work to clear footpaths where these were becoming overgrown.

Councillors agreed that Cllr Fitzpatrick should produce a status report on local footpaths for consideration at the April Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Fitzpatrick

126. **Great British Spring Clean, 2-4 March 2018**

The Great British Spring Clean would take place on the weekend of the 2-4 March 2018. Difficulties in getting volunteers to take part in previous events were noted. It was suggested that it could be promoted as a family event and that it might be helpful to contact local groups about participating. It was noted that the timescale was quite short to organise an event.

It was agreed that Cllr Z Elstone would look into the feasibility of organising an event in Winsley as part of the Great British Spring Clean.

Cllr Z Elstone

127. **Civil Parish Annual Meeting, Thursday 19 April 2018**

The Civil Parish Annual Meeting would include a report of the activities of the Parish Council during the previous year. Other ideas included:

- Showcasing local groups and activities within Winsley;
- Using the meeting to identify community needs and to engage with the community;
- Providing the opportunity for residents to be involved in participatory budgeting.

It was agreed that the Governance Advisory Group would meet to decide the format of the meeting.

Gov Adv Group

128. **Takeover of Central Convenience Stores**

The takeover of Winsley's Central Convenience Stores by Conviviality was noted. Conviviality's brands included 'Bargain Booze' stores and concerns had been raised by some residents about the appropriateness of such a store in a village setting. The Chair had contacted Conviviality who had stated that there was no intention of changing Central Convenience Stores to a Bargain Booze outlet. The Chair intended to liaise with Conviviality's Operations Manager to highlight local needs for the store.

It was noted that the 2011 Localism Act set out a 'Community Right to Bid', enabling assets to be identified as having community value. The sale of such listed assets could be stopped for up to six months to provide an opportunity for communities to raise money for a bid. It was suggested that the Parish Council might want to identify such assets. Cllr Berry agreed to circulate further information for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting.

Cllr  
Berry

129. **Finance**

Councillors approved payment by internet banking for the following:

- £25.00 Richard Read for analytical data about Winsley Community web site
- £96.00 Clook internet, annual hosting fee for Winsley Community web site
- £607.60 Administration (January)
- £31.20 idverde for emptying dog waste bins (January)

130. **Advisory Group Reports**

130.1 Human Resources: The Clerk's annual appraisal would take place in March 2018.

130.2 Finance: The internal auditor had undertaken a mid-year review, confirming the adequacy of the Parish Council's financial systems. The Clerk would follow up a some minor recommendations.

130.3 Maintenance: Cllr Z Elstone had met with the Manager of Avonpark and had discussed the state of the boundary wall, parking by those involved in Sunday morning football practice and the storage of organic waste on Avonpark land prior to collection by Wiltshire Council.

The Parish Steward had been asked to clear drains on Dane Rise & King Alfred Way on his next visit.

130.4 Highways and Transport: Councillors agreed to support proposed improvements to the B3108 / Dane Rise / Hartley Farm lane junction, at an overall cost of £2835 plus 20% contingency. Fifty percent of funding would come from CATG. Concerns were raised about the 20% contingency and it was confirmed that this was added to all highways projects.

Councillors supported a proposal to make one-way the narrow lane leading on to the B3108 between the Hartley Farm junction and the lane leading to Conkwell by Church Farm. This proposal would be brought to the next CATG meeting on 19 February 2018.

A request for 50% funding towards extending the hardstanding by the bus stop on the B3108 by the Rugby Club junction would be brought to the next CATG meeting.

Speed limit reductions on the B3108 would be raised again at the next CATG meeting.

The Dane Rise footpath had been completed and resurfacing of uneven tarmac by the entrance to the play park had been undertaken at the same time.

130.5 Media and Communications: Cllr Barnes and the Clerk had met with the Chair of Avonpark's Residents' Association with a view to improving two-way communication.

Progress had been made with setting up tools to monitor traffic on the Winsley Community website.

There were plans to contact local businesses and organisations to enhance communications.

131. **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 6 March 2018, 8.00pm, St Nicholas Church Hall

Meeting ended 9.35pm.