

## **Minutes of the Berwick St James Parish AGM on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2007 No. 24**

### **Apologies for Absence**

Ken and Tina Woodford, Tim and Olivia Marchant, Jane Rowe, Janie Campbell-Johnston, Barbara Last, Ailsa Bush. 21 people attended the meeting.

### **Minutes of Last Meeting and Actions Arising**

Neighbourhood Watch and PCSO. Richard Brasher has met John Wyeth who would have been here this evening but he is on holiday. PC Wyeth's contact details are on the notice boards.

One council for Wiltshire. As requested, a letter was sent to the Secretary of State Ruth Kelly, stating our opposition to the plan. No acknowledgement was received.

Notice Board outside the Reading Room – this has been repaired.

Planning. Stephen Bush and Richard Brasher met a representative of the Head of Planning for the SDC and attended a seminar.

Planning application details, if received, will be posted on notice boards - a meeting can be held if necessary.

No smoking sign in the bus shelter. This was put up but it has been removed.

### **SDC Core Strategy Issues and Options**

Salisbury District Council sent Vincent Albarno and Sarah Hughes, who gave a briefing on the SDC Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper – Local Development Framework. Copies of the documents were made available to all attendees at the meeting.

### **Planning Applications**

Stephen Bush gave a brief summary of a meeting with the Planning Officer in Salisbury. A vote was taken for a meeting to be called for any planning application concerning external works (except garden sheds not seen from the road).

Mary Gatling requested that a meeting is called if planning is sought for the Old Forge Farm Shop. Also if plans for change of use are sought for the Druids new Shooting Lodge at Asserton. There is only a maximum of 3 weeks to call a meeting.

### **Church and Reading Room Fete**

Successful in spite of rain. Final amount in excess of £877, so c. £440 for both Church and Reading Room.

Henry Colthurst thanked the Fete for money for the Church. Thanks were offered to the Marchants for lending their barns and gardens, and to the Humphries for having offered to lend their garden prior to the weather enforcing a change of venue.

Nicky Street to call a Fete Meeting. Jacqui Webb's proposal for a joint fete with Winterbourne Stoke will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **River Till**

Richard Brasher to talk to Mr Colley of Wessex Water. If necessary, he will write to the water board. Jacqui Webb suggested that someone from Wessex Water should attend the next meeting. Nicky Street suggested that a letter in support should be sent to the Fishing Association.

#### **Langford Way**

Apparently an Act of Parliament is required to change use of tracks. Stapleford will have someone from the Highways and Byways Department at their parish meeting. Richard Brasher will talk to Ian West for advice.

#### **Reading Room Committee**

Nicky Street will report on the Reading Room Committee at the next Parish meeting. It was confirmed that the Chairman of the Parish Meeting is not an ex officio member.

#### **Flagpole**

Stephen Bush suggested that a flagpole be erected in the Church yard, with the anticipated R2 money. He will check costs and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **Any Other Business**

##### ***Red Telephone Box***

Under EU law, BT could remove red phone boxes if it so wishes. Mary Gatling volunteered to get planning to list the phone box. A letter is required from the Parish Meeting stating that the Parish Meeting supports the application for listing the Berwick St James telephone box.

##### ***Parish Magazine***

The village has been asked to contribute £80 per year to help with the expenses. This was agreed.

Diana Gifford Mead plans to open her garden for NGS on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Any offers to do cream teas in the Reading Room for Reading Room funds should be referred to Diana Gifford Mead.

Henry Colthurst suggested a village poll re the EU Reform Treaty. He will check costs, if none, he will volunteer to organise it. \*

Richard Brasher to check whether recycling bins will be removed from Old Forge Shop.



## **Speeding through Village**

Henry Colthurst addressed the Meeting and said that although the speeding does not personally affect him in Asserton, when he walks his dog it is noticeable that speeding occurs. There are many ways to deter speeding but it was agreed that road signs do not work and are ugly; bumps are unpopular so he asked if a widened pavement at each end of the village would work. Generally opinion was not in favour. After much discussion of other villages' methods, Stephen Bush suggested rumble strips and this was agreed by the meeting. Henry Colthurst to explore.

## **Any Other Business**

Langford Lane has large puddles – Charles Street will attend to it.

The wooden seat outside Mary McDermott's house needs attention. Will Simpson-Gee volunteered to attend to it.

Mary Gatling applied with Meeting's approval (Minutes No 24) to have the red telephone box listed and was told it would take six months. It is now seven months and should come through soon. Richard Brasher then told the Meeting that he had just received a letter from SDC stating that BT wish to remove telephone boxes which are under used. SDC want a decision from us as BT may cut off the phone and when listed the village may be responsible for the maintenance. The Meeting now wish to consider buying the telephone box instead of having it listed. Mary Gatling to investigate but may be too late.

Ian Fisher mentioned that our insurance premium will rise with a listed building. Mary McDermott said that sentiment costs money and she objected and a vote was called for. Majority in favour of buying with a strong contingent not objecting to it being removed.

Nicki Street mentioned the Harvest Festival on 27<sup>th</sup> September and asked for more help.

Charles Street would like us to hold a meeting for every planning application that may affect the visual aspects of the village. Richard Brasher and Tina Woodford reiterated that it had been agreed during Ian Fisher's chairmanship that a meeting would be held if necessary.