

**MINUTES OF BERWICK ST JAMES PARISH MEETING NO 18, HELD ON 3rd
FEBRUARY, 2004.**

1. Apologies.

Stephen Bush, Tina Woodford, Sylvia Seymour-Taylor, Margaret Mustill, Kathaleen Evershed and Mary Gatling.

2. Minutes of last meeting and Action Arising.

A report on the accounts was not made as the Clerk/Treasurer was not present: to be reported upon at next meeting.

The chairman had nothing to report on the A36 bypass, and still had to talk to the chairperson of Stapleford Parish Council to see how Berwick could help support their arguments. Continuing action.

The chairman did write to the Highways Authority about brown signs on the A303, and the matter was to be addressed at the A303 Stonehenge improvements inquiry, which was to start on 17 February. Cllr West was having discussions with the Highways Authority about this.

A letter had been sent to the Girl Guides saying that the parish was happy to have their centre here, but asked for limited PA amplification at any future events.

The minutes were approved by Diana Gifford Mead, seconded by Nilkki Street and signed by Ian Fisher.

3. Upgrade of Berwick St James Bridleway 3 to a Byway.

A Modification Order had been notified to upgrade Bridleway 3 to a Byway. This Bridleway was the track that goes from opposite The Boot Inn up past the cricket field to the A303. The Modification Order was actually to change the direction of the last 200 metres of the track at the A303 end to bring it line with the official records of 1790, and to raise the whole track to byway status, (as it was in the 1790 records). The County Council's intention was then to apply for a Diversion Order to revert to the present layout of the track, but leaving it as a byway. This was

‘to enable proper consideration to be given to objections raised to provision made for the bridleway in the Side Roads Order’

connected with the A303 plans. The village voted unanimously in favour of leaving the track as it was, and for leaving it as a bridleway. The chairman was to write to the County Council saying that the parish wanted the track layout left as at present, and for it to be as bridleway rather than a byway. There would be no objection to the Modification Order regarding the proposed change in direction of the top end of the track, provided that this was followed by a Diversion Order to revert to the current layout.

Charles Street had already written to the County Council about the layout of the track, and was to write another letter about the byway proposal.

4. A303 Stonehenge improvements inquiry.

The chairman had attended the two Preliminary Inquiry Meetings and drew attention to the Alternative Route (AR) proposals in the Journal of 29th January. The chairman had already written to the Journal refuting Col. Parker's claim that Gomeldon was the only village in which his Parker Plan proposal had

not met with approval. The chairman was asked to write to the Highways Authority stating that this parish meeting voted unanimously against the Parker Plan (AR 4).

The chairman explained the current A303 /Stonehenge tunnel proposal was to receive significant funding from cultural and heritage sources. Without this funding there could well be no funding for the essential bypass for Winterbourne Stoke and for the dualling of the road between Yarnbury and Amesbury. He asked if the parish was prepared to support the proposed scheme (which included the tunnel) as a whole. Many were unhappy about the tunnel and the excluding of views of Stonehenge by passers-by. Henry Colthurst presented his draft proposal for an oral presentation to the public inquiry in support of the total scheme, and which also reviewed each of the Alternative Route proposals. When it was pointed out that the only viable alternative to the proposed scheme would be the Parker Plan (or something like it) the village voted unanimously to support the proposed total scheme, which was then seen to be the best and probably the only sensible one.

The chairman was asked to write to the Inquiry (copies to the Highways Agency and the SDC) indicating the village's support for the proposed scheme. The chairman also agreed to write to Henry Colthurst saying the village meeting supported his views, even though some objected to the tunnel.

5. Youth Club proposal

Liz Crossley had raised the idea of a youth club, and Chris Linge explained that the police could make a grant towards equipment for this, if a case could be made. The village supported the idea of a Youth Club in principle, but a number of questions had to be asked and answered first, such as:

- Do the children want a Youth Club?
- Who would run it?
- What equipment was wanted, and
- Where would this be kept?

It was said Chris O'Connel had been circulating a questionnaire to find out if the children were interested in a Youth Club. The chairman undertook to find out more about this, and possibly put something in the Parish Magazine if this was appropriate.

6. Any Other Business.

Buses. Jackie Fisher had received a questionnaire about the adequacy of the services provided, and asked who used the buses regularly and who could therefore help her fill in the questionnaire. It was suggested she should speak to Len and Ivy Stacey.

Notice for 'The Row'. Stan Palmer said a notice was needed to show where the Row was. The Streets would provide one. *6 May: Niki has a notice. will put it up.*

Parish Lengthsmen. The next visit was expected in May. The chairman was asked to advise then of a rain water drainage problem outside Lyanne Street's cottage.

Planning application for extension to 'Godwins'. *cottage.*

There were no objections to this.

Day Centre Vacancies. Attention was drawn to a letter advising of vacancies at the Wilton Day Centre.