

Minutes of the Berwick St James Parish Meeting of 17th February 2003 No. 16

Apologies for Absence	Tony Gatling 16 people attended the meeting
Minutes of Last Meeting	The Minutes of the last meeting of 11 th September 2002 were read and approved
Actions Arising	Diana Gifford Meade said she had not supplied the Oak tree next to the Millenium Stone. A mystery? The Millenium Book's first draft is <u>not</u> quite finished but is being actively worked on. Ian Fisher wrote a letter on our behalf to object to the ACT Parker Plan. He also wrote a letter to the Old Forge Farm Shop to confirm the Meeting had no objection to the plans submitted. The Parish Lengthsmen did not arrive when expected and no work has been done to mend the bridge at the end of the village.
Freedom of Information Act 2000	The Meeting was sent a model scheme to submit which Ian returned at the end of December and was approved. A copy is in the Minutes book. Ian outlined the documents which are available to view. Nicky Street proposed adopting the scheme and it was seconded by Joyce Hughes.
Neighbourhood Watch (NW)	Our Community Police Officer John Wyeth was not available and instead we had Barry Strange, the Salisbury Divisional Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer. Ian Fisher explained that the list held by Mr Strange dated back to when the NW scheme was set up in 1988 and is now so out of date that some people had died and some had moved and that we had better start again. Mr Strange suggested that the ideal scheme was 5-15 houses per volunteer co-ordinator. It is also a good idea to have a village co-ordinator. We can save on household insurance and Mr Strange will give us the name of the NW insurance broker. He will also let us have leaflets to distribute around the village. Wilton Division of NW, which is our division, produce a Newsletter every 2 months which can be sent to co-ordinators by post or, preferably, email. The man to contact there is Bob Nolton. NW signs can be obtained from Morgans of Bath for a fee. Mary Gatling said that the signs and our previous vigilance had put the word out that our village was not safe for burglars. There is a Bobby Van available and one of its many jobs is to help make homes safer for vulnerable and elderly people at no charge. Deterrents to crime are postcode stickers, pack provided, and ultra violet pens to mark your furniture. Always be alert, take down car numbers. Mr Strange told us that most distraction burglaries and opportunist crimes happen during daytime and that once it has happened it is more than likely that it will happen again as the word goes out. He showed us the leaflets we will be distributing and also a variety of very noisy alarms for windows and sheds and personal safety. Mr Strange gave us a very informative hour of his time and Charles Evershed asked for a vote of thanks.
Village Fete	The Fete will be held on 7 th June at Berwick House courtesy of Toby and Sarah Humphrey. Joyce Hughes asks all who can to attend a meeting on

24th March to discuss the Fete but meanwhile she has booked the Sarum Morris Dancers, a Barrel Organ and a Roundabout.

Any Other Business

Footpath The footpath between Berwick St. James and Winterbourne Stoke is not being maintained by Druids Lodge and Wilf asked if we would write or telephone and remind them that it is supposed to be rolled flat

Hedge trimmers The contracted roadside hedge trimmers are not clearing up after them from the Uppingham to Stapleford. Can we have a word.

Rubbish Skip The grant for a skip is £398.00. Our problem is finding a place to site it. Decided to ask Druids manager Rod Crossley if we can site it by the old grain dryer.

Harvest Supper The PCC are in charge of proposing a Harvest Supper and details will emerge soon.