



## **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY** *Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017*

Held in Swallowcliffe Village Hall @ 7:30pm

**Present:** All members of the Parish Council, Wiltshire Councillor Josh Green, 22 local residents and the Parish Clerk.

1. **Welcome:** Mrs Diane Atkins, Parish Council Chairman, welcomed all the Villagers present
2. **Adoption of last year's minutes:** 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016  
The Clerk reported that he had printed off copies for anyone who wanted one. The minutes were duly adopted.
3. **Reports from the Parish Council:**
  - **Chairman's Report – Cllr D Atkins:**  
Cllr Atkins reported that she had missed the last Parish Council meeting so had no report to make.
  - **Nadder Centre and TCSP – Cllr N Cooke:**  
The Nadder Centre has been operating since August last year and was officially opened on 2 March 2017 by Baroness Scott, the leader of Wiltshire Council. It has great facilities: a fitness suite, sports hall, library, community event space, the Orangery Café, and activity and meeting rooms. The Centre is also home to Tisbury Pre-School, Tisbury Children's Centre and the Enterprise Centre which hosts start up business units. It is used by many local groups, such as Fonthill Cricket Club and the Tisbury Community Choir. The Library has over 1000 members and the Gym almost 400. It is well and truly up and running.  
  
The TCSP, the Tisbury Community and Safety Partnership had its final meeting in the Nadder Centre on 14 March 2017. This group had dealt with community matters, such as speeding through villages, and rural crime. The Area Board has agreed, though, to form a new sub group which will advise it. The details are yet to be promulgated but its first meeting is expected to be in June this year and will gather in the Nadder Centre. I shall represent our council on it.
  - **Transport & Rights of Way – Cllr P Willis:**  
*Cllr Willis gave a verbal report to the Assembly on his and the Councils actives over the last year*
  - **Highways – Cllr S Banas:** (Complete report attached)

### **New Parish Steward Scheme**

- The new Parish Steward Scheme started officially last Oct with spend allocated at 1 million pounds
- 10 visits per year minimum for each Parish.
- Each Parish has a team of three:
  - Area Highways Engineer [David Button]
  - Parish Steward [Andy Roper] - Ringways
  - Parish Council Rep [Steve Banas]
- Parish Council Rep is the *Single Point of Contact* - Sets Priorities, Liaises with WC
- Parish Stewards can call upon other WC resources, eg Tractor Mowers, Gulley Tankers
- Drive well equipped bright yellow 4x4's

## Priority Sheets

Priority Sheets are the main communication tool, identifying issues and priorities. They are completed by the Parish Council Rep.

## Wiltshire App for the Rest

For tasks outside the scope of the Parish Steward, the Wiltshire App should continue to be used and is available to all members of the public. There is web interface and smartphone app that even enters locations (via GPS) and uploads photos.

## Work Accomplished

Potholes, drains, dangerous branches, road surface repairs, white lines

## Swallowcliffe Traffic Calming

Further to discussions at the last Parish Annual Meeting a Swallowcliffe Traffic Group was formed. Its goal is to reduce vehicle speeds in Swallowcliffe to provide a safer environment.

Members who volunteered from the last Parish Annual Meeting are Lou Graham Ewer, Lou Eastham, Barry Fitzpatrick and myself.

## Village 20 mph proposal

A 20 mph proposal has been submitted to Wiltshire Council for their analysis. This would essentially would turn the whole village into 20 mph zone.

## Traffic Survey Results

Frist step was to analyze current traffic speeds and volumes.

## Volumes

Volumes are much the same as when a Metrocount Survey (two rubber pipes across the road) was conducted in 2008, with the exception of Middledean which has only 62% of its 2008 traffic. Cravenplan has the same volumes.

2017 loc/2008 loc	2008			2017			2017 as percentage of 2008 (Vol per day)
	No of days	Volume	Vol per day	No of days	Volume	Vol per day	
West end/Elderkins	7	3853	550	10	5188	519	94%
Manor/Cravenplan	7	2403	343	10	3407	341	99%
Middledean/Hinxmans	7	1495	214	10	1315	132	62%

## Speeds

### 2017 Results (March)

Location	Ave speed	85 <sup>th</sup> percentile	WC Recommendation
West End	25.2	30.0	NFA
Cravenplan	29.8	35.8	Community Speed Watch
Middledean	25.3	32.0	NFA

## Criteria

In a 30mph speed limit the following criteria is applied;

- 30 to 35mph 85th percentile = No Further Action (NFA)
- 35.1 to 42 mph 85th percentile = eligible for Community Speed Watch
- Over 42 mph 85th percentile = Subject to Police enforcement

## 2017 versus 2008 Ave Speeds

	2008 (Sept)	2017 (March)	2017 as percentage of 2008
2017 loc/2008 loc	Ave Speed	Ave Speed	
West end/Elderkins	29.0	25.2	87%
Manor/Cravenplan	30.7	29.8	97%
Middledean/Hinxmans	23.1	25.3	110%

### Next steps

Present to WC Community Area Transport Group (CATG) priority list which comes under Wiltshire Councils Area Board.

- Local Planning & Development – Cllr G Blundell:**  
*Cllr Blundell talked about the Local Plan and how Wiltshire Council were not planning for any new homes in the Village*
- Village Defibrillator – Cllr S Banas:** (Full report below)

### Outside Royal Oak

The village defibrillator has been installed on the outside porch wall of The Royal Oak as kindly agreed with Jeremy Little and team. It was funded by the British Heart Foundation with the cabinet purchased by the Parish Council.

### Training

24 residents have been trained in its use by Roy McCrudden. Please let myself or Roy know if you are interested in training.

### Registered with Wiltshire Ambulance Service

The device has been registered with the Wiltshire Ambulance Service and is on their map for 999 calls.

### Equipment Checks

Regular equipment checks are conducted by myself and Roy McCrudden. The machine is highly automated with easy to see visual status readouts.

### Website reporting

Results of checks are fed into the Ambulance Service every 4 weeks to maintain registration.

- Parish Council Finance – Mr Pritchard, Parish Clerk:**

*It had been agreed by the Chairman to add this extra agenda item, as there had been quite a bit on interest in the Village over the Parish Council precept for 2017/18*

The Clerk reported that the parish Council overspent by £350 for the year 2016/17:

### Swallowcliffe Accounts 2016 – 17

	<b>Income:</b>
31/03/2016	
£2,813.29	Reserves b/f
01/04/2017	
£2,313.65	Precept 2016-17
	<b>Outgoing:</b>
• £1,589.32	Administration
- £1,074.69	Expenditure
- <b>£2,664.01</b>	<b>Total Outgoings</b>
350.36 (Overspend)	+/- Against Precept
31/03/2017	Reserves c/f
£2,462.93	

The clerk then talked residents through the 2017/18 budgets lines:

ADMINISTRATION £1,420

TRAINING (CLERK & COUNCILLORS) £200

VILLAGE HALL SINKING FUND £500

*(This would be the start of an ongoing savings fund to build up over a number of years.)*

INSURANCE £200

AUDIT COSTS £100

VILLAGE HALL HIRE £80

GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS £200

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY: FOOD & DRINK £50

TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEMES - £500

*(This would be the start of an ongoing savings fund to build up over a number of years.*

*The money could be used to pay for a Speed Indicator Device (SID) or other traffic calming measures in the Village.)*

INSTALLATION OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR £195 (COST ALREADY INCURRED IN CURRENT YEAR)

DEFIBRILLATOR MAINTENANCE FUND £50

TOTAL: £3,495

This is an increase of £10.21 per year per Band D home (20p per week)  
Up to £32.87 per year per band D household.

A question was raised over the Village Hall sink fund and if the Council was being over cautious. Cllr Blundell responded that did not feel that the Council was being so, but in fact was taking its responsibility towards the Village Hall seriously.

#### 4. **Wiltshire Councillor Report** – Cllr J Green: (Copied in full below)

When I do the rounds of the PC's that come within the Fovant and Chalke Valley Division I always feel I am amongst friends. Obviously, I am aware that I cannot be everything to everyone but at least I listen and carry your concerns and ideas as I go about Wiltshire Councils/my work. I also need to emphasise that I recognise that one size does not fit all and each village has its own identity and character that must be maintained at all costs.

It is 8 years since I became the UNITARY Councillor, in that time there have been highs and lows, stresses and strains but above all a feeling that we are all pulling together to get the best during these very restrained economic times. 3 priorities have remained constant .....Protecting the Vulnerable, Boosting the Local Economy and Working closely with our communities.

Government cuts to Local Authorities has meant innovative ways of making the budgets balance without jeopardising the services. Over the past years surplus office premises have gone, staff numbers reduced and partnerships formed to enable greater efficiencies and savings.

At the risk of repetition Wiltshire Council's budget per annum is over £900 million to provide 350 services.

93% of school children attend Ofsted's rating of good to outstanding schools in Wiltshire with 99% of Wiltshire's secondary students also in such schools. 98% of primary schoolchildren are offered a place at their preferred school.

There is currently a 15 year low in teenage pregnancies (16.1 per 1,000 women aged 15-17yrs old ) a decrease of almost 50% from 1998. Currently around 450 children are being cared for by WC, 42 foster carers have been recruited over the last 2 years and more recently, 180 qualified social workers in what is a very competitive market.

As you are aware the WC share of the Council Tax rose last year after 5 years of no uplift. 2% going directly to the Adult Care Budget. 7,675 people across Wiltshire received support from Adult Care Services and this, as you know, is rising due to our ageing communities., almost 6,500 people have been helped to stay independent through WC's Help to Live at Home scheme.

4 years ago responsibility for public health transferred from the NHS to Wiltshire Council. In that time £40m has been spent to deliver improvements and knowledge in the health and wellbeing of the county's population. On a local level I am currently the 'champion' on the Area Board working towards Dementia awareness and the misuse of alcohol which can lead on to many problems. Obesity is another area of concern as the knock on effect is considerable. Last year the First Aid training sessions, including the

defibrillator training, was very successful as was the ROW enhancement Project that a number of villages took part in.

Over the last 4 years children under 16 years of age have benefitted from free swimming sessions in the school holidays , this also relieves the problem of loneliness and isolation. 6,000 people have been helped to give up smoking!

The Wiltshire App for reporting various issues received 23,000 reports last year, 6,600 were regarding potholes, £21m will be spent again this year with roads in the South West receiving the highest spend than at any other time!

Unemployment is very low in Wiltshire, businesses want to be based in Wiltshire and some Internationally reputed names are enlarging. Locally, not only do we have Porton Down scientific park expanding but only recently, Boeing announced its plans to relocate to Boscombe working with QinetiQ.

The University Technical College on Wilton Road is going well and the Wiltshire College on Southampton Road for Higher Education facilities have secured £14 million for enhancing the premises in the near future; when/if the Wilton Parkway rail station opens it will make commuters lives so much easier. Last year alone WC helped 6,500 young people to become apprentices, the second highest rate of growth in the country. The redevelopment of the Central Car Park and The Maltings is another project likely to come to fruition over the next few years and where £6m has been secured towards the overall costs of development.

Since 2013 almost £33m has been invested in partnership with BT and the Government's Broadband Delivery UK programme. 83,000 homes and businesses across the County now have fibre BB and one third of these have opted for an upgrade, still, there is a way to go before achieving 100 percent coverage. Further investment is intended this coming year. WC offers free, one to one training for those who would like laptop or iPad tuition.

For those that are concerned about development or the lack of it in some instances, last year 2,118 new homes were built in Wiltshire of which 635 are considered affordable. 157 extra care apartments have been built for those requiring smaller and appropriate homes. These homes are critical to help to try and meet the demand for start-up homes to enable young people trying to get their foot on the housing ladder and for the growing older population, to downsize.

By 2020 this County will be the home to the largest number of Army personnel in the Country.

Area Boards funded almost 200 projects last year at a cost of approximately £390,000.

I know how loved the village halls, clubs and many volunteers rely on support to retain what cements a community together, I am always supportive of those organisations who have applied for an Area Board grant when it is shown how necessary it is for their ongoing success. Thank you to all those that give their energy and commitment so willingly, what would we do without you?

On closing, can I emphasise again that I look upon you as friends and colleagues and that by working together we can achieve so much more .

Sincere thanks to you all.

## **5. Information about the Local Elections on May 4<sup>th</sup> – Mr S Pritchard**

The Clerk informed the Assembly that the deadline had now passed for people wishing to put themselves forward for election to the Parish Council or Wiltshire Council.

With regards to the Parish Council, the 5 incumbent members of the Parish Council had all put themselves forward for election, no one else had, so the 5 incumbent members have been returned unopposed for a further 4 years. This counted as being elected as all members had had to stand for election, so the Village will have a completely elected Council from the 4<sup>th</sup> of May.

The Clerk outlined the work that the Members of the Parish Council undertake throughout the year, all voluntarily and proposed a vote of thanks to the Council Members for their work – This was unanimously carried.

## **6. Reports from Local Organisations:**

- Village Hall Report – David Brown: (Copied in full below)

## **Insurance**

New insurance cover is in place which has cost £1310 – previously the cover cost a lot less £210. The new policy has a reinstatement cost of £450k which is what a professional valuation indicated would be the rebuild cost. Seems somewhat high to us which is reflected in the new insurance premiums. DB to revisit this with the new insurers with NZ and GB to seek alternative quotes as the new policy cost seems to be very high.

## **Parish Council**

Diane attends our meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Village Hall is an asset of the Parish Council and should be listed on the PC's Schedule of Assets. The VH committee operates under the authorisation of the Parish Council.

## **Maintenance report**

### **The Village Hall is in good condition.**

The Hall floor has been polished several times.

The hot water was scalding hot and has been sorted out.

The fire extinguishers have been checked professionally and the invoice has been paid.

DM is to investigate where the internal roof is sagging.

DB will spray the weeds around the Hall.

Two roofing panels need replacing at a cost of £471.

The gutters which were unsatisfactory needed replacing at a cost of £717. DM has obtained competitive quotes for the materials.

Hedgehog gutter protection (against leaves etc.) was also quoted for at a cost of c£150.

The roof repairs have been completed.

The new gutter and hedgehog are working well.

A cleaner has been found – Betty Gregory - for whom good reports have been made. GB will help DM investigate the internal ceiling damage caused by the roof problems that have now been repaired.

## **Bookings report**

CW reported that there are still three regular bookings - the Sewing Club, the Art Club and Pilates, plus other bookings.

## **Treasurer's report .**

### **Newsletter**

CW publishes a twice yearly Newsletter which we hope you find useful.

### **50/50 Club**

NR is now publishing the results on a two month rolling basis so that you can see who has won.

NR confirmed that £960 will be available for VH funds.

The maximum number of shares available per person has been increased from 10 to 12.

With NR's property on the market it was recognised that a replacement to run the 50/50 Club will be needed.

### **Future Events**

David Bright and Steve Radford – thanks.

24<sup>th</sup> June - Summer BBQ – old churchyard

15<sup>TH</sup> July - 70's Disco – Village Hall Get your flares out

Ongoing communication with the pub is essential to ensure that there is good co-operation regarding events as we don't want to clash with anything the pub has planned.

**Finally, everything you have heard about from myself and Gerry is carried out by volunteers and we as villagers should be grateful for the commitment shown and the time donated.**

- Almshouse:

Almshouse and Relief in Need Charity, Swallowcliffe

Report to Parish AGM - 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017

- The almshouses are near completion; we hope that they will be finished by the end of May. Many thanks to the builders, Shean and Hare, and to our architect, David Gregory, for his vision and for overseeing the work.
- Once the work is completed we will hold an open day, giving you the opportunity to look round Goldhill and Sandhill. Notices, as to the date, will be placed on the village boards.
- Due to the conditions of receiving a Government grant, the almshouses are being allocated by Homes 4 Wiltshire, with bidding opening next Thursday. As well as mean-testing the applicants, they are using the Charity's constitution, stating that priority should be given to those with a genuine connection to Swallowcliffe and its immediate neighbourhood.
- Most of you will have received our fund-raising letter. Many thanks to those who have already generously responded. It is much appreciated. We need to raise money for fencing the cottage boundaries and for reinstating garden steps and rails. We also need to build up our reserves; both for the ongoing maintenance of the two almshouses and for the 'Relief in Need' part of the Charity, through which the trustees can support all members of our community, at times of hardship, by providing equipment and money for specific things. If you have not received the letter, please see me at the end of the meeting.
- We are also calling for volunteers, once the builders have gone, to help us do a general spruce up of the gardens; clearing, hedge cutting, planting and building a drystone wall, before the beneficiaries move in to the cottages. Again, if you are happy to volunteer, please see me at the end.
- Annabel Biddulph, David Morrison and myself are happy to say that Steve Whittingham has agreed to become a trustee. If anyone else is interested in becoming a trustee of the Charity, please let me know.

Many thanks.

7. **Village Litter Pick:** To debate having one

A suggestion had been received by the Parish Council from Mr Fitzpatrick that there should be a Village Litter Pick. The Assembly supported having one, but no one was willing to take on the organising of one. It was agreed to put the idea on a future Parish Council agenda for further discussion.

8. **Open Forum:** Attendees are invited to raise any topic to do with the Parish.

- Questions were raised about the Almshouses. It was confirmed that they were looking to raise £10,000
- BT Phone box, question asked as to what was happening with it. ½ the meeting supported it being bought for £1 and then sold.
- Concern was expressed about 'open' emails being sent around the Village (So that you can see all the email address), it was felt by Mr Ewer that good practice says the emails should be sent blind (so that you cannot see others email address).

Meeting closed at 9:40