

WILCOT, HUISH and OARE PARISH COUNCIL

Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Oare Village Hall
on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 7.00 pm

Present: Parish Councillors Dee Nix, Richard Fleet, Nicky Fleet, Prue Smith, Richard Lewis, Jamie Ede, Dawn Wilson, and Neil Ridgway

Clerk Ruth Kinderman

Residents Annabel and Jamie Rugge-Price, and Rupert Russell

25/01	To receive apologies for absence Cllr Kathryn Richardson Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway	
25/02	To receive declarations of interest None.	
25/03	To agree the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 26th November 2024 Cllr RF proposed that these be accepted as an accurate record; seconded by Cllr NF with all in favour and signed accordingly by Cllr DN.	
25/04	Public question time The parish council welcomed Mr and Mrs Rugge-Price, who introduced themselves as the new residents of The Old Post Office in Wilcot, having lived for the past twenty-two years in Easton Royal. They look forward to giving their new home a lot of care, and to restoring the garden. In due course, they intend to apply for planning permission for an unintrusive, single storey dining room which will not be visible from the road, as it will be an extension to the existing kitchen.	
25/05	Update from Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway Clerk had circulated the press release from Cllr Richard Clewer, leader of Wiltshire Council, regarding the proposed devolution whereby Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset will become a single Strategic Mayoral Authority to be known as The Heart of Wessex. Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole (BCP) Town Council may also join. It was agreed to discuss this proposal as an agenda item next meeting. It was noted that PCAP will be discussing the proposal at their meeting on Thursday 16 th January.	RK
25/06	Planning Applications and Enforcement To note progress of planning applications previously considered: 06.1 PL/2024/09466 - 27 Wilcot - Construction of timber framed workshop Approved by Wiltshire Council subject to an arboriculturist's report, and the requirement for the workshop to remain ancillary to the main dwelling. 06.2 PL/2024/09832 - 6 The Old Dairy, Wilcot - single storey lean-to rear extension adjoining existing kitchen Approved by Wiltshire Council. 06.3 PL/2024/09344 - Huish Down Farm, Oare - Demolition of existing buildings; erection of replacement dwelling etc; change of use of land from agricultural to residential. Wiltshire Council is yet to publish its decision, which was due on 3 rd January. It was noted that Landscape (formerly the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, AONB) had submitted a response to the Planning Portal, mostly supportive of the proposals. All councillors are to read the response and send any further comments, which they may consider relevant, to the Clerk. 06.4 PL/2024/11001 - 13, WILCOT – fell trees - T1 - Norway Spruce; T2 - Ash; T3 – Catalpa Approved by Wiltshire Council.	RK/all

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	<p>06.5 PL/2024/11418 - DOUBLE COTTAGE, 23, WILCOT - reduce trees by 2m and cut back overhanging branches to boundary Wiltshire Council is due to publish its decision on 23rd January.</p> <p>To review and provide feedback on new planning applications from Wiltshire Council (Town and Country Planning Act 1980, schedule 1, para 8) None received at time of publication of the agenda.</p>	
24/07	<p>Project updates</p> <p>07.1 SIDs Colin Gale of Rushall has ordered the third SID for the cooperative group. It was noted that the new pole has not yet been installed on the verge near Oare church; Clerk to chase Highways.</p> <p>07.2 A345 safety to include Prospect-Sunnyhill Lane speed limit discussion Clerk to send the plan of proposed new signs to Cllr DN to check all relevant signage has been replaced or installed, as agreed with LHFIG. It was noted that the post for the STOP sign at the end of Huish Lane is rusty; Clerk to report. Further to his correspondence with the Clerk, Mr Russell explained to the meeting that north-bound traffic accelerates rapidly out of the 40mph limit at Prospect into the 50mph stretch of the A345, which continues up to Oare, where it drops to 30mph. Residents are finding exiting driveways along this stretch, which includes junctions with Sunnyhill Lane and the C264 Stowell road, is becoming increasingly dangerous. Mr Russell reported that Danny Kruger, MP, has been supportive of his request for the speed limit to be reduced. It was noted that the lack of housing frontages and street lighting mean this stretch of the A345 does not meet Department of Transport criteria for the imposition of a 30mph limit. It was agreed that a request should be submitted to LHFIG to consider reducing it to 40mph.</p> <p>07.3 Bus stop at Sunnyhill Lane – LHFIG – Substantive Highways Scheme Fund Clerk reported that the bid had been submitted; the outcome of this round of funding is awaited.</p> <p>07.4 Alton Road, Wilcot – drainage, speed survey Cllr RF reported that there has been some improvement, with the recent heavy rainfall draining away within a day. The top end of the drain still needs clearing. Clerk to chase.</p> <p>07.5 Greensward update No report.</p> <p>07.6 Footpath audit Cllr Wilson reported that all matters raised recently had been addressed. Cllr Ridgway had removed the fly-tipping left at the Sunnyhill Lane end of WILC42, which had been reported by a resident.</p> <p>07.7 Defibrillators The Circuit has been kept up to date with ‘ready’ status for all defibrillators except that at Sunnyhill Lane, which is marked ‘unavailable’; this has now been sent to London Hearts, who have passed it to the manufacturer for further testing. A replacement machine is awaited.</p>	<p>RK</p> <p>RK RK</p> <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p>
24/08	<p>Finance</p> <p>08.1 To Receive the Budget and monitoring report Cllr NF had circulated the report to all councillors prior to the meeting; there were no questions and the report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.</p> <p>08.2 To approve invoices due Other than regular monthly payments to Charlton Baker for payroll services and the Clerk’s salary, there were no invoices due.</p>	

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	<p>08.3 To resolve precept for 2025/2026</p> <p>There had been no response from residents to the recent parish newsletter which had explicitly stated a rise in the precept would be necessary if further safety improvements along the A345 were to be achieved. It was noted that reserves should be built up gradually, and that an increase for 2025/2026 should be considered as the first step to a large project, rather than attempting to raise sufficient in one year. It was noted that pavements in neighbouring parishes had been achieved over many years, split into separate phases, each phase funded on its own merit.</p> <p>Clerk referred the meeting to item 24/65.4.</p> <p>Cllr RF proposed that the agreement in principle to request a precept of £14125.00 for 2025/2026 be approved; this was seconded by Cllr NR, with all in favour.</p> <p>The cost to a Band D property will be £51.41, a 54.79% increase on 2024/2025. The tax base for 2025/2026 is 274.77.</p>	RK
24/09	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>09.1 Parish Steward</p> <p>The steward is due to visit the parish on 29th January. Tasks to be requested include clearance of all gullies along the A345; clearance of the drain by the sink-hole on the northbound carriageway of the A345; clearance of the drain and complete tidy up at the end of Rudge Lane; all pot holes in Church Lane, Wilcot with especial reference to those between the corner and The Old Dairy; reinstatement of bendy reflectors in Huish and at Bristow's Bridge. It was noted that the pavement through Oare is now clean and that the grit at the Huish Lane/A345 junction has been swept.</p> <p>Other issues for the attention of Highways are: the continued lack of white lining at the Draycott crossroads; flooding at Draycott, with the associated mud; the refilled ditch along the C264 towards Hatfield; flooding on the A345 outside Hatfield Farm industrial estate; the hazardous parking of vehicles either side of Bristow's Bridge and associated risks to moving traffic and pedestrians; the fallen village sign at Huish, reported on MyWilts some months ago; the opening up of the pot holes along the C52/Hare Street.</p> <p>It was agreed that the recent patching along this stretch of the C52 had been a waste of time and resources. It was noted that the state of the C52 at Hare Street has distorted the results of speed surveys requested further south along the C52 by Manningford parish council, with the volume of traffic varying according to the state of the road.</p> <p>It was agreed to submit a request to LHFIC to pursue a long term, engineered solution to the constant breaking up of the road at the C52/Hare Street location; it was noted that anecdotal history records the dumping of builders' rubble at the site of the old ford, and the failure to instate a culvert beneath the road at the time of its removal. It was agreed that this parish council would support reinstatement of the ford; it was noted that Manningford Parish Council would also support a new ford, as a solution to the road surface and as a natural deterrent to through traffic using the C52 as a Pewsey by-pass. It was noted that Highways had declined to consider a new ford when asked in the recent past.</p> <p>It was agreed that Highways should be thanked for the new Give Way sign at Cross Hayes.</p> <p>09.2 Police Matters</p> <p>The quarterly police report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.</p> <p>Cllr DN reported that Speed Enforcement officers had conducted a session in Oare yesterday, with the highest speed recorded as 37mph, considerably lower than usual. The previous enforcement had taken place on 17th December when the fastest vehicle was captured at 47mph. Eighteen vehicles were issued with notices of intended prosecution for excessive speeding, of which fourteen drivers will be offered a speed awareness course and four will face a £100 fine, with three points added to their licences.</p>	<p>RK</p> <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p>

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	<p>Cllr DN reported that all new Community Speedwatch (CSW) volunteers, except one, have now been trained; a session will be organised within the next few weeks once the camera has been received from the Pewsey CSW team.</p> <p>The meeting heard reports of night time prowlers in Wilcot; it was noted that the three or four nights referred to had been very cold, and that homeless persons may have been looking for somewhere to sleep. It was agreed that Clerk should notify PC Steele of the reports.</p> <p>The Police and Crime Commissioner is consulting on a proposed increase to the policing precept; Clerk to share the link to the survey.</p> <p>09.3 Post box at Sunnyhill Lane</p> <p>Danny Kruger, MP, had pursued the matter with Royal Mail on behalf of the parish council but had received a disappointing response. Clerk advised that residents of Sunnyhill Lane had prepared a letter to send to the Gazette and Herald. It was agreed that the parish council fully supports the residents in their continued campaign to restore the post box to the original location; it was agreed that Clerk should advise the residents to consider publicising their case more widely by making use of Marlborough and Pewsey Facebook pages, and 'Next Door' sites.</p>	<p>DN</p> <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p>
24/10	<p>Exchange of information</p> <p>It was noted that the hedges at the A345/Huish Lane junction had been cut back by householders.</p> <p>It was noted that The White Hart in Oare has been put on the market. Clerk to advise the Gazette and Herald that there is planning permission for a new house to the side of the pub, not to the rear, as incorrectly reported in their article.</p> <p>Cllrs RF and JE reported unsuccessful attempts to repair the left-hand side door of the Wilcot noticeboard. It was agreed that Cllr JE should arrange for an acquaintance to have a look at it.</p> <p>Local Elections take place on Thursday 1st May. Clerk had circulated the link to Guidance available on the website of the Electoral Commission. Wiltshire Council is holding a webinar on Tuesday 11th February for anybody interested in standing; Clerk to share further information once published. It was agreed that Clerk should produce a newsletter focusing on the local elections.</p>	<p>RK</p> <p>JE</p> <p>RK</p>

Planning Committee meetings will be held as required. All meetings will start at 19.00hrs unless otherwise advertised. Provisional dates and times of next meetings 2024/2025:

Tuesday 25 th March 2025	Wilcot
April – end of year accounts approval - date tbc	Oare
Wednesday 14 th May 2025 – annual meetings	Wilcot

Meeting closed at 7.58 pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Transaction Date	Transaction Type	Transaction Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Balance @ bank	Income	Hire of halls	Grants (\$137)	Community expenditure	Newsletter	Salary	Accountancy	Auditing	Admin	Subscriptions	Transfers
Balance at 1 April 2024					1063.00											
02/04/2024	FPO	HMRC (PAYE)	25.00		1038.00						25.00					
02/04/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (Mar)	212.25		825.75						212.25					
02/04/2024	FPO	Wessex Print - newsletter	46.00		779.75					46.00						
19/04/2024	BGC	Wilts Council (precept)		9514.00	10293.75	9514.00										
24/04/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	15.50		10278.25							15.50				
13/05/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (Apr)	212.45		10065.80						212.45					
13/05/2024	FPO	Manningford PC - contribution to SID	300.00		9765.80				300.00							
13/05/2024	FPO	WALC/NALC subscription	229.37		9536.43										229.37	
28/05/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		9519.93							16.50				
24/06/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		9503.43							16.50				
25/06/2024	FPO	Heartbeat Trust - defibs	140.34		9363.09				140.34							
25/06/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (May)	212.25		9150.84						212.25					
25/06/2024	FPO	PCC Wilcot - burial ground upkeep	465.00		8685.84				465.00							
25/06/2024	FPO	Wilcot Village Hall	64.00		8621.84		64.00									
25/06/2024	FPO	Zurich - insurance	504.33		8117.51									504.33		
15/07/2024	FPO	C Bartlett (Domain name)	132.00		7985.51									132.00		
15/07/2024	FPO	HMRC (PAYE)	76.80		7908.71						76.80					
15/07/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (June)	420.55		7488.16						420.55					
25/07/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		7471.66							16.50				
25/07/2024	DD	ICO	35.00		7436.66										35.00	
05/08/2024	TFR	Transfer to savings	4314.07		3122.59											4314.07
05/08/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (July)	226.19		2896.40						226.19					
05/08/2024	FPO	P Emery (repairs)	50.00		2846.40				50.00							
27/08/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		2829.90							16.50				
04/09/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (Aug)	226.19		2603.71						226.19					
24/09/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		2587.21							16.50				
24/09/2024	FPO	Oare PTA - Grant	399.00		2188.21			399.00								
24/09/2024	FPO	Open Spaces Society	45.00		2143.21										45.00	
24/09/2024	FPO	Wessex Print - newsletter	46.00		2097.21					46.00						
25/09/2024	BCG	Wilts Council (payment in error)		8000.00	10097.21	8000.00										
25/10/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		10080.71							16.50				
04/11/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (Sept)	226.19		9854.52						226.19					
04/11/2024	FPO	Clerk's salary (Oct)	226.19		9628.33						226.19					
04/11/2024	FPO	HMRC (PAYE)	35.40		9592.93						35.40					
11/11/2024	BCG	Wilts Council (CIL payment)		3728.30	13321.23	3728.30										
25/11/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		13304.73							16.50				
02/12/2024	BCG	Wilts Council (payment returned)	8000.00		5304.73	-8000.00										
27/12/2024	DD	Charlton Baker (accountancy)	16.50		5288.23							16.50				
09/01/2025	FPO	HMRC (PAYE)	35.40		5252.83						35.40					
09/01/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Nov)	226.19		5026.64						226.19					
09/01/2025	FPO	Clerk's salary (Dec)	226.19		4800.45						226.19					
09/01/2025	FPO	PCAP Grant	300.00		4500.45			300.00								
09/01/2025	FPO	Wessex Print - newsletter	46.00		4454.45					46.00						
Total			17850.85	21242.30	4454.45	13242.30	64.00	699.00	955.34	138.00	2587.24	147.50	0.00	636.33	309.37	4314.07



Wilcot, Huish and Oare

Quarter 4 2024

Crimes and incidents

Wiltshire Police record crimes and incidents in accordance with the National Crime and incident recording standards. Not all incidents that one would consider a crime are necessarily classified as a crime for recording purposes.

NB- The below statistics do not account for incidents that police respond to but do not need any formal follow-up. (Road traffic incidents, minor incidents of anti-social behaviour)

From **1st October 2024 – 31st December 2024**

2 crimes and **3** incidents have been recorded in the Wilcot, Huish and Oare parish area.

There has been **1** report of a non-dwelling burglary in the parish area.

There have been **0** reports in relation to the theft of or from motor vehicles during this period.

Having reviewed the crime data for the area – There are no apparent trends that are presented or a series of crimes that are linked.

Nighttime Economy

For the past few months, the neighbourhood policing teams across Wiltshire have been conducting targeted evening operations around the nighttime economy. This has been in and around both villages and towns where licencing checks and engagement with local publicans have been on-going. Part of this operation is to encourage some best practise to local licensees but also to target drink drive offenders and other criminality around the nighttime economy. The activity will continue monthly across the county throughout 2025.

Rural Crime Operation

On **Thursday 19th December 2024** officers from your Neighbourhood Policing Team, The Rural Crime Team, Special Constabulary Road Safety unit conducted a proactive operation flooding East Wiltshire with officers to target offenders associated with rural crime. High visibility patrols were conducted of hare coursing locations and other sites previously targeted by offenders. Officers were joined on patrol by the Police and Crime Commissioner Phillip Wilkinson. Although the net was spread very wide over the rural areas of Kennet and East Wiltshire including the borders with Hampshire and Berkshire, there were no incidents reported during the operation.



Wiltshire Police Independent Advisory Groups

Are you interested in acting as a critical friend to Wiltshire Police? We are recruiting for volunteer **Independent Advisory Group (IAG)** members.

IAGs are key to Wiltshire Police's commitment to continual engagement with the communities we serve.

As an IAG member you will have the opportunity to observe and have an input into how various Policing practices are conducted in Wiltshire.

There are two different IAG cohorts you can join, Local and Strategic.

The Local IAG meetings take place every 8 weeks across Wiltshire and Swindon. Volunteer members attend meetings with their local Neighbourhood Policing Inspector (NPT) to discuss local issues and concerns and provide their views on problems and challenges in your community.

The Strategic IAG cohort of volunteer members provide input on Strategic-level policing challenges and discussions on a range of subjects overseen by the Deputy Chief Constable.

These opportunities are open to any Wiltshire resident and don't require any background in policing. To ensure we have members that fully represent all our communities we are keen to hear from people from as diverse a range of backgrounds, age groups and experiences as possible. For more information and to apply please visit: www.wiltshire.police.uk and search 'Independent Advisory Groups' and click the first link.

Speed enforcement

Both the local Neighbourhood Policing Team and the Speed Watch Enforcement Team have conducted several pro-active checks in the local area. Speed enforcement has taken place on at least **9 occasions** in the Pewsey area between **October- December 2024**.

Checks have also been completed at highlighted areas of concern across the Pewsey sector including

During this period, **81** drivers have been offered a speed awareness course, **5** drivers have been issued with a fine and points on their license and **0** drivers have been reported to court for excess speed.

Community consultations

There have been several community engagements held locally during this period as well as use of the Neighbourhood Community Engagement vehicle to access our more remote villages and parishes. In the next three months we will be in the following locations;

-23rd January 2025 at The Royal Oak, Wootton Rivers at 1100-1200 hours

-20th February 2025 Great Bedwyn, Holy Cross Church at 1200-1300 hours

-25th February 2025, Bouverie Hall, Pewsey 0900-1000 hours

The specific times of these surgeries will be advertised via community messaging and the Pewsey Police Facebook page. You and your residents can sign up for community messaging at www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk