

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 19th March 2024 at 7.00 pm

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

Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway

Clerk Ruth Kinderman

Residents Jon Ford and Martin Fetherston-Godley

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| 24/12 | To receive apologies for absence None. | |
| 24/13 | To receive declarations of interest Cllr JE – items 19.8, 19.9 and 19.10 Cllr DN – item 19.11 Cllr NR – item 17.4 Cllr KR – item 20.1 | |
| 24/14 | To agree the minutes of the meeting of the parish council held on 9th January 2024 Cllr RL proposed the minutes be accepted as an accurate record; seconded by Cllr DW with no objections and signed accordingly by Cllr DN. | |
| 24/15 | Public question time Cllr NR reported a serious dog attack at the Stowell Estate the day prior to the meeting, with twelve out of fifty pregnant ewes injured, five of whom had to be put down. The dog was owned by the same resident who had been responsible for the previous attack in October 2022. Cllr DW to put a reminder about dog control on the parish website. | DW |
| 24/16 | Update from Wiltshire Council – Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway Cllr PO noted that the proposal by the Community Governance Review (item 21.5) to redraw the northern parish boundary is to affect one property only. Clerk confirmed that the parish council has submitted a response to the consultation, pointing out the historical reasons for the placement of this property within Huish and Oare. Cllr DN reported that the resident affected has long-standing family connections with Oare and does not wish to lose her sense of place by being transferred to an adjacent parish. It was noted that the dwelling has been located in Huish since the tenth century, at least. In response to enquiries by the Clerk as to who brought the apparent boundary anomaly to the attention of Wiltshire Council, Democratic Services had reported that the Review Team had independently identified the property in question, without any prompting from other bodies. Cllr Oatway will support this parish council and the resident in objecting to the proposed boundary change. Cllr PO reported that a soil sample from the canal verge works (item 21.1) has been sent for examination. Cllr NR noted that that the Stowell Estate is paying for the soil tests. Cllr PO reported that the Oare House Estate will be submitting revised plans further to the refusal of PL/2023/07933 (item 19.2). Cllr PO has visited the site in order to understand current employee needs and benefits sought from the proposals. Cllr PO will meet Cllr RF in order to gain a better understanding of the flooding problems in Canal Close and along the Alton Road. Clerk advised that Highways was due to inspect the drainage infrastructure at this location during the week commencing 4 th March. | |

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| | <p>Cllr PO had attended the Tidworth Highways Meeting yesterday and spoken to Samantha Howell, Director of Highways, about the failure to follow up on the Pewsey Highways Meeting held on 27th November 2023. Clerk has chased answers to the submitted questions. In discussion, it was noted that very minor roads near Bedwyn have been resurfaced, while vehicles in this parish, including school buses and AA vans, have got stuck due to road edge breakdown. Cllr PO reported that Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, has agreed to visit the Pewsey Vale to inspect the highways; the visit is being coordinated by PCAP, to take place during April. Cllr PO agreed that the funding for highways maintenance is now in place but that the work is being misallocated, and that employees are too few or not fit for purpose, or being given the incorrect materials to complete their tasks.</p> <p>Cllr PO noted that the A338 had been mentioned for the first time, during north-south freight strategy discussions at the Tidworth meeting, which usually focus on the A350 link with the M4. It was agreed that the A345 and the A342 must also be considered as part of any strategy.</p> | |
| 24/17 | <p>Finance - To Receive the Budget and monitoring report</p> <p>17.1 To note invoices paid since the meeting of 9th January approved in accordance with Fin Regs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clerk's salary January and February 2 x £220.65 - Charlton Baker direct debit January and February 2 x £15.50 - Fishlock & Dyer installation of defibrillator at Hillview Park, Sunnyhill Lane £397.79 - Wessex Print Spring Newsletters £46.00 - Defib batteries Wilcot, Huish and Oare 3 x £253.80 - Clerk/printer ink - £36.90 - Peter Emery – bench assembly - £40.00 <p>17.2 To approve invoices due</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defib battery and pads for West Stowell <p>Cllr RF proposed that these be paid when received; seconded by Cllr RL with no objections.</p> <p>17.3 To resolve the change of address and contact details for the NS&I account and sign the relevant paperwork.</p> <p>Cllr NF presented prepared paperwork to remove any historical signatories and amend the contact details to her name and address. Cllrs NF, PS and NR volunteered to be named as new signatories.</p> <p>Cllr DW proposed that the application be submitted; seconded by Cllr RF with no objections.</p> <p>17.4 To receive grant application from Oare School PTA for rain garden</p> <p>The application and design brief for the project had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that a new polytunnel in the Conservation Area may need planning permission; Clerk to check with the Planning Department and report to school as necessary. It was agreed that the PTA needs to carry out more initial work before applying for a grant; additional work should include consulting the neighbours, completing the design, and providing evidence of other funds obtained. It was agreed that the concept is supported in principle; Cllr DN volunteered to contact the school to provide advice and support for progressing the project, based on her previous experience on the PTA and as a school governor. It was noted that the ongoing existence of the school is vital to Oare but that the benefits to the parish of this particular project are indirect and should be supported by other funding sources. Clerk to check whether CIL monies can be transferred to schools; it was noted that CIL monies have already been spent on improving the Greensward, which is a resource available to the school.</p> | <p>RK</p> <p>DN</p> <p>RK</p> |

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| 24/18 | <p>To appoint internal auditor</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr NF's retired colleague should be invited to audit the parish council accounts for 2023/2024. In the event he does not wish to do so, it was agreed that Charlton Baker should be asked.</p> | NF/RK |
| 24/19 | <p>Planning Applications and Enforcement</p> <p>To note progress of planning applications previously considered:</p> <p>19.1 Applications PL/2023/04706 & PL/2023/04214 (Listed Building Consent) Oare House - proposed replacement wall. Approved by Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>19.2 Application PL/2023/07933 - Oare House, Oare Estate, Oare, SN8 4JQ Proposal - Relocation of existing shade tunnel, erection of glass house and horticultural building to provide a maintenance store, estate office and greenhouse with associated ground works and landscaping. Partial change of use of paddock to accommodate the proposed use. Refused by Wiltshire Council. Clerk to circulate the decision notice. It was noted that Wiltshire Council had raised concerns similar to those submitted by the parish council in its initial objection to the proposals.</p> <p>19.3 Application PL/2023/08968 - Hatfield Farm, Oare, Wilts, SN8 4JE Proposal - Replacement of Units 1 and 2 with new buildings with altered footprint. Approved by Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>19.4 Application PL/2023/09284 - Wilcot Cricket Club, School Meadow, Wilcot, SN9 5NN Proposal - Provision of bowling and batting nets for coaching junior cricketers. Approved by Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>19.5 Application PL/2023/09665 - The White Hart, Oare, Marlborough, Wilts, SN8 4JA Proposal - Certificate of Lawfulness for material start to implement permission 14/07813/FUL (Erection of new dwelling in the grounds of White Hart public house and formation of new car park for public house) Approved by Wiltshire Council; Clerk to circulate Decision Notice to all councillors. It was agreed that the building is a matter for public health; Clerk to report concerns about the structural safety of the building and the hygiene issues resulting from dumping to the rear, and the encroachment of the garden growth to the front, of the property. Parents and children regularly walk past the property, which is reported to have been stripped out. It was noted that the approved proposals include removing the corner of the existing property, thus further damaging its structural soundness.</p> <p>To note applications considered since the last meeting</p> <p>19.6 Application PL/2024/00574 - THE STABLES, POUND LANE, OARE, SN8 4JA Proposal - T1 Sycamore tree - Fell. Approved by Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>19.7 Application PL/2024/01158 - 42, WILCOT, PEWSEY, SN9 5NS Proposal - Walnut Tree - Crown reduce by 3 - 4 m Approved by Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>19.8 Application PL/2024/01591 - WILCOT LODGE, WILCOT, PEWSEY, SN9 5NS Proposal - Beech Tree - Crown reduce by 30% - 2 - 3m; Chestnut - Reduce regrowth from previous pollard by 4 - 5m, crown raise by 2-4m Approved by Wiltshire Council.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">RK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RK</p> |

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| | <p>19.9 Application PL/2024/01596 - HOLY CROSS CHURCH, WILCOT, PEWSEY, SN9 5NS Proposal - Hawthorn tree and Ash tree – fell; 3 x Box trees - reduce to 2m-3m <i>Post-meeting note - Approved by Wiltshire Council.</i></p> <p>19.10 Application PL/2024/01597 - WALBROOK HOUSE, WILCOT, PEWSEY, SN9 5NS Proposal - Willow tree - remove 2 limbs and shorten 2 limbs; Ash tree (in grounds of The Vicarage) - remove large low limb <i>Post-meeting note - Approved by Wiltshire Council.</i></p> <p>19.11 Application PL/2024/01598 - BEECHCOMBE, COLD BLOW, OARE, SN8 4JL Proposal - 5 x Beech trees - crown reduce by 30% (2m-3m); 1 x Birch tree – crown reduce by 50% (6m-8m) <i>Post-meeting note - Approved by Wiltshire Council.</i></p> <p>To review and provide feedback on new planning applications from Wiltshire Council (Town and Country Planning Act 1980, schedule 1, para 8)</p> <p>19.12 Application PL/2023/10756 - The Old Dairy, Rainscombe Farm, Oare Hill, SN8 4HZ Proposal - Replacement and enlargement of buildings AMENDED PLANS Comments by 19th March The parish council had submitted no objection; amended plans had been circulated to councillors; there were no further comments.</p> <p>19.13 Application PL/2024/02168 - OARE HOUSE, RUDGE LANE, OARE, SN8 4JQ Proposal - Works to be carried out to 3 Lime Trees within the Oare Conservation Area; T1 – Common Lime: Request to fell this previously heavily pollarded tree in poor condition; T2 - Common Lime: Request to remove the lowest lateral branch on the east side which overhangs the carriageway; T3 - Common Lime: Request to remove 3 trunks/branches going southwards at a 45-degree angle and rubbing. Comments by 25th March It was agreed to submit no objection.</p> <p>19.14 Application PL/2024/02206 - Mariners Oak, Oare, Marlborough, SN8 4JA Proposal - Extensions & Alterations Comments by 2nd April It was noted that the submitted location and block plans were inaccurate, with the property boundaries shown incorrectly. It was agreed that the parish council has no objection to the proposals but that the plan inaccuracies should be brought to the attention of the Planning Department. It was agreed to request that existing hedging at the boundary with The Paddock remains intact in the interest of neighbour privacy.</p> <p>Clerk to source and share decision notices with Cllr NR for window replacement at 16, 17 and 18 Wilcot in the interests of ascertaining that equitable conditions have been set by Wiltshire Council.</p> | <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p> |
| 24/20 | <p>Project updates</p> <p>20.1 SIDs – to consider proposals from the SID cooperative group and the Oare Village Hall</p> <p>Clerk reported that the SID co-operative group has agreed to purchase a third SID, with annual parish contributions remaining at £300 for 2024/2025. A third SID will mean increased frequency of visits, or parishes may wish to consider additional locations. A capped pole base can be installed subject to Highways approval through LHFIG, for approximately £500.</p> | |

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The Oare Village Hall Committee (OHVC) has submitted to the parish council a proposal to purchase a SID for Oare, possibly to be located on the verge near the church; it was noted that this verge may be required for a future pavement (item 20.2). OHVC had obtained a quote of £2339.99 plus VAT. OHVC proposes that the parish council fund the initial purchase and arrange necessary approvals and insurance. OHVC is willing to be responsible for installation and ongoing maintenance, including battery charging. It was noted that Highways and the Police do not approve permanent SIDs, due to waning effectiveness over time; where these are already in place, there is a requirement that they be switched off periodically. Cllr PO advised that the Area Board will accept match-funded grant applications for SIDs; OHVC could consider applying for £1500 towards the total cost of SID and pole. It was noted that a Highways Licence will be required for OHVC members to attend to a SID. It was noted that the CSW team is currently prevented from operating due to the dangers of the A345 and that a Licence may not be granted. OHVC to seek guidance from the police as to acceptable locations for a SID before the proposal is considered further.

20.2 A345 – to note outcome of LHFIG meeting on 31/01/24

The signage review was recommended to, and approved by, the Area Board as a priority. Cllr PO noted that North Newnton and Rushall achieved their pavements by substantially increasing their precepts, with residents being aware of the reason. Clerk noted that this parish precept is considerably lower than that of neighbouring parishes.

20.3 Bus stop at Sunnyhill Lane – Reds; to note outcome of LHFIG meeting 31/01/24

The bus stop was recommended to, and approved by, the Area Board as a priority. Cllr DW noted that Woodborough and Rushall have been successful with the recent outcome of the Sustainable Highways Fund bidding round; their projects will now take priority over other priorities.

20.4 To consider request for bus shelter at Wilcot

A request had been received from a resident to consider a shelter over the bench to protect waiting bus passengers from the rain. Highways had confirmed that this should be applied for through LHFIG. Clerk to research costs and to liaise with the Stowell Estate about access to the field before proceeding with an application.

20.5 Defibrillators - to assign parish defibrillator checking responsibilities

The new defibrillator at Hillview Park has been added to The Circuit, under the Terms and Conditions of its supply. It was agreed to add the existing four defibrillators to the parish Circuit account; regular checks to be carried out by Cllr KR(Sunnyhill), Cllr DW(Huish), Cllr DN(Oare), Cllr RL(Stowell) and Cllr RF(Wilcot).

It was agreed to demonstrate a check at the next meeting. Cllr DW to continue with all checks and reports through Webnos until notified by Clerk of successful registration on The Circuit.

There has been one expression of interest in defibrillator training further to the recent newsletter.

20.6 Greensward update

Committee members have noted two sightings of herons and photographs of snowdrops for the record. Clerk has followed up the request to Bawden for pond dredging in August.

20.7 Footpath audit

Cllr DN thanked the Stowell Estate for the repair of the stile at the top of Huish Lane by the grit bin.

RK

DW/RK

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| | <p>Clerk has passed photographs to Stephen Leonard, Rights of Way Officer, for any information about the new permissive path signage at WILC3.</p> | |
| 24/21 | <p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>21.1 Canal side parking and verge project including correspondence Clerk reported that letters of thanks for the verge works have been received from two residents; one other resident has expressed concern about canal users parking by the bridge. Further to the complaint raised under item 24/04 on 9th January, Cllr PO had reported soil sample testing (item 24/16).</p> <p>21.2 Parish Steward Requests for the steward visit on 28th March to include: two potholes in Church Lane; replacement and reinstatement of verge markers at Bristow's Bridge and along Alton Road; moss removal on the pavement splay and gravel removal from the carriageway at the A345/Huish Lane junction. The new discretionary gully service will be in this area in the middle of May; any drains and gullies to be requested on the new worksheet, with what3words references for each location submitted.</p> <p>21.3 Canal & Rivers Trust Cllr NR reported successful negotiation between the Stowell Estate and the Trust for the pipe to be laid under the canal. Clerk has submitted a Freedom of Information Request to the Trust regarding costs incurred during the Ladies Bridge bollard application.</p> <p>21.4 Benches correspondence Resident Diane Strong had thanked the parish council for the new bench, with the memorial plaque to former councillor Richard Strong especially appreciated by the family.</p> <p>21.5 Community Governance Review This had been addressed under item 24/16.</p> <p>21.6 Police matters Clerk reported the ongoing Operation Scorpion, the aim of which is to make Wiltshire a hostile environment for drug supply. Clerk reported the imminent launch of the Right Care, Right Person initiative, following on from the successful scheme in Humberside to address the inappropriate use of police resources on call-outs which should be categorised as health matters. The police report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.</p> <p>21.7 Polling place review Clerk reported that election costs did not come within the scope of this review, but that the review comments had noted that running two polling stations would increase the cost burden. The review had noted that Oare Village Hall had been always used as a polling station with no problems and would continue to be deployed as the polling station for this parish. There had been no response to the parish council's request that Oare and Wilcot Village Halls are used alternately for elections. It was noted that Wilcot Village Hall has a larger car park. It was agreed to include an item in the next newsletter explaining why all parishioners are required to vote in Oare.</p> <p>21.8 Surplus grit bin</p> | <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p> <p>RK</p> |

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| | <p>Oare School now has a larger minibus and the grit bin is impeding parking arrangements. It was agreed to retrieve the grit bin and store it temporarily until an alternative location is agreed.</p> <p>Clerk reported that parish councils may request official portraits of the King.</p> <p>Clerk had received notification of a new post box sited in the lay-by at Hatfield Farm Cottages, as a replacement for the box that had fallen down in Sunnyhill Lane. It was agreed to support the resident who has complained to Royal Mail about the new site being inaccessible to many residents of Sunnyhill Lane and Hillview Park, who will have to cross the A345 to reach it. It was agreed that the new site appeared to have been chosen to meet the needs of postal workers, rather than of residents.</p> | RK |
| 24/22 | <p>Exchange of information</p> <p>22.1 Pewsey Area Board update following meeting on Monday 4th March. Cllr DW reported that the Chief Constable of Wiltshire Police had been due to attend but had travelled to the incorrect venue. Unable to discuss police matters as intended, attendees had diverted the discussion to focus on highways.</p> <p>22.2 PCAP update including LVEP and tourism matters PCAP is preparing a preferred route for Cllr Clewer to take during his visit to the Pewsey Vale (item 24/16) to enable him to see the worst places; Cllr NR requested that the bends at West Stowell are included, where the road edge has collapsed on both sides, leaving very little carriageway for vehicles. PCAP continues to dispute the decision by Wiltshire Council to discontinue funding for Visit Wiltshire.</p> <p>22.3 Newsletter - any matters arising Clerk apologised for inadvertently omitting the date of the annual meetings from the recent newsletter. Cllr RF reported that the Litter Pick had been well attended, with seventeen sacks of litter collected by eight volunteers, some of whom had responded to the Litter Pick being the first item in the recent newsletter.</p> <p>Cllr DW requested assistance with clearing out the passing place in the wooded hollow on the eastern approach to Huish. Cllr NR will attend with a scoop.</p> | NR |

Planning Committee meetings will be held as required. All meetings will start at **1900hrs** unless otherwise advertised.

Provisional dates and times of next meetings 2023/2024

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| Tuesday 14 th May 2024 – annual meetings | Oare |
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Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____



WILTSHIRE POLICE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Wilcot, Huish and Oare

Quarter 1 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. There are occasions where multiple crimes may be recorded from the same incident, for crime recording standards purposes. NB- The below statistics do not account for incidents that police respond to but do not need any follow up or are recorded as non-crime incidents. (Road traffic incidents, minor incidents of anti-social behaviour)

From 1st January 2024- 22nd March 2024

1 Crimes have been recorded in the **Wilcot, Huish and Oare Parish** area.

1 Dwelling burglaries

0 Vehicle offences

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

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 **21** different occasions in the Pewsey area between **January- March 2024**. During this period, **30** drivers have been offered speed awareness courses, **1** driver has been issued with a fine and points on their license and **1** driver has been reported to court for excess speed. During this period, there have been several pro-active patrols made of the Pewsey area from Neighbourhood, Response and Specialist Operations teams which have resulted in the arrests of several drivers for drink and drug driving as well as other traffic related offences.

Community consultations

There have been several planned drop-in surgeries in the Wootton Rivers area during this period and there has been **5** recorded community engagements throughout the wider Pewsey area during this time. A force wide, '**Neighbourhood Policing Week of Action**' took place at the end of January. In the Pewsey sector, local officers held an emergency services awareness community event.



Further community consultations will take place in the first quarter of 2024, and these will be advertised in advance via our Neighbourhood Policing Team social media pages. Any residents are also free to sign up to our community messaging service at www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk

We are always looking for new areas to conduct drop-in surgeries and provide community engagement opportunities. If you are aware or have access to suitable facilities, particularly in the **Wilcot, Huish and Oare Parish** area please contact us directly via email- devizesareanpt@wiltshire.police.uk

The next community consultations currently scheduled for the Pewsey sector are as follows;
- **The Royal Oak Public House, Wootton Rivers on Thursday 18th April 2024 (Time TBC)**

Incidents of note

- Between **13th- 27th January 2024**, entry has been gained into an outbuilding at an address in Huish and items stolen from within.