

EXTRACT

B3.3

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 8th December 2010

Present: Cllrs Roger Durie (Chairman), Ruth Francis, Jenny Clack, Charles Howell, Gordon Stone, Jim Raff, Sally Rhodes, Paul Knowler, Karina Nicholson, District Councillor Stuart Wheeler, PC Mark Lewis and 10 members of the public.


Apologies: Cllrs. Julie van Haperen and Steve Hobson.

Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were approved and signed.

Public Discussion:

- **Jenny Bowley raised the idea of free transport for children of Great Bedwyn, attending St.Johns School.** Stating that other parishes within the Pewsey Area are offered free transport. District Councillor Stuart Wheeler to review.

- **Jenny Bowley also inquired about "affordable housing" in Fortlands.** See item 10 in Matters Arising.
- **PC Mark Lewis** reported that only 2 crimes, in our area, were reported over the last month. He also stated that he would like to have a meeting with our "Neighbourhood Watch".

 - **Jan Thornton (with the backing of others) presented a petition to the Parish Council (over 40 signatures) from residents of The Knapp.** The petition highlighted the parking problems experienced by the residents, caused mainly by rail commuters. It was pointed out that many of the residents were elderly and/or disabled, and that they were dependent upon food deliveries, medical visits etc, and that the drivers had trouble finding a parking space. It was also stated that emergency services, if deemed necessary, could not gain access. The Parish Council replied by stating that this matter was already considered a priority and solutions were already being sought. These included yellow lines, permit parking (Wiltshire Council have already been approached) and an extension to the railway car park (NetworkRail have already been approached). One of the problems was the inconsiderate and unlawful parking of commuters. This was pointed out to PC Mark Lewis, who took immediate action, and has officially warned drivers of vehicles that were deemed to be parked illegally. It was agreed that in the short term the PC would work with the police to provide "no parking" traffic cones in certain areas of The Knapp where daily access for health professionals is required, and the police will enforce these restrictions

- **Steve Smith representing the Bedwyn Passenger Group,** stated that, several months ago, he had requested that the Parish Council try to supply lay-bys in The Knapp for buses etc. This request was passed to Wiltshire Council and declined.

- **David Nolson raised the problem of the road surface in Back Lane.** The Parish Council has shown him a reply received from Wiltshire Council regarding this problem. Wiltshire Council agreed that Back Lane is designated a "Byway Open to All Traffic", and the responsibility for maintaining the lane lies with themselves. WC has also made it clear that there are no funds available at present, but they may consider supplying planings, to improve the lane surface, if the residents were willing to contribute. The Parish Council suggested that the residents of Back Lane present their case direct to Wiltshire Council.

- **Martin Hamer gave an introduction to BEAM (Burbage Energy Action Management).** This is an Oil-purchasing co-operative, which is run by the community for the community, and gives residents the power to bulk purchase. (Can also be used for gas purchase etc). All purchases also attract a retrospective bonus that over the years has amounted to £12,000 and has been used to fund village causes. The Parish Council were impressed and are very interested in setting up a Great Bedwyn co-operative or becoming part of the Burbage scheme.

Matters Arising:

1. The Wharf.

A presentation of The Bruce Trust development proposals was postponed until the New Year.

2. Snow & Ice – Grit Bins.

Pewsey Area Board has only allocated one new bin for Great Bedwyn, the location of which is to be determined. Area Board to be contacted regarding the possible purchase of additional bins. The PC agreed to purchase ten snow shovels for allocation to community minded residents in various parts of the village to assist in keeping pavements passable. It was also agreed that a grit spreader and quantity of grit would be

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GREAT BEDWYN PARISH COUNCIL

A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE KNAPP

The Knapp is a group of properties built between the 1950's and 1980's by the Council for elderly Residents of the Parish.

Over the past few years this criteria has, due to guidelines and demand increased to include Disabled residents. And where appropriate, increasingly the homes have been made available to people from beyond the Parish.

The original concepts of building specific home types together in small communities was to free larger family homes by encouraging the elderly to move into more suitable properties. By creating communities such as the Knapp it enabled the services required to be concentrated, therefore more cost efficient. Both of these points are as relevant to day as they were 50 years ago.

The main change that has occurred in the past 50 years which not only effects the residents of The Knapp, but in care requirements of the elderly of today, is that where ever possible we are encouraged to remain in our homes for as long as possible. For us in the later part of our lives it becomes a very important aspect of receiving care. It is also part of Government policy to support residents by enabling them to stay in their homes because of the lack of affordable Residential Homes. Within this area of Wiltshire there are very limited Nursing and Care Home facilities

The properties at TK are managed by Sarsen Housing. Almost all of the homes have a lifeline link. Almost all of the homes are managed by our own visiting home coordinator . To be eligible for a home within this community requires meeting a strict criteria. For some of us we have waited years. Others are accepted due to their urgent need for support. When these properties become available there can be as many as one hundred people applying who meet the criteria, sometimes more. Selection is then based on urgency.

The needs of the residents of TK are varied. There are several young families who live in the flats. These are local families waiting for more suitable accommodation within the village. The greater majority of residents are elderly, most are able at this point in time to maintain a high level of independence. However an increasing number have high dependency needs, they need support from Carers, Doctors and Nurses on a daily basis. Some are visited up to three times a day by Carers and some also have daily visits from Nurses. This is high dependency, but not critical enough for Nursing Care within a Residential/ Nursing home.

I have attached a copy of the outline statement which was taken to every Resident at TK. Within the very short time span I have managed to collect signatures from almost every resident. Unfortunately I have not been able to access one resident due to the security within in her home. I have also declined to ask for signatures from several others as I feel it would be inappropriate.

Whilst discussing the original statement with each resident additional comments have been made by the residents, which I will include at the end of this statement. Also from discussing the matter with Steve Smith it seems appropriate to highlight our response to his comments, so that this matter can be resolved without excessive delay. We are under no illusion that this problem we at TK are experiencing will not be resolved without overcoming considerable difficulties.

As part of the community we do however feel strongly that we have born the brunt of the parking for long enough, without due consideration from the commuters, or active support from either The Parish Council or community as a whole. We appreciate the amount of work done to keep the station open, but we feel that the success of the commuters has created a problem, the village does not have the capacity to absorb the many cars that are left each day. With a quick look at google maps a rough estimate can be made that about one eighth of the village has become a car park

The additional comments from the residents which they wish to be included in our statement are:-

There is no understanding by those parking in TK as to the needs of the residents. There is no consideration by those who park in TK regarding the dropped kerbs which were created to enable access for children's buggies, prams, and disabled motorised buggies.

The lack of parking caused by the use of the commuters means that during the day visitors are unable to park close to our homes.

The effect of the parking is isolating our most vulnerable residents.

We are financially subsidising the commuters by having to pay for a garage (if they are available), or by requesting and paying for a disabled parking bay.

Commuters have the opportunity to park for free at the Wharf, very few do, but that only encourages more to use Bedwyn Station.

Some of the commuters who park at TK live within several hundred yards of TK, yet they still insist on using their cars.

An increasing number of cars are left for prolonged periods of 2 weeks or more.

Commuters park on the visibility splays making TK an extremely dangerous area to walk and drive in, the worst time being in the evening when vehicles are parked on both splays at the station end, forcing drivers to reverse back into the main road, only to be confronted by cars coming over the bridges.

We are on the bus route, the buses turn in the first cul de sac rather than the second which is wider and safer. They also wait for passengers.

A large number of residents vehicles have been damaged by the commuters using TK railway parking area, reversing out without clearing their rear windscreens.

Many of the residents have asked commuters not to park outside their homes for a specific reason, only to be 'disrespected'.....

Commuters often park in the disabled parking spaces.

Commuters also park too close to disabled vehicles making it difficult/impossible for the resident to use their own care.

Residents and their visitors have to carry shopping considerable distance because they are unable to park near their home. This causes embarrassment, anger and distress to those in our community who need considerable support. It is also dangerous and causes physical discomfort/harm putting the resident and visitor at risk.

TK is also part of the schools preferred exit system for traffic.

Should the Fire Brigade be required to attend at TK, they would be severely delayed due to the restrictions caused by parking. I should point out that the fire services are increasingly required to attend when the Ambulance service requires support.

Steve Smith has made the following comments which I feel it is appropriate to address at this point together with our response.

That the commuters contribute to the trade within the village, and directly effect the value of properties within the village.

We are sure they contribute a small but valuable amount to the village, but from observation the majority drive away without stopping. The village house prices are affected by the Station, however this should not be to the detriment of a vulnerable group within the community. Bedwyn is a desirable village, but no village is desirable when over run with traffic.

There has been discussion regarding double yellow lines and additional parking bays being created.

The double yellow lines will prevent the residents and their visitors from easy access to the properties at all times, and those commuter cars displaced would force a knock on effect within the area as a whole. The additional bays are not something anyone is financially supporting, it would also encourage more commuters.

SS has asked which is the worst effected areas of TK.

ALL of TK. Commuters even park in the resident only parking at the back of the flats and in the two cul de sac areas. There is no part of TK which escapes from the problem.

We have been asked why the residents have not complained before, some have, this has been raised but never followed through. They did not want to make a fuss, more importantly they do not think anything will be done to help resolve the problem.

The overall effect of this excessive and problematic parking is to isolate the residents, to anger and frustrate them and those who try to support them.

The physical, emotional and social effect this is having on the wellbeing of the residents can not be under estimated.

Enforced and social isolation are extremely distressing for the residents, their quality of life and wellbeing suffer.

There is also the problem of self isolation, we do not want to ask for help and support, we discourage visitors because we do not want to see them struggle with the parking, having to walk sometimes considerable distances just to get to us. Our own self esteem suffers, the loneliness just gets worse.

I have been surprised, angered and deeply saddened by the frustration and misery my neighbours experience on a daily basis. More importantly I am concerned by the isolation they are experiencing, directly caused by the parking issues.

I know that there is a great deal of support within the community, we only have to ask, but asking when you know the inconvenience you will cause....most residents would rather not ask.

We are asking that TK is made resident parking only in its entirety. We do not support the yellow line idea. The very minimum we will accept, is a reserved parking space for each resident. In turn I will ask the residents if they will support the nose first parking for the commuters to be extended.

We simply can not accommodate any more commuters until this problem is resolved and request that the commuters are made aware of the problems and misery they are causing.

Great Bedwyn Parish Council

Following the recent report from the Parish Council published in the Parish magazine, we the undersigned residents of The Knapp, wish to raise the following concerns regarding the parking by commuters using the railway.

On an average working day there are approximately 50 vehicles parked in The Knapp belonging to commuters. There are only 38 homes in The Knapp.

The inconsiderate and dangerous parking of vehicles at the junctions create a hazard to pedestrians and other vehicles because of the lack of visibility.

There are considerable problems for the bus services due to the inconsiderate parking.

The Parking creates problems for the residents of The Knapp, between the hours of 7.30am and 6.30pm there is nowhere to park either for our own vehicles, visitors or support services such as Doctors, Carers and Nurses.

Should Emergency service be required to attend any of the residents, there can be delays due to careless parking, and no where to park close to the home of the resident without blocking the road.

An increasing number of residents are having home deliveries for food, this is very problematic for the delivery drivers. It is also very difficult for the residents who do their own shopping and can not park near their own homes. In some instances residents are forced to park on the grass verges to unload their shopping.

An increasing number of vehicles are also left by commuters over an extended period, some times more than a week.

A number of commuters are collected from the station, the cars wait for them in the road, blocking the road completely, this is infuriating, The Knapp is not a public car park! Indeed a number of commuters seem to be under the impression that The Knapp is a public path and show no consideration to the flow of traffic.

We understand that commuters have always used The Knapp for parking. We understand that there are several proposals to stop the problems we are experiencing, such as restricted parking, double yellow lines and permit holders only areas, this in turn would cause problems in other areas. But, due to the complete lack of consideration by the commuters and the needs of the residents we are requesting that The Knapp in its entirety is made a Resident only parking area. We also understand that many of the commuters chose to use Bedwyn to avoid paying parking charges at Hungerford and Pewsey.

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Extracts from Great Bedwyn Parish Council Minutes 2011 Parking issues in The Knapp

12 January 2011

Public Discussion:

Jan Thornton representing the residents of The Knapp and Margaret Burden representing the Bedwyn Passenger Group, attended the meeting and requested an update regarding the progress being made by the Parish Council on the "parking problems in The Knapp."

Matters Arising:

Bus route and station parking. NetworkRail have been approached regarding additional parking. Discussions are ongoing, and we are waiting for a definitive response. Parish Council has approached Wiltshire Council regarding possible parking restrictions and are waiting for a site meeting. Meeting with representative of The Knapp took place, and recommendations have been made. These include yellow lines on the approach (the main curve down to the station entrance/bus stop), resident only parking in the two cul-de-sacs and a couple of restricted areas for special needs visitors. It was made clear at the meeting that the overall objective of this exercise is to provide a 'win win' solution to the parking problem, resulting in both residents and rail passengers being satisfied that we have done our best to meet their needs.

9 February 2011

Public Discussion:

Jan Thornton and Joe Powell representing the residents of The Knapp and Margaret Burden representing the Bedwyn Passenger Group, attended the meeting and requested an update regarding the progress being made by the Parish Council on the "parking problems in The Knapp".

Matters Arising:

NetWork Rail have responded to our approach regarding additional parking, and they have proposed a site visit following completion of a questionnaire that they have sent. The Parish Council will be organising a meeting of all interested parties, as and when all parties are available, and a definitive response has been received from Wiltshire Council and NetWork Rail. As a temporary measure, the Police will be placing bollards in The Knapp to restrict some parking. This is due to happen within the next two weeks.

9 March 2011

Public Discussion:

Representatives from the newly formed Knapp Tenants Association were present. Their Chairwoman/Spokeswoman is Prudence Collett-Jobey and their secretary is Jan Thornton. They were accompanied by several Knapp residents, and Prudence was invited to introduce herself and outline the needs of their Association. There followed an accusatory speech which the Tenants Association claimed that the Parish Council did not support the needs of The Knapp residents. It was stated that the Parish Council had done nothing, and that all progress that was being made, was down to the residents only. The Parish Council has requested that The Knapp Tenants Association put all their grievances, complaints, expectations and demands in a letter. The Parish Council will then reply in detail.

Matters Arising:

A site meeting with NetWork Rail has been arranged regarding our request for additional parking. A site meeting with Wiltshire Council is still awaited. Leaflets for advising commuters on preferred parking have been approved by the Parish Council.

13 April 2011

Public Discussion:

Jan Thornton stated that motor vandalism and accidental damage was a fairly common occurrence in The Knapp, but was not always reported.

Matters Arising:

Site meetings with Network Rail and Wiltshire Council Highways, regarding the relief of congestion in The Knapp, have taken place. See notes of meetings below. Leaflets advising commuters on preferred parking have been distributed by the Bedwyn Train Passenger Group. A document entitled "Commuter Parking at The Knapp" was produced and distributed to all residents in Great Bedwyn, by the Knapp Tenants Association, asking them to "make your opinion count". So far there has been very little response.

A letter from our MP Claire Perry regarding Parking in The Knapp was received and responded to, by The Chairman. The Clerk is to check with the police, whether anything can be done regarding "holiday parking", ie, parking in the village for a week or more.

The Knapp Tenants Association have not confirmed the content of Mrs Collett-Jobey's presentation at the March meeting, as agreed. However, Mrs Collett-Jobey has written a personal letter to the chairman and this was responded to on April 4th.

MEETING NOTES

Network Rail

The meeting was requested by The Parish Council in October, to discuss the problems caused by rail commuter parking in The Knapp and around the village. The Parish Council requested that Network Rail review the possibilities of extending the existing car park. A sketch/plan was handed to Network Rail showing where the Council thought it was possible to create additional parking. (35 spaces in addition to the 25 already available). Network Rail are very sympathetic to the problems and are currently conducting internal enquiries regarding the potential use of the land for parking. A response is expected at the beginning of May. After our meeting with Network Rail, Jan Thornton (Secretary of the Knapp Tenants Association) contacted Network Rail and "expressed her deepest concern at the possibility of additional car parking spaces at Bedwyn station and stated that the residents would object to this proposal".

Wiltshire Council Highways

The meeting was requested by The Parish Council in October, to discuss the problems caused by rail commuter parking in The Knapp and the possibility of parking restrictions within The Knapp. Prior to the meeting WC had already stated the following:-

"It is not possible to restrict the cul de sac to residents only by order. It is also not possible at this stage to consider a residents parking scheme as the ways of dealing with the numerous requests for schemes across Wiltshire are still being developed. But in any case the basics of a scheme are related to residents not being able to park on the carriageway and having no off-street parking. It is not intended as a means of just stopping non residents parking in an area. Such schemes are to be self financing and in the most recent scheme, introduced as trial, the permits cost £90 each"

Following the meeting, Wiltshire Council have agreed to produce an outline plan showing what they believe to be feasible and acceptable. The two options offered and discussed were:-

- 1) Double yellow lines in parts of The Knapp where traffic flow is currently hampered by parked cars.
- 2) Limited Waiting in the two cul-de-sacs. (2hrs or 4hrs). This would then be a civil offence.

When WC have finalised their study, the findings will be aired with all concerned, (Residents and Councillors) prior to acceptance or otherwise. It was also stated that funding would have to be found for any work undertaken. This would have to be applied for through The Area Board.

11 May 2011

Public Discussion:

Jan Thornton on behalf of The Knapp Tenants Association, asked if there had been any progress reported from Network Rail and WCC Highways. The response from the Chair, "was very little".

Matters Arising:

Network Rail gave the following update (11th May); "Internal investigations are still ongoing". Wiltshire Council Highways gave the following update (10th May); "I have not yet had an opportunity to draw up the draft scheme", "I would hope to be able to prepare something within the next 4 weeks".

The following is a statement from the Pewsey Area Board meeting:-

The Knapp is a PAB issue no. 1594, described as:

"A site meeting has taken place and Highways have agreed to look at the basis of a scheme, which will include some measures in the Cul de sac, such as time limited parking bays for carers, health visitors etc. The scheme will then be submitted to the Parish Council and the Tenants Association summarising what is and what is not possible. There is no timescale for taking the process to the next stage at the present time but highways are working with the Cabinet member on how a matrix can be developed for prioritising all the requests for amendments to parking controls across Wiltshire. It is not until this is developed will we be able to say where Great Bedwyn sits in the scheme of things."

The Parish Council has again requested that, following her speech at the Council meeting on the 9th March 2011, the Chairman of The Knapp Tenants Association, put all their grievances, expectations etc. in a letter. This was agreed at the time and The Parish Council stated that they would then reply in detail.

8 June 2011

Public Discussion:

Mr Steve Smith from the Bedwyn Train Passengers Group read out a statement which was as follows:-

"Jan Thornton copied the Parish Council and the Passenger Group a letter that Prudence Collett-Jobey, on behalf of the Tenants Association, wrote to Kes Nielson. This was in response to Kes's letter in the Parish News. It was highly critical of the Passenger Group and the Parish Council. We have responded with a series of denials against the accusations made, also we have responded to the points that we believe to be factually incorrect. We don't propose to go through them here. However, there are a few things that we wish to air.

On Saturday May 21st the passenger group, as part of the big village cleanup, tidied up the station and The Knapp. While doing this I managed to speak with two carers that had just made a visit. I asked them about the parking situation and how it affects them and the elderly. They were able to tell me:

- On weekday mornings it can be difficult to park and sometimes they have to park at the far end of The Knapp.
- There is a particular female resident who does not receive care, who does not allow them to park in any of the disabled bays and tells them off if they attempt to do so. Although parking in a disabled bay is not ideal the fact that a resident of The Knapp is delaying a carer is not a great state of affairs.
- Not once has a client missed any care, even one minute, due to the parking.

We have two main concerns:

1) The Tenants Association statement of the problem differs from what we have observed and enquired about. However, we do realise that the parking is frustrating for some of the residents and support measures that we have previously stated. However, we are concerned that the flaws in the Tenants Association argument will be used by Network Rail and Wiltshire Council (who will hold the funding for any project) as an excuse to do nothing. That would not be serving the residents of The Knapp.

2) The Tenants Association have taken such an accusatory stance that their, ours and the Parish Councils efforts are going into managing the argument and not into improving the parking. It's causing upset for us and the Parish Council and could well be upsetting some of the vulnerable residents who might prefer to know that all sides are working together and progress is being made. We are concerned that those that require care, and who have never missed a minute of care due to the parking, are now worried that their care might be compromised. I know how terrifying that would be for an elderly person, especially when dependent on care for food, medication and personal cleansing. Would it not be better to work with us and the Parish Council to ensure that this situation never arises without worrying them?"

Matters Arising:

Work is continuing on this. It is down as an action item for the Pewsey Area Board and confidence was expressed that the Board officer Caroline Brailey would pursue this. Network Rail have advised that they are currently costing a survey of the area and Wiltshire Council require more time to complete their proposal for parking restrictions.

Letter from Prudence Collet-Jobey (The Knapp Tenants Association) stating that there was nothing to be gained by further interaction with the Parish Council at that point. This was in response to requests from The Parish Council for her agreed confirmation of speech given at the March meeting of the Parish Council. Councillors expressed regret that Mrs Collet-Jobey has not chosen to supply written confirmation of the points she raised at the March meeting as this made it impossible to respond to her.

13 July 2011

Matters Arising:

Network Rail appears to be willing to extend their existing car park onto railway land formerly used as a siding. They have requested payment of £5000 to carry out a feasibility study. The Parish Council will approach the Pewsey Area Board regarding the subject of funding as this is a project that would mainly assist people outside Great Bedwyn whilst relieving congestion in The Knapp.

Wiltshire Council Highways gave the following update:

"We have advised both Sarsen and Residents Association that we need to consider any scheme carefully as any restrictions in The Knapp will no doubt cause displacement parking

elsewhere. Therefore I can assure you that no promises were made to proceed with a scheme at this stage, as we have existing commitments elsewhere in the county and new assessment criteria for such requests has yet to be formally agreed. We did advise that any scheme would require the backing of the Parish Council as the statutory elected body for the village”.

Wiltshire Council Highways and Network Rail were both approached, regarding the new signage that has appeared on the A4 and A338, giving directions to Great Bedwyn rail station. The Parish Council followed this up, and got the following response from Highways: "Traffic signs are not intended for advertising but are provided to help those less familiar with the area find local facilities easily and safely. It is common practice to review the destinations on traffic signs when carrying out extensive replacement work and we have updated the signs to Great Bedwyn to include the national rail symbol for consistency purposes. The symbol has appeared on the direction signs from the A4 for many years and I am unaware of any previous requests to have these removed. We do not envisage an increase in users of this facility as a result of these changes. The station is long established and provides a valuable link for the community area, to London and the South West. Not all users of the station will be commuters and others will travel simply to pick up or set down passengers. It is for those less frequent visitors that the signs have been provided. The long stay parking issues will continue to be investigated."

14 September 2011

Pre Council Meeting:

Prior to the Council meeting, Mr. Alister Storey, Principal Traffic Engineer for Wiltshire Council Highways, gave a presentation showing the draft proposals for restricted parking in the village. The presentation was attended by over 70 interested parties.

The Chairman of The Parish Council, Roger Durie, gave an introduction as follows:-
"As you are aware we have Wiltshire Highways Engineer, Alister Storey, with us tonight, to present proposals drawn up to deal with parking and congestion issues in The Knapp. Before Alister begins his presentation I should just like to re-cap on the events preceding this exercise. In September 2010 at our Parish Council meeting it was stated that the bus route appeared to have changed but investigation revealed that the bus company experiencing congestion in Castle Rd./The Knapp had decided to use a different route to avoid the congestion. At our October meeting it was agreed that the Police should be asked to monitor inconsiderate parking by commuters and that we should approach Wiltshire Council regarding the possibility of some limited parking restrictions and Network Rail regarding the possibility of utilizing their redundant siding for additional parking. In December Mrs Jan Thornton presented a petition to the Parish Council signed by residents of 36 properties in The Knapp requesting that the entire area be made 'residents parking only' and at the same time Doctor Ballard wrote supporting the idea of a residents parking scheme. Since then Network Rail have not been prepared to move forward on the additional parking spaces unless we pay £5000 for a feasibility study (I do not believe Mrs Thornton helped matters by telling them that Knapp residents did not want additional parking spaces) but Wiltshire Council have prepared their proposals for parking restrictions which Alister will now present. There will be an opportunity to ask questions when Alister concludes his presentation in approx 15 minutes and there will be a further opportunity for individual comment in our public discussion session"

Alister Storey began by stating that the proposals were drafted in consideration of road safety. His presentation showed the full extent of proposed yellow lines, coupled with other restrictions. There then followed a lively and constructive question and answer session, between Alister and those present. The main concern being the effect of the proposed

parking restrictions on the rest of the village. The proposals did not represent a community wide solution.

The Chairman then brought the question and answer session to a close, and requested a show of hands, to ascertain the level of support for the following:-

- a) To approve the proposals as Alister's presentation. (12 supported)
- b) To totally reject the proposals. (26 supported)
- c) To agree to partial parking restrictions, to include bell mouths and dropped kerbs. (34 supported)

The Chairman thanked Alister, on everyone's behalf.

Note:- The Parish Council did not propose the current scheme, and they have not been invited to attend any on-site meeting with Mr Storey.

Public Discussion:

Ann Kilpatrick asked if extra land could be purchased for parking, with funding from surrounding villages.

Roger Kenyon asked if the land between the two bridges could be used for a car park.

Steve Smith speaking on behalf of Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group, read out the following:-

'We are disappointed how Sarsen Housing let the garages. There are a total of 39 garages and parking bays, in the two closes, and it's no coincidence that there are 39 homes. Over the years the association between the garages and the homes has been lost as Sarsen generate revenue by letting them to non-residents. There are also 24 car parking spaces, behind the flats, that are for residents only. These are under utilised by residents on a daily basis. Sarsen could do more to allocate these to residents for use by their visitors and carers. Bedwyn station is the railhead for Marlborough and the surrounding villages. Consequently it has an economic importance to the area that has not been taken into account in Wiltshire Council's proposal. The commuters and the village as a whole are net contributors to the taxes and funding raised and received by Wiltshire Council. It is therefore reasonable to expect that the parking problems in the village, caused by use of the station, are funded in a manner that respects the economic contribution made by the station and the villagers. For example the loss of parking spaces proposed by Wiltshire Council could be offset by them funding the extension to the station car park. Alister Storey's photographic presentation was not of photographs all taken at the same time. Instead they showed each area at its worse which collectively made it appear a bigger problem than it is. I've taken many walks around The Knapp at peak times and there is always one of the parking problems shown but never all of them at the same time.

Other than what has already been discussed this evening we'd like to raise the following:

1. We understand that Wiltshire Council can't introduce a resident's only scheme for the two closes. We therefore suggest that Wiltshire Council un-adopt the two closes and hand control to Sarsen Housing. Sarsen Housing can then line/sign as they feel appropriate.
2. To create lay-bys either side of the entrance into The Knapp from Brook Street. Our proposal does not involve the loss of any trees'.

Gill Boden representing Sarsen Housing Association responded, by saying that garages have been let to "others", and they will now take more interest in the problems caused by parking. This would include allowing carers to use the car park behind the flats. Sarsen Housing would also review the possibility of the two cul-de-sacs being re-classified/unadopted.

Jan Thornton representing The Knapp Tenants Association responded, by saying that the parking problem is not getting any better, and there are 25% of the Knapp residents who are

housebound. She also welcomed the idea of the cul-de-sacs being unadopted. Sarsen Housing could then safeguard areas for carers etc.

Stuart Wheeler and Caroline Brailey representing The Area Board stated that a Home Scheme for Carers was being introduced, which could improve care within the County, and was likely to reduce the numbers of carers visiting individuals, hence possibly relieving parking pressures and minimising time taken parking. This is very much “work in progress” Stuart Wheeler representing The Area Board advised that he would approach Network Rail and British Waterways (wharf) regarding additional parking.

Cllr. Nick Gibbins will explore alternative funding and advice on the parking situation.

Matters arising:

The Parish Council has received numerous e-mails/letters (25) regarding W C Highways parking restriction proposals. Many had empathy for The Knapp residents but all were against the use of yellow lines. Stuart Wheeler is to review the possibility of WC Highways unadopting the two cul-de-sacs within The Knapp. The existence of a Rail Transport Plan is to be reviewed by the Parish Council and the Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group. It is believed that the plan would incorporate commuter parking provisions.

The Parish Council then voted and rejected, in its entirety, the draft proposals presented by Wiltshire Council Highways, whilst all other options are being pursued. Including, but not limited to, the possibility of Sarsen Housing adopting the cul-de-sacs, and some limited parking restrictions around the bend by the bus stop.

12 October 2011

Prior to the Council Meeting, Mr. Steve Smith gave a presentation on behalf of The Bedwyn Trains Passenger Group - (BTPG). The presentation was made to elicit responses and/or adoption as it was felt to be a more harmonious proposal than that suggested by Wiltshire Council Highways at the Parish Council Meeting on 14th September 2011.

The BTPG proposal suggested “we need to do something”, “yellow lines are objectionable” and “the solution must be palatable to all parties”. The BTPG accepted that whilst white lines are not legally binding they act as a “wake-up call” and experience suggests they tend to work on junctions and at dropped kerbs, though they are less effective on straight roadway sections. The application of white lining at key locations in the Knapp and in Brook Street at its junction with The Knapp could reduce the problems of inconsiderate parking. Identifying the bus stop location with red lines could also be considered and later stages could involve reclassifying/unadoption of the two closes in the Knapp so they could revert to residents parking only under the control of Sarsen Housing. The creation of two additional lay-by parking areas to maintain roadway clearance in The Knapp near its junction with Brook Street might also be considered. There was also the possibility that Network Rail could provide some additional parking spaces at the station. None of these suggestions relied upon each other so a phased approach could be taken. The proposal, however, suggested that the first phase of a solution could be white lining in The Knapp and in Brook Street near the junction with The Knapp. This could involve the following, working from Brook street through The Knapp to Farm Lane:

- a) White lines across the driveways to No 1 Railway Terrace and No.3 Brook street
- b) White line the junction of the Knapp and Brook Street from the green BT box on Brook Street to “The Knapp” street sign
- c) White line the north side of the Knapp bend from the drain cover opposite the bus stop to where the kerb straightens out
- d) White line the junction of both cul-de-sacs with The Knapp from the bend to just beyond the dropped kerbs

e) White line the three dropped kerbs beyond the cul-de-sacs where The Knapp turns past the flats and up towards its junction with Farm Lane

f) White line both sides of TheKnapp's junction into the residents' car park at the flats
In addition red lines could be used to mark the bus stop on the north side of the Knapp with white lettering to prevent cars from parking there. This would solve the current problem of cars parking there and causing an obstruction when the bus parks on the other bus stop on the opposite side of the road.

The Parish Council Chairman, Mr. Roger Durie, then thanked Mr. Smith for his presentation and opened the meeting to public discussion.

Mrs. Thornton asked if the BTPG proposals had been presented to Highways. Mr. Smith said the presentation had only been made to The Parish Council at this stage. A number of general questions followed to clarify points made during the presentation. Mrs. Thornton said that it was unlikely Sarsen would request re-classification/unadoption of the cul-de-sacs as this involved taking on major liabilities. Councillor Clack made the point that the larger of the two cul-de-sacs was never fully utilized for parking at any time of the day giving space for carers/ visitors to park and access homes; and this was accepted unreservedly by Mrs. Thornton. Mrs. Thornton commented, however, that this situation could change in the future but Councillor Clack said the Parish Council had to deal with matters as they stood today, not at some hypothetical point in the future.

The general response to the proposals was that they were a valuable and constructive way to approach the problem of parking in The Knapp. The Chairman of the Parish Council then drew the public discussion on this presentation to a close.

Matters Arising:

A letter was sent to WC on 23rd September in response to the presentation given by the Traffic Engineer on 14th September 2011 but due to internal reorganization at the Council this did not reach him for several days. The Parish Council Chairman (RD) and District Councillor Stuart Wheeler will meet Sarsen Housing on 25th October to discuss parking and traffic issues.

The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour of requesting Highways by letter through Paul Bolland whether white lines as proposed by the BTPG can be laid at the same time as the 20mph speed limit is introduced in the village at the end of November 2011. This could include the red lining for the bus stop in The Knapp. A simplified diagram of the proposed white lining and red bus stop lines has been provided by the BTPG. Adding additional laybys and extending the railway car parking will be examined later as a second stage as this is also supported by the Parish Council.

A request to Parvis Khansari, Director for Strategic Services (Highways and Passenger Transport) at Wiltshire Council, has been made to include Great Bedwyn in the Rail Transport Plan (Access to Stations) bid for Wiltshire. Progress on this will be reported by District Councillor Stuart Wheeler.

Correspondence Received:

Email dated 4th Oct 2011 from The Knapp Tenants Association responding to Parish Council request of 29th Sept 2011 for copies of the Knapp Tenants Association Minutes and membership list indicating a need to edit those minutes beforehand to protect confidential tenant information prior to presentation to the PC.

9 November 2011

Public Discussion:

Jan Thornton requested an update regarding "white lining". The Chairman reported that following enquiries concerning the possibility of applying white lines instead of double yellow lines, he had been informed this was not current WC policy. It was noted however, that white lines are used extensively across the UK to assist with parking management and there are white lines in Great Bedwyn already. The Parish Council will have further discussions with WC concerning this issue. Jan Thornton also stated that whilst decisions were still outstanding, regarding parking restrictions in The Knapp, several residents who had requested disability bays were put on hold. District Councilor Stuart Wheeler requested a list of the residents who had applied, and would follow up their applications.

Prudence Collett-Jobey referred to the minutes of the September Council meeting, quoting that "The Parish Council had voted and rejected, in its entirety, the draft proposals presented by Wiltshire Council Highways". It was pointed out that this was inaccurate. The actual statement in the minutes read:- "The Parish Council then voted and rejected, in its entirety, the draft proposals presented by Wiltshire Council Highways, whilst all other options are being pursued. Including, but not limited to, the possibility of Sarsen Housing adopting the cul-de-sacs, and some limited parking restrictions around the bend by the bus stop.

Anthea Rogers questioned a statement made in the September minutes. The statement read; The Parish Council did not propose the current scheme, and they have not been invited to attend any on-site meeting with Mr.Storey." This statement is true, and precise. The draft proposal presented by Alister Storey did not reflect the PC's original suggestions to Peter Harris and the only consultation (instigated by the PC) was the telephone conversation with the Chairman, when Alister Storey was only prepared to consider very minor amendments to his draft proposal, and did not acknowledge the PC's concerns about the excessive nature of the scheme. The Chairman again made it clear that the result of the "show of hands" taken at the public meeting on 14th September showed a majority against the draft proposals presented by WC Highways. The Chairman stated that there had been 85 people against the draft proposals. This was made up from 26 who totally rejected the proposal (at the meeting), plus the 34 who would agree to partial restrictions (at the meeting), plus the 25 e-mails/letters received that were against the use of yellow lines. The show of hands contributed to the Parish Council decision, but views and opinions were also shaped by the perceived excessive proposals set out by WC Highways. It is for this reason that the Parish Council is now pursuing alternative measures.

Matters Arising:

The Parish Council Chairman (RD) and District Councilor Stuart Wheeler, had a meeting with a representative of Sarsen Housing, on 25th October to discuss parking and traffic issues within The Knapp. Sarsen Housing are unwilling to take ownership of the two cul-de-sacs, but will try to help by marking car parking bays, in the car park behind the flats. Residents of The Knapp will then be notified that parking is available for their carers and visitors.

The Parish Council contacted Paul Bolland regarding whether white lines as proposed by the BTPG can be laid at the same time as the 20mph speed limit is introduced. There was a negative response from Paul Bolland. The Parish Council has again contacted Wiltshire County Highways, requesting further consideration, and Paul Bolland will consult with his manager, when he returns from leave at the end of November. Network Rail has again been contacted, and the Parish Council has been informed that the area requested for the car park extension has been "cleared for use". (still subject to £5000 for Network Rail to carry

out their feasibility study) The PC is applying for a grant for this amount, via Pewsey Area Board.

14 December 2011

Public Discussion:

Jan Thornton representing The Knapp Tenants Association referred to the latest proposal from WCC Highways, regarding revised parking restrictions in The Knapp. The Council was asked if they would give their backing to additional restrictions in the 2 cul-de-sacs. Having previously asked Sarsen Housing to "take ownership" of the 2 cul-de-sacs, the Parish Council agreed to the additional restrictions. Mrs. Thornton stated that Sarsen Housing has agreed to marking out the car parking bays behind the flats, and advising Knapp residents and carers of the availability. She also stated that the grit bin that Sarsen Housing had agreed to supply earlier in the year had not yet been supplied.

Matters Arising:

The Chairman gave an update on the advances made since the September meeting, these included the following:-

Sarsen Housing proposal to take ownership of cul-de-sacs. Sarsen Housing was not willing to request the un-adoption of the 2 cul-de-sacs.

Highways proposal to paint White Lines. WCC Highways were not willing to paint white lines, as a trial. White lines are used extensively and successfully in other villages and towns, to discourage and restrict car parking on highways.

Sarsen Housing agreement to the use of the flat's car park for carers and visitors. Sarsen Housing has agreed to this and will be marking out the spare spaces (circa 15)

Network Rail is carrying out the feasibility study for the car park extension. Network Rail has agreed to self finance the study. Report expected soon.

WCC Highways has produced a revised Draft Proposal. Outline details to be published via Parish News, and a plan will be displayed on the notice board and Parish Document Store.

There was unanimous support for the new draft proposal, subject to suitable feedback/lack of complaints from residents. The mix of disability bays/limited waiting in the cul-de-sacs is being finalised with The Knapp Tenants Association and WCC Highways. It was agreed that the public will be given the opportunity to comment. Revised plans from WCC Highways will be displayed on the notice boards when available. It was also agreed that The Chairman would prepare an article for The Parish News, to outline the revised plans.

WCC Highways has suggested that the yellow lines can be "conservation grade" (narrower and a lighter yellow).

Stuart Wheeler then commended the Chairman and Councillors for their input into trying to resolve the problem in the best interest of the village.

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 11th January 2012**

Present: Cllrs Roger Durie (Chairman), Gordon Stone, Jenny Clack, Jim Raff, Charles Howell, Steve Hobson, Paul Knowler, Karina Nicholson, Tom Mallinson, Nick Gibbins, Member Burbage and the Bedwyns, Cabinet member for Campus Development and Culture, Stuart Wheeler, and approx. 18 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr. Tom Mallinson.

Minutes: The minutes of the December monthly meeting were approved, subject to an amendment noted by the clerk, and signed.

Declaration of Interests: Councillors were invited to declare any interest in items on the Agenda.

There were no declarations of interest.

Public Discussion:

- **Philip Blunt** questioned the wording, of the December minutes, relating to The Three Tuns, and asked why he had not received an answer to his e-mail. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had been inundated with correspondence, and stated that his e-mail would be dealt with.

- **Mick Goss** stated that he was against the proposed parking restrictions in The Knapp, calling it a "wretched scheme". He stated that Bus route problems should have priority over resident parking and that parking spaces for residents and carers, within The Knapp, are adequate.

- **Jan Thornton** responded by saying that the new proposals only displace 4 cars.

- **Julie van Haperen** stated that she was also against the proposed parking restrictions in The Knapp, and agreed with the sentiments of Mick Goss.

- **Karen Gardener** also stated that she was against the proposed parking restrictions in The Knapp, and queried the membership and validity of The Knapp Tenants Association. Stating that she had not seen any published documentation.

- **Jan Thornton** responded by saying that The Knapp Tenants Association's minutes etc. are available on request.

- **Karen Gardener** went on to say how important the station was to the village and this was part of the reason she had concerns about the scheme.

- **The Chairman then gave his response** stating that the latest proposal from WCC Highways was thought, by The Parish Council to be acceptable, bearing in mind that it is very much in line with the PC's original request and that, coupled with the response from Network Rail, constitutes the solution originally sought. The feasibility study from Network Rail states that it is possible to extend the car park and create an additional 23 spaces.

- **Kevin Challen** stated that he thought we were almost there with the latest scheme, but added that residents of The Knapp would have problems parking and that he thought that yellow lines would be better kept to the mouth and bends only. He stated that there was not a "Health and Safety" issue, as there had not been one reported accident in The Knapp. He would welcome, and sought, an open public discussion. Kevin also questioned the details of The Knapp Tenants Association, their constitution, membership and minutes of their meetings, pointing out that none of this appeared to be in the public domain.

- **Julie van Haperen** stated that the continuity and viability of the station should be a priority.

- **The Chairman** stated that funding had to be sought for the car park extension.

- **Ruth Francis** requested a statement from The Knapp Tenants Association, stating that they agreed with the Network Rail car park extension.
- **Jan Thornton** responded by saying that they did now agree with the extended car park.
- **Councillor Gordon Stone** stated that Karen Gardener had "hit the nail on the head" when she spoke about the station, saying, "as the majority of the village would support having the station, they must accept their share of the parking". He agreed with some of the other sentiments expressed, referring to those against the extent of the yellow lines, and stated that work should be undertaken to find a compromise.
- **Phil Gray** a resident of Little Bedwyn, stated that surrounding villages need to be considered, when taking decisions regarding the railway station.
- **Venessa Kenneth** thanked the Parish Council for all the work that has been carried out for the good of the village.
- **Julie van Haperen** referred to the amount of correspondence that is having to be dealt with, expressing concern that a large proportion of it was from one individual, and that this almost constituted harassment in her view. She thanked the Parish Council for their time and effort, pointing out that they are all unpaid volunteers trying to make a difference.

Matters Arising:

1. The Parish Council.

a) Governance.

Following comment accompanying Wiltshire Council's response to a code of conduct complaint in mid 2011, the Parish Council has reviewed the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Risk Management strategy. The Clerk issued a revised version of the Standing Orders which was unanimously accepted, Financial Regulations required no amendments and Councillor Hobson will update the Risk Management procedures to include a calendar of governance reviews for the coming year.

The Chairman is also arranging to take up the offer of training from Mrs. Nina Wilton, Head of Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer (Wiltshire Council).

b) Councillor vacancy.

There is a vacancy for a new councillor, and an election has been called for. The election will take place on Thursday 9th February 2012, providing 2 or more nominations are received.

Post meeting note; No nominations were received. Therefore the election has been cancelled.

c) Resignation of Parish Clerk.

The Parish Clerk has given 3 months notice. A new Clerk is being actively sought. Adverts are to be placed in the Parish News, on the Notice Boards, Local Businesses and WCC website. The Parish Councillors are to review and discuss the contract details for incoming clerk.

d) Dealing with complainants.

A proposed Council policy for dealing with complainants has been distributed and will be adopted at the next meeting, if councillors agree that it is appropriate.

2. Allotments. (CAB/SH)

Of the 3 plots available, as noted at the last meeting, one has now been taken. The other 2 are being offered to the next 2 on the waiting list. We have now got our first chickens.

3. Youth Club.

Report summary;

There is a lack of volunteers, which is a concern for the sustainability. However the club has been doing Christmas craft and cooking activities and an Ice Skating trip. They have successfully carried out a presentation to The Pewsey Area Board to run a film project. The Area board gave their backing and awarded them a grant of £750

4. Traffic items

Bus route and station parking. (RD/CAB)

See "public discussion". Network Rail's feasibility study has shown that there is adequate room for approximately 23 additional car parking spaces. The Clerk and Chairman hope to receive the full report within the next few days for detailed assessment. The updated plans reflecting revised parking restrictions in The Knapp were received from WCC Highways on Monday 9th January, and immediately displayed on the

Notice Boards. It was agreed that the public will be given the opportunity to comment.

5. Three Tuns.

The Parish Council's planning committee objected to the proposed change of use. It is believed that an offer to purchase has been made.

6. The Wharf.

British Waterways have responded to our enquiry regarding the use of the grassed area. They have stated that they favour The Bruce Trust development and are still expecting revised plans for this.. The Bruce Trust has been approached regarding use of their grassed are for The Queen's Jubilee. (Response awaited)

7. Budget Forecast. (CAB)

The External auditor's report was read out. Items of interest were; "no matters giving cause for concern"; "Receipts and payments basis should be adopted"; "Asset Register should be updated".

8. 2012 Queen's Jubilee.

An e-mail was received from Judy Haynes giving suggestions, including the closing and re-naming of the narrow part of Farm Lane for the day. (It used to be called Jubilee Street). The use of the Memorial playing field has been requested via The Village Hall Committee Chairman, and Pewsey Area Board appears to be willing to fund part of the event, up to £250. Grant to be applied for.

An article is to be placed in the Parish News, requesting volunteers and more ideas. (Afternoon and evening)

9. Snow preparations.

Volunteers are still being sought. Adverts have been placed on the notice boards, post office, bakery and in the Parish News.

10. Sport relief 2012.

Parish Clerk has withdrawn interest in organising Comic Relief "Sport Relief Mile". (Clerk has resigned)

11. Playground. (KN)

The Rospa report highlighted several areas that needed attention. Most were minor, but two items will require significant expenditure, these being the tyres under the see-saw, and the toddler swings. The toddler swings will probably need replacing in the next 18-24 months, at an estimated cost of £3,000. The minor repairs are already in hand, and some remedial work can also be carried out on the toddler swings. A new delivery of bark will be required in Feb or March, at a cost of £520. A vote was requested to make the funds available for the purchase of the bark and the cost of the remedial work. The Councillors agreed unanimously to the request. The Clerk has been requested to assure the Council, that the funds to replace the toddler swings are still available from the initial grant. (Ring fenced)

12. General upkeep of Village.

The tree on the corner of Brook Street and The Knapp has been pruned.

Cobbled drain gully in the High Street, outside Cross Keys, has been treated.

Tree at The Chains needs some attention. Condition to be monitored and assessed.

General gutter clearance to be undertaken.

Litter.

Several residents are known to collect litter on a regular basis, and the Parish Council has expressed its appreciation on behalf of all residents. An e-mail has been received from Anthea Rogers regarding her and her children collecting rubbish/litter opposite the church by the canal. Councillor Steve Hobson will respond with an offer to assist in disposal/recycling of their collection.

Correspondence received:

The correspondence received was then reviewed. These included the following:-

1. E-mail from Anthea Rogers, regarding last night's meeting.
2. E-mail from Jan Thornton regarding proposed article in Parish News.
3. E-mail from Steve Smith regarding Jan Thornton's proposed article in Parish News
4. E-mail from Mark Stephens regarding The Wharf.
5. E-mail from Anthea Rogers regarding list of e-mails.
6. E-mail from Wiltshire Council regarding their ground maintenance service.
7. E-mail from Martin Rose regarding 20mph metro counts.
8. E-mail from Stuart Wheeler regarding Pewsey Area Board agenda.

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 8th February 2012**

Present: Cllrs Roger Durie (Chairman), Gordon Stone, Jenny Clack, Jim Raff, Charles Howell, Steve Hobson, Paul Knowler, Karina Nicholson, and over 50 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs. Tom Mallinson and Nick Gibbins, Member Burbage and the Bedwyns, Cabinet member for Campus Development and Culture, Stuart Wheeler,

Minutes: The minutes of the January monthly meeting were approved, and signed.

Declaration of Interests: Councillors were invited to declare any interest in items on the Agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

Public Discussion:

- **Paul Maloney** handed to the Chairman, a petition containing 220 signatures, objecting to the proposed introduction of yellow lines.

- **Alec Taylor** stated that he was not against the trains, and that trains were his hobby, but he thought there had been a misrepresentation at the last meeting. He stated that there had been 5 accidents in The Knapp. Vehicles and property had been damaged. He also stated that he felt that The Knapp residents were considered irrelevant by the rest of the village.

- **Cathy King** responded by saying that The Knapp residents were not considered irrelevant but the views of the other 1200 villagers were of equal importance. She was sympathetic to inconsiderate parking as she lives by the school and deals with inconsiderate parking too. She stated that the railway and the impetus it gives to our village is hugely valued by all and that a small minority were trying to sneak restrictions under the radar. She requested open discussion that everyone can take part in.

- **Mike Strefford** stated that, as an ex commuter he agreed with Cathy King's statement regarding railway being hugely valued, but stated that he did not feel that the parking restrictions would actually effect the commuter numbers. He challenged the idea that the WC proposal would displace parking. He asked if all proposals were in the process of being reviewed. He also stated that Steve Smith of the Bedwyn Train Passenger Group was in agreement with the Highways proposal. (See response from Bill Wells, BTPG)

- **Judy Haynes** asked the following questions;

Are the proposed plans necessary?

How are the proposals being funded?

Can the disabled bays be used by anyone who is disabled? (Commuters etc)

Can we wait for Network Rail to extend the car park?

Who pays the cost of Policing and Wardens?

Have Sarsen Housing been encouraged to get involved? For example by providing extra bays, opening up driveways etc as other villagers have done. They had ignored displacement concerns raised in September.

Judy also referred to her survey, which she had undertaken before the September meeting over a 2 week period, during working hours, where she stated that there were never less than 4 spaces available in the cul-de-sacs for parking.

- **Paul Maloney** referred to a statement from the January meeting, which stated that 23 extra spaces would be available after the proposed yellow lines are introduced and the Network Rail car park is extended. He had counted the number of vehicles parked where yellow lines were proposed, and found that over 30 would be displaced. He then asked, where are all the other cars going to park

- **The Chairman** stated that there was going to be a meeting with Network Rail and First Great Western, sometime next week. (This had been agreed, but no date fixed) A figure of £200,000 had been given for providing the extra spaces. He added that restrictions are needed at the top of The Knapp where the buses turn in.
- **Councillor Gordon Stone** in answer to a question from the floor, stated that the school encouraged a one way system using Browns Lane and The Knapp. (Avoiding Farm Lane)
- **Bill Wells representing the BTPG** in answer to Mike Strefford's statement, stated that they opposed the yellow lines along the length of The Knapp and only supported the use of restrictions at the bend down to the bus stop and the two cul-de-sacs. He said that the plans BTPG had put forward in October for white lining on bends and dropped kerbs etc had been rubbished
- **Simon Cordrey** pointed out that too much governance in a village, and displacement of vehicles is not good or consequence free.
- **Judy Haynes** following on from the knowledge that there is to be a meeting regarding the car park extension, thought there was a need for another public meeting.
- **Alec Taylor** complained about inconsiderate parking and pointed out that at least one commuter, who lives in Spaines, drove to the station and parked.
- **Rob Vines** stated that the village, as a whole, has a problem with parked cars and access, not just The Knapp. He was worried about displacing traffic when the rest of the village was difficult to get through and access amenities, eg surgery, PO, Bakery, etc. He explained how milk lorries had struggled but got through Church Street in the past. Where, in future, will everyone park? The village needs to get all parties together and act as one.
- **Dave Haynes** asked if there was going to be any other public discussion following on from the Network Rail meeting, or will it just be discussed at the next monthly Parish Council meeting?
- **Mike Strefford** raised his concerns regarding the cost for the rest of the village and said there appeared to be a lack of knowledge regarding exact details. He said that the costs would be covered by WC and would cost the village nothing.
- **The Chairman** responded by saying that the Parish News carries all the minutes of meetings, and referred to the January issue. He also stated that the Parish Council started reviewing The Knapp parking problem with WCC Highways and Network Rail back in October 2010, and that the PC minutes showed that.
- **Simon Cordrey** suggested that Network Rail should be approached regarding their car park charges at Pewsey, Hungerford, etc. Pointing out that if they stopped charging, then more commuters would use those stations rather than Great Bedwyn, which is free.
- **Councillor Karina Nicholson** stated that after the September meeting, where the proposals were rejected. It was suggested that, just the bends and bus stop, would benefit from road markings. The proposal was for white lines and this proposal was considered by the PC to meet the needs identified at the September meeting. These were known to be unenforceable but are used in other towns and villages, and work as a good deterrent. It was WC who told the PC that it was 'not their policy' to use white lines.
- **The Chairman** stated that the problem with The Knapp carers and their visitors had been resolved by the confirmation that parking spaces are available behind the flats. However, the flow of traffic through The Knapp is still a problem and needs to be dealt with.
- **Frances Jones** remarked on the bad parking at The Wharf and the village, and suggested that there is a need for yellow lines on bends.

- **Councillor Jim Raff** stated that certain authorities were not helping us, which was making the problem worse. He also pointed out that the Councillors were a voluntary, unpaid group who had very limited resources and time to deal with the issues raised. Our main concern was to ensure that any solution to the parking problems in The Knapp arose from a community-wide consensus; and to achieve this we needed the full hearted support of the people living in Great Bedwyn.

- **John Sheering** asked if commuters, from outside the village, were aware of the problems they were causing? Had they been notified or any effort made to educate them?

- **Councillor Karina Nicholson** responded, saying that the Bedwyn Train Passenger Group had notified commuters, by putting notices on their vehicles and that the Wharf area was now being well used by train users on a regular basis. This may cause problems in the summer months when the boating traffic increases.

- **The Chairman** then reviewed the petition with 220 signatures, and read out the covering statement; The petition is objecting to the proposed restrictive scheme for The Knapp on the grounds that it is excessive, does not offer a community-wide solution and the issues arising from displaced parking have not been comprehensively assessed.

- **Nick Sheehan** asked, where does the petition go now?

- **The Chairman** responded by stating that WCC Highways will be made aware of the 220 people who are opposed to yellow lines.

- **Karen Gardner** pointed out that The Parish Council has the power to approve or reject the proposals, and that the PC has to listen to all views but is elected to represent the majority view.

- **Jan Thornton** stated that the needs of The Knapp tenants are increasing. Some with cars, of which there are very few, will not leave their homes because they cannot guarantee a parking space on their return.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their input, and brought the public discussion to a close.

Matters Arising:

1. Traffic items

Bus route and station parking. (RD/CAB)

See "public discussion".

A meeting with Network Rail and First Great Western has been arranged for w/e 17th February. Funding to be discussed. The NR feasibility study showed the provision for a total of 65 car parking spaces.

WCC Highways will be informed of any outcome going forward. Highways will be informed of the 220 signature petition. (Opposed to yellow lines) The Parish Council cannot instruct Highways to proceed with their proposal at this time, although it was agreed that traffic flow and access at dropped kerbs is still very important. Highways are to be approached, again, regarding the use of white lines. It is accepted that white lines are unenforceable, but they are successfully used elsewhere as a deterrent.

2. Allotments. (CAB/SH)

All plots have now been taken. There is a small waiting list.

The scout leader is to be contacted, regarding their proposals for this year.

3. Youth Club.

Report summary;

The Area Board funding for the film project is going towards producing a music and dance video.

They have had a non contact boxing session and are looking for a venue for some free football coaching in March. They have been offered arts activities and are looking to start some fund raising activities.

Parish Clerk to notify Youth Club, that the Recreation Ground maybe available for football coaching.

4. The Parish Council.

a) Governance.

Financial Regulations required no amendments. Risk Management has been slightly amended and a procedure to include a calendar of governance reviews for the coming year is being finalised.

b) Dealing with complainants.

The complainants and complaints policies were adopted, unanimously.

5. Three Tuns.

It is believed that an offer to purchase has been made.

6. The Wharf.

David Harris has made an enquiry regarding the use of the grassed area. The lease holder of the grassed area is to be confirmed.

7. 2012 Queen's Jubilee.

The grant from the Area Board has been applied for.

The Parish Council is urgently seeking volunteer organisers and helpers.

An article is to be placed in The Parish News.

8. Snow preparations.

A paid volunteer has been found for the salt/grit spreading. The pavements around the village were treated on Sunday morning. (5th Feb) A fresh supply of salt is to be purchased and stored in The British Legion a.s.a.p.

9. Playground. (KN)

A new delivery of bark has been ordered. All minor repairs have been completed and the preservation of the wood with oil will take place during the warmer months. The cradle swings have a small area of rot at the foot of one leg but there is still at least 2 years life in the equipment.

10. General upkeep of Village.

Cobbled drain gully in the High Street, outside Cross Keys, has not been treated. Clerk to resolve.

Litter.

Rubbish has been dumped in the small wood just up the hill from Church Lock. This has now been cleared with the exception of a half burnt-out TV, which will be cleared when weather improves.

In a gutter, east of Church Lock, there is a discarded mattress. How to remove this a problem. Volunteer help may be required.

Dog waste has been thrown into a tree, on the path behind The Knapp flats. Environmental Health to be contacted.

The Chairman thanked Anthea Rogers and Councillor Steve Hobson for their efforts in clearing the rubbish.

Correspondence received:

The correspondence received was then reviewed. These included the following:-

1. E-mail from Area Board, regarding Queen's Jubilee grant.
2. E-mail from Mr. Maloney regarding parking in The Knapp.
3. E-mail from Sally Rhodes regarding The Legion being involved with Queen's Jubilee celebrations.
4. E-mail from Steve Smith regarding parking in The Knapp and Three Tuns.
5. E-mail from Steve Smith regarding parking in The Knapp and Three Tuns.
6. E-mail from Clive Williams regarding Newbury Canoe Club race.
7. E-mail from Anthea Rogers regarding request for meeting.
8. Letter from Mick Goss regarding parking in The Knapp.
9. Letter from Anthea Rogers regarding parking in The Knapp and PC Governance.
10. Letter from Mike Strefford regarding request for information.
11. E-mail from Anthea Rogers regarding e-mail list.
12. E-mail from Cathy King regarding parking in The Knapp.
13. E-mail from Anthea Rogers referring to e-mail list.
14. E-mail from Ruth Francis requesting information.
15. E-mail from Jan Thornton re: Knapp Tenants Association regarding publication of e-mail list.
16. E-mail from Judy Haynes regarding Queen's Jubilee celebrations.
17. E-mail from Anthea Rogers regarding publication of e-mail list.
18. E-mail from Mike Strefford regarding minutes of December meeting.

**Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday 14th March 2012**

Present: Cllrs Roger Durie (Chairman), Jenny Clack, Jim Raff, Steve Hobson, Karina Nicholson, Tom Mallinson, Nick Gibbins and Robert Barton, Member Burbage and the Bedwyns, Cabinet member for Campus Development and Culture, Stuart Wheeler, Pc Teresa Herbert and over 30 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs. Gordon Stone, Charles Howell and Paul Knowler.

Minutes: The minutes of the February monthly meeting were approved, and signed.

Declaration of Interests: Councillors were invited to declare any interest in items on the Agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

Public Discussion:

- **Ruth Francis** handed to the Chairman, 2 further sheets of the petition containing 33 signatures, objecting to the proposed introduction of yellow lines. (Total number of signatures 253)

- **Prudence Collett-Jobey** stated that the distribution of leaflets to residents of The Knapp was unacceptable, threatening behavior, and were delivered to vulnerable residents. The leaflets were referring to the proposed parking restrictions in The Knapp.

- **Ruth Francis** responded by saying that the leaflets were not threatening, and had been delivered to residents in other parts of the village. See below for leaflet;

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ

Are you aware that there is a proposed parking scheme which will result in The Knapp (including the cul-de-sacs) having double-yellow lines and restricted disabled/limited waiting bays which will reduce the number of unrestricted spaces in the cul-de-sacs? Residents not able to find spaces will be expected to park behind the flats. Do you want traffic wardens in the village? The plans can be seen on the Parish notice boards. If you are opposed to this scheme, petitions are available to sign in The Stores, Post Office, Bakery and Hairdresser's. Alternatively, make your views known to Roger Durie (Chairman, Parish Council) at durieuk@aol.com (Tel: 870955) and/or Stuart Wheeler (County Councillor) at Stuart.Wheeler@wiltshire.gov.uk before the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 8th February. Thank you.

- **Jan Thornton** responded by saying that when the leaflets were delivered, the residents of The Knapp had no electric power and were feeling vulnerable. There was no life line available, and they had a fear of falling. There had been a massive change within The Knapp and therefore it had been a difficult year.

Matters Arising:

1. Traffic items

a) Bus route and station parking. (RD/CAB)

A meeting with Network Rail and First Great Western has taken place. First Great Western have applied for grant funding from a government fund for station improvement, and the outcome should be known by mid-June, and if approved could be implemented by the end of the year.

The Chairman read out the draft statement from Wiltshire Highways for the Parish Council meeting, to be sent to all interested residents and complainants, as follows;

1. Network Rail/First Great Western have applied to the DfT for funding to provide an extended station car park.
2. It is proposed that that no further work is carried on parking restrictions until the outcome of application for funding is known.
3. If the application is approved it might resolve the parking problem, or it might make the problem worse should Network Rail decide to charge for parking.

4. If the application is rejected the current discussions about the parking problems and possible solutions can be restarted.
5. If the application is approved Wiltshire Council will revisit the parking issues six months after the car park has been completed to establish if any changes are necessary.
6. In the interim the requested advisory disabled bays will be implemented together with advisory white lines to protect dropped kerbs. Advisory restrictions are not enforceable. Normally advisory restrictions do not require consultation but in this case they will be the subject of a delegated decision by the Cabinet Member for Highways and will be sent to all those who have communicated with the Council on this matter so that they can comment.
7. It has been suggested that white lines should be laid in problem areas; however these would not be enforceable. It has been suggested that white lines might be appropriate in The Knapp it might be helpful in discouraging inconsiderate parking, particularly where a problem is isolated and a traffic regulation order could not be justified or easily enforced. The advice from officers is that the use of white lines should be restricted to protect private accesses and dropped kerbs. As a result white lines will not be implemented except in the areas already mentioned.
8. It has also been suggested that limited waiting restrictions might be implemented in the cul-de-sacs and to area to protect the bell mouths of the cul-de-sacs. However this does not address the parking issues elsewhere and any impact, positive or negative, of the new station car parks should it be approved. Due to cost implications the Council's policy is not to implement parking restrictions piecemeal. If an alternative way of funding is put forward it will be considered, the cost is in the order of £3000.

The Chairman proposed a motion that the proposals from Network Rail should to considered before a decision was made regarding road markings.

There was unanimous acceptance of this motion.

The Chairman stated, in response to a question, that it was thought that a charge of approx. 80p per day would be levied at season ticket holders, if the car park was extended.

The Council then proposed a motion;

To identify Mrs Jan Thornton and the Group purporting to represent itself as The Knapp Tennants Association as vexatious and to inform Mrs Thornton of this decision in accordance with the Vexatious Complaints Policy adopted by Great Bedwyn Parish Council in February 2012.

To inform the complainant of the following:

- **Why the decision has been taken**

Due to continuing and unreasonable adversarial and aggressive correspondence with the Parish Council complaining about matters that have been dealt with by the Parish Council, are in the process of being dealt with by the Parish Council or have been disposed of during public meetings or in correspondence.

- **What action will be taken**

The complainant will be provided with a copy of the Parish Council's Vexatious Complaints Policy and informed that the Parish Council will not reply to or acknowledge any further contact from them on the specific topic of parking in The Knapp and any correspondence concerning this subject will be received and read by the Parish Council Chairman and Clerk only.

- **The duration of this action.**

This action will be maintained for a period not longer than 6 months and will be reviewed by the Parish Council at the end of that period.

Officers of Wiltshire Council and The Area Board will be informed of this action as will Ms Clare Perry MP.

The motion was carried. 7 votes for, and one abstention.

b) Pavement extension. (Church Street-High Street)

After a wait of over 3 years the pavement extension has now been implemented.

2. Allotments. (CAB/SH)

All plots have been taken. There is a small but growing waiting list.

It was proposed, and unanimously accepted, that a skip would be made available for the Scouts and general allotment holders. The Annual meeting is to be arranged, where the provision of the skip will be discussed. (Time and place)

3. Youth Club.

Report summary; The new assistant Abbi is doing a good job. Their film project has resulted in a music video which can be seen 28th March at 7.30. There is a possibility that the Youth Club will become part of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

It was announced at the meeting that youth leader Abbi would be standing down very soon and the process had begun to look for a replacement.

4. Three Tuns.

It is believed that an offer to purchase has been made, but negotiations are at a difficult stage. Application for change of use has not yet been withdrawn.

5. The Wharf.

British Waterways have removed all the poplar trees due to potential risks from them "snapping off" in high winds. These will be replaced later in the year with a mixture of indigenous hedging and trees.. There has been a protracted effort by David Harris to gain support from BW & The Bruce Trust for a leisure area. We are expecting confirmation in March 2012 that they will allow and fund a 'Jubilee' picnic area.

6. 2012 Queen's Jubilee.

The grant from the Area Board has been applied for. The Parish Council is still urgently seeking volunteer organisers and helpers. Councillor Jenny Clack and Judy Haynes made inquiries regarding the 1897 Jubilee. There was bell ringing and an organised "meat tea" by the church. Councillors Karina Nicholson and Tom Mallinson have agreed to review ideas but there is some uncertainty as to whether villagers are likely to support any event.

7. Playground. (KN)

A new delivery of bark has been supplied and laid. Condition of bark is being monitored. Maintenance/oiling of the wooden equipment still needs to be carried out before the school holidays.

8. General upkeep of Village.

Cobbled drain gully in the High Street, outside Cross Keys, has been treated. General road work is to be requested; including the kerb by the Bakery, gutter clearing, and the road surface over the two bridges.

Litter.

Dog waste has been thrown into a tree, on the path behind The Knapp flats. Environmental Health to be contacted.

Dog waste is again becoming a problem. Notice boards and Parish News to be used to warn of possible fines (£1.000 max.) The practicality of siting and emptying more waste bins is to be evaluated.

Memorial Playing Field.

The trees need to be inspected. There is a possible need for joint funding if work is found to be necessary.

Mobile Library.

Wiltshire Council is carrying out a review of their mobile library routes. On inspection, it would appear that there is no proposed change affecting Great Bedwyn.

Correspondence received:

The correspondence received was then reviewed. These included the following:-

1. E-mail from Anthea Rogers, regarding number of vehicles parked in The Knapp.
2. E-mail from Jan Thornton regarding item for the agenda.
3. E-mail from Jan Thornton regarding "inaccurate statement on Parish Web site".
4. E-mail from Mike Strefford regarding December minutes.
5. E-mail from Mike Strefford regarding agenda and PC Equality Statement.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 11th April 2012

Present: Cllrs Roger Durie (Chairman), Jenny Clack, Jim Raff, Steve Hobson, Gordon Stone, Tom Mallinson, Paul Knowler and Robert Barton, Member Burbage and the Bedwyns, Cabinet member for Campus Development and Culture, Stuart Wheeler, and over 15 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs. Charles Howell, Karina Nicholson, Nick Gibbins and Pc Teresa Herbert.

Minutes: The minutes of the March monthly meeting were approved, and signed.

Declaration of Interests: Councillors were invited to declare any interest in items on the Agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

Public Discussion:

- **Mick Goss** thanked the outgoing clerk for all his work under difficult circumstances over the last 12 months.

- **Jan Thornton** complained, regarding the late posting of the letter from the Parish Council that referred to the PC's Vexatious Complaints Policy. She stated that she had only received it on the 30th March, which was 2 weeks after the March monthly meeting. Mrs. Thornton then asked if all purporting representatives of the KTA were included in the motion. Mrs. Thornton stated that The Knapp Tenants Association does exist, and exceeds all requirements.

- **Post meeting note;** despite repeated requests from the Parish Council to Mrs. Thornton to supply the signed constitution, documentation detailing the membership, and proof of the management of the KTA, and following assurances by Mrs. Thornton that signed documents exist and are available, these have not been forthcoming.

- **Prudence Collett-Jobey** stated that many of The Knapp residents were members of The Knapp Tenants Association.

- **Ruth Francis** requested that bus services are discussed.

- **The Chairman** responded, saying that it would be discussed in Matters Arising, and was already on the agenda. (See item 6)

Matters Arising:

1. Traffic items

Bus route and station parking. (RD/CAB)

No update available. Report expected from First Great Western in early June.

2. Allotments. (CAB/SH)

Allotment holders meeting confirmed for Weds 25 April, to be held at the Cricket Club, Frog Lane. Letters to new allotment holders are to go out in April, as well as to all allotment holders asking for annual rent. Skip arrangements to be confirmed at the meeting. Condition of the large tree in the middle of the allotments is to be reviewed.

3. Three Tuns.

Contracts, apparently, are close to being exchanged and the new owners hope to re-open early June, after some alterations have been made.

4. 2012 Queen's Jubilee. (KN, TM)

GREAT BEDWYN PARISH COUNCIL

B3.9

Draft MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD IN
GREAT BEDWYN MEMORIAL HALL, GREAT BEDWYN ON 9th MAY 2012 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr Roger Durie (Chairman), Cllr Jim Raff, Cllr Charles Howell, Cllr Jenny Clack, Cllr Steve Hobson, Cllr Gordon Stone, Cllr Paul Knowler, Cllr Nick Gibbins, Cllr Tom Mallinson, Cllr Nicholson

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Stuart Wheeler (Wiltshire Council), Teshar Fitzpatrick (Clerk) and approximately twenty members of the public.

5/1 APOLOGIES: None

5/2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

5/3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: All being in agreement the minutes of the meeting held of 11th April 2012 were signed as a true record by the Chairman.

5/4 ITEMS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC: Mick Goss asked whether a confidential section of the meeting was permissible. Cllr Durie responded that we are not aware of any restriction on holding a 'confidential' session.

5/5 ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Moved to end of agenda.

5/6 ALLOTMENTS: Cllr Hobson gave a summary of the issues raised at the annual allotment holders meeting, including their decision not to have a skip. The lease for the site is due for renewal and Cllr Hobson and the clerk will meet with Carter Jonas to discuss. The drainage in that part of the village has been carefully managed so as to avoid flooding further down in Church Street, therefore no changes should be made. The clerk is to get a quote for widening of main gate to allow for vehicle access and contact tree surgeon to assess the willow tree. The scouts plot should be reviewed at a meeting with the scouts, which is yet to be set up. As regards the deteriorating wall at the back of the Legion, we will enquire if this is covered by their insurance. Since the last update, one allotment has been released and about to be filled soon. Cllr Durie questioned the size of the plots saying that the smaller sized ones appear to be more appropriate for new allotment holders who in the past have become 'over-awed' by larger plots and often given up. There are five people on the waiting list.

5/7 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT: Cllr Durie spoke about the Village Design Statement (VDS) originally published in 2003. Cllr Gibbins asked how it held up in relation to new planning laws, the core strategy and the village envelope. Cllr Wheeler informed councillors that the VDS is registered with Wiltshire Council and it is still very much of relevance. He mentioned that Neighbourhood Plans are often applied to towns and villages that are seeking further development. In other cases, villages are creating a plan or statement in collaboration. It was felt that we should look at the VDS and update pages such as the map of the village. Cllr Howell will liaise with Grafton Parish to identify areas of common interest. It was agreed that we will seek written confirmation from the relevant people at WC that the current design statement is registered with them and that its contents are consistent with current strategy.

5/8 WASTE AND PROVISION OF BINS: An itemised proposal was read out, quoting the replacement of small wall mounted bins (on the Chains and outside the Bakery) with larger stand alone bins of twice the capacity. There was some discussion about where the smaller bins could be relocated. Cllr Clack had researched several options and pointed out that the bin that serves Shawgrove is overgrown and has a lid missing. Perhaps this bin could be returned to its original

GREAT BEDWYN PARISH COUNCIL

location on the church side of Church Street. Other ideas included Brook Street by the bus stop and at a point along the bridlepath running up to Copyhold.

It was agreed to research these locations further. Cllr Clack and Cllr Howell will include this in the remit of the Planning Committee and give their recommendations at a subsequent meeting of the full parish council.

5/9 THE WHARF: Cllr Durie told councillors of his correspondence with British Waterways (BW) and the use of the green area at the Wharf. It was felt that the removal of trees and than a recent increase in the number of larger vehicles was making the area unsightly. Cllr Nicholson expressed concern about our approaching BW as the car park provides useful additional parking for the village. Cllr Stone commented that the tow paths are not in good order, there are people walking on the field and some boats appear to be moored for an extended period.

Cllr Durie suggested that we write to BW to ask if the mooring permits are being enforced. Cllr Howell added that we should seek clarification from BW about who is allowed to use the Wharf car park.

Cllr Knowler brought to the council's attention the repair work that was nearly complete on Mills Bridge, saying that he was pleased to see this had taken place, albeit five years after initially requested.

5/10 JUBILEE EVENT: Cllr Nicholson summarised the arrangements for Great Bedwyn's celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A 'village tea party' is to take place 3-5pm on Monday 4 June at the Memorial Playing Field. Tea & refreshments will be served free of charge to all attending. All attending will be asked to 'bring and share' cakes etc. With thanks to The Bowls Club for their assistance and use of their hut, The Bakery for their donation of 100 scones and to The Stores for donation of milk. There will also be traditional games, a tug of war and exhibition of local history. The meeting to finalise arrangements will take place Thursday 10 May.

5/11 DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING: Cllr Durie reported that the Surgery had received a number of requests for defibrillator training and the practice manager Keith Marshall has asked if he PC are prepared to share funding of this again.

Cllr Durie proposed that the parish council contribute £75 towards training. Seconded by Cllr Clack and passed unanimously.

5/12 POLICE MATTERS: PC Herbert submitted a written report, a copy of which is available from the clerk. In summary, there have been two crimes, both of them garden sheds broken into overnight and tools stolen. The police are increasing their patrolling in the area.

5/13 PLANNING: Cllr Clack updated members on the most recent planning applications:

No objections:

1. 7 Back Lane, removal of building,
2. Granary Road, removal of poplar tree,
3. 7 Forest Hill, tree work,
4. Millbridge, Holgate and Pack, extension to workshop.

Full planning:

1. 29 Farm Lane, single storey extension,
2. 8 Brook Street, single storey extension,
3. Meadow Cottage, Crofton, garden studio.

5/14 FINANCE:

a) End of year accounts have been completed by Colin Brinsden and are due to be submitted to auditors. End of year total balance for income is £16,045.28 and for expenditure is £13,576.29.

b) Cllrs considered insurance. Cllr Raff proposed that we accept the quote, seconded by Cllr Knowler, carried unanimously.

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c) Authorisation of cheques:

- No. 0996 for £35, to ICO registration
- No. 0997 for £835.90 to Community First, insurance
- No. 0998 for £800 to Teshar Fitzpatrick, clerks wages
- No. 0999 for £424.15 to Wiltshire Association of Local Councils, annual subscription
- No. 1000 for £308.46, to Plandscape, for grounds maintenance for the month of April

Cllr Durie proposed that we proceed with the cheque payments, Cllr Howell seconded, carried unanimously.

d) There were no quotations for acceptance.

5/15 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. CPRE Wiltshire Open Day and notice of the 2012 AGM to be held in Amesbury. Cllr Clack will attend.
2. BACS Remittance Advice (Precept) from Wiltshire Council.
3. Wiltshire Council Arboricultural Officer informing us of changes to the Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) Regulations.
4. The Wharf recreation area – letter from British Waterways wishing to be updated of the village's Jubilee celebrations.
5. The recording of Parish Council meetings – Ruth Francis asked that the issue of personal data being recorded in the minutes be fully discussed amongst councillors. Cllr Durie responded by saying that we are reviewing this and would report back at a subsequent meeting.
6. Traffic calming – concerns were expressed by a resident of Brook Street, Mrs Anne Ryan. In particular visibility of pedestrians and obscured road signage. Councillors are to be sent the original email so that they can feedback their comments ahead of the review of the 20mph scheme.
7. Anti social behaviour – Mrs Graham emailed to ask what could be done about a group of young men and behaviour she witnessed outside the Bakery.

Other items of general information were available.

5/16 ITEMS VIA THE CLERK: Cllr Hobson asked if anyone could attend the next Pewsey Area Board on Monday 14th May and Cllr Raff said that he would confirm if he could. Cllr Durie read out an invitation to Crofton Steam Engines celebratory event on Saturday 16th June. Also read out, details of a New Councillors Course, via WALC, which is to take place on 19th May (all day) and 26th June (two hours.)

 There being no further business the Chairman moved into Confidential Session.

The annual election of Parish Council Officers returned the following by majority vote of those councillors present.

Chairman	Roger Durie
Deputy Chairman	Charles Howell
Pewsey Area Board	Steve Hobson with Jim Raff as reserve
Allotments	Steve Hobson
BWB	Steve Hobson
Planning	Jenny Clack, Gordon Stone, Jim Raff, Roger Durie, Charles Howell
Highways/Police Liaison	Jenny Clack, Roger Durie, Tom Mallinson
Youth Club/Playground	Karina Nicholson
Christmas Lights	Paul Knowler
Conservation	Charles Howell
Footpaths	Tom Mallinson, Paul Knowler Robert Barton, Nick Gibbins

Parking restrictions in The Knapp

Following our rejection in September of the initial scheme proposed by Wiltshire Council Highways (regarded as excessive and intrusive to the village) a 'minimal' scheme has now been drawn up that is very much in line with the Parish Council's original request.

This scheme will prohibit parking on the bends in the Knapp where previously parked cars have caused serious congestion, whilst helping to ensure that residents can still park in the two cul-de-sacs (these will be designated as a mixture of 'limited waiting' and 'disabled' spaces currently being finalized in discussion with The Knapp Tenants Association and WC Highways).

During discussions with Sarsen Housing on this subject they have agreed to mark out all the parking spaces behind the flats and remind residents that those spaces not required for residents of the flats (estimated to be fifteen) are available to them, their carers and visitors. This facility should alleviate one of the main concerns of residents expressed through the Knapp Tenants Association.

The parking restrictions will be in the form of yellow lines but WC Highways have proposed that these be of 'conservation area' grade involving narrower lines in a lighter yellow.

We are still hoping that additional parking spaces may be made available by utilising Network Rail's redundant siding land and they are carrying out a 'feasibility study' (now at their own expense) the outcome of which should be available in early 2012.

The Parish Council has unanimously voted to adopt this revised proposal, subject to suitable feedback/lack of complaints from residents. The scheme can be seen on the notice boards or via the Parish document store at <http://cid-18d98cbfb3b5ae6f.office.live.com/documents.aspx>

Roger Durie
17th December 2011