

Minutes

3rd May 2005 4.30pm

The George Hotel

Amesbury

These minutes should be kept for use by District Councillors at the next Council meeting

Present:

Chairman: Councillor M A Hewitt

Vice Chairman: Councillor C Mills

Councillors: M Baker, D Brown, J Noeken, A Peach, F Westmoreland, T Woodbridge and K Wren

Parish and Other representatives:

Mr G Burt (Bulford), Mrs J Swindlehurst (Amesbury).

Apologies: Councillors J Brady, J Spencer, I West, and T Woodbridge

MINUTES NOT REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL

346 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr R Fisher asked the following question "Several weeks ago the northern approach from the A345 Countess Road to the A303 was reduced by means of hatching to prevent vehicles turning left onto the A303 from using the long-established left hand lane, effectively reducing the two lanes on the approach to the roundabout.

This action created considerable confusion and several minor accidents as vehicles turning left used the hatched area. It also created congestion especially during busy periods when traffic regularly builds up to half a mile.

Local enquiries by individuals and Amesbury Town Council with the Highways Agency established that these changes were made as a result of a number of accidents over a period of 5 years. A map produced to Amesbury Town Council by the Highways Agency showed that the accidents were not confined to this junction but were spread around the area of the roundabout.

In the ensuing weeks additional directional and obscuring screens have been added to the approaches to the roundabout on the A345 South and A303 in both directions.

Last Friday 29th April the two lanes on the A345 from the North were remarked to show the left hand lane to be a left turn only the right hand lane being marked as straight on as well as turning left. The hatching remained unchanged.

None of these changes have been marked with "advance warning signs" from either North or South of the A345.

Needless to say over this weekend there has been considerable confusion and near misses.

As a local councillor I have received numerous complaints from residents in the area raising concerns on road safety matters as well as increased congestion.

At no point has the Highways Agency consulted with local residents, Amesbury Town Council and I suspect Salisbury District Council or Wiltshire County Council.

I would ask that this Committee write to Highways Agency as well as the Transport Department to express local concerns and to request that the original satisfactory layout be re-instated.”

Councillors also noted that they were very unhappy with this situation as there had been little or no consultation over these changes. It was agreed that a copy of the statement be faxed to the responsible officer at the Highways Agency as well as to the Joint Transportation Team seeking an urgent explanation of why this change has been actioned. The members also thanked Mr Fisher for raising this issue.

347 COUNCILLOR STATEMENT/QUESTION TIME

None

348 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting of the 7th April 2005 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

349 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

350 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

351 SOUTH WILTSHIRE AREA GRANTS SCHEME PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Northern Area Co-ordinator.

RESOLVED – that the grants be allocated as follows:

Applicant	Sum Awarded	Project
Orcheston Village Hall	Approve £1200	To provide 5 new heaters for the hall and to have them professionally installed.
Durrington Parish Council	Defer to the second tranche.	To enhance the amenity area in the village by paving an area and providing new seats.
Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council	Approve £411.16	To replace bark, swings and provide signs for the playground.
Idmiston Parish Council	Approve £3750. The Parish Council must contribute £1250 towards the project.	To provide an under 5's play area.

352 UPDATE ON THE CO-LOCATION OF A PUBLIC OFFICE ON THE LIBRARY/HEALTH CENTRE SITE

The Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that officers were currently working through the agreed programme to achieve the co-location and a solution was likely to be achieved in June or July.

RESOLVED – that a further update be brought to the next meeting.

353 UPDATE ON THE EXPANSION OF PORTON DOWN

Councillor K Wren informed members that a meeting with all the parishes in the Bourne Valley as well as Laverstock Parish Council had been arranged for 10th June from 10am – 12pm. This meeting was principally to be with representatives of DSTL but contact had been made with Tettricus and HPA to see if they would also be willing to be involved. However, as DTSL would be responsible for the vast majority of the development it was felt to be important that discussions got underway as soon as possible.

RESOLVED – that a further update be brought to the next meeting.

354 UPDATE ON RECREATION ROAD

The Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that a meeting between the Chief Executives of Wiltshire County Council and Salisbury District Council took place on 24th March and that an agreement had been reached in principle along the lines suggested by the Chief Executive of the county council. It was believed that a sum of money had been agreed but no further information was available at the meeting. However, the Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that this agreement was intended to remedy the current state of the road. He stated that negotiations may well proceed in the future to agree a solution to avoid this situation occurring again. He also undertook to provide Cabinet with a full report on the situation.

RESOLVED – that a further update be brought to the next meeting.

355 UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CO-OP IN AMESBURY

The Head of Legal and Property Services informed members that his correspondence with the CO-OP had indicated that they were still engaged in negotiations with Mr Logan about the disposal of his land. The CO-OP have indicated that they cannot begin on major redevelopment works until this negotiation is completed. The indications are that this will be in June.

Some members felt that this further delay was not acceptable however it was noted that the Council were an interested party but had no power to act in this matter.

Members queried whether the roundabout at the entrance to the CO-OP had to be completed before any works could be undertaken or before the CO-OP was first occupied. The Principal Planning Officer indicated that he would investigate this for members and report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED – that a further update be brought to the next meeting.

356 URGENT WORKS NOTICE FOR THE BARN NORTH OF MANOR HOUSE, WINTERBOURNE GUNNER

Mr Bruce-White, the owner of the barn, stated that he had been involved in many discussions with the Council and English Heritage over many years about how to achieve the best condition for the barn. He informed members that he has never been able to find a source of

funding for the renovation that officers were suggesting and he would rather the works were not undertaken.

Following the receipt of this statement the Committee considered the previously circulated report of the Conservation Officer.

RESOLVED: that the decision on whether to authorise the serving of an urgent works notice in the event that the owner does not undertake temporary and urgent repairs as set out in the schedule attached to the officer's report, be deferred to allow members to undertake a site visit of the above barn.

357 S/2005/0252 - OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING AND REDEVELOPMENT OF PART OF SITE FOR RESIDENTIAL USE (20 DWELLINGS) AND ASSOCIATED WORKS AT 140 LONDON ROAD, AMESBURY, SP4 7EQ – FOR GREGORY DISTRIBUTION

This application was not considered by the Committee as it was withdrawn by the applicant.

358 S/2005/0254 - OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING AND REDEVELOPMENT OF PART OF SITE FOR LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (BI) USE AT 140 LONDON ROAD, AMESBURY, SP4 7EQ – FOR GREGORY DISTRIBUTION

This application was not considered by the Committee as it was withdrawn by the applicant.

Meeting closed at 1735

Members of the public present 4