

## **WILTSHIRE BRIDLEWAYS ASSOCIATION (WBA)**

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 2024 at the Quaker Meeting Rooms, Sussex Wharf, Devizes.

Present:

Mr. Norman Beardsley - Chairman; Sustrans Liaison; CAF Representative; Netheravon Area Representative; (NB)  
Mrs. Rosie Cunningham - Administration Secretary (RC)  
Mrs. Kate Dilnott-Cooper - Minutes Secretary (KDC)  
Mrs. Heather Emery - Marlborough Area Representative (HE)  
Miss Barbara MacMullen - Filing Clerk (BM)  
Mrs. Rosie Pack - Membership Secretary; Newsletter Editor; Ride Organiser; (RP)

Apologies:

Mrs. Charlotte Curtis - Devizes Area Representative (CLC)  
Mrs. Charlotte Hill-Baldwin - Web Master (CHB)  
Mrs. Emma Hodgson - Lavington Area Representative (EH)  
Mrs. Liz Keen - Treasurer (LK)  
Mr. Bill Riley - Historical and Legal Advisor (BillR)

**1.01** Minutes of the last Meeting - NB signed a copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2024 as a true recording of proceedings and this was passed to BM for filing at Brail Farm.

### **2.00 Matters Arising**

#### **2.01 (2.01) Treasurer's Financial Report**

In the absence of LK, NB presented a bank reconciliation document which showed that the opening balance of the Current Account at the beginning of May was £6,788.31 since when there had been income of £67.50 and no expenditure. The closing balance of the Current Account at the 14th May was therefore £6,855.81. In addition to this, £69.00 had been received in cash but had not been paid into the account and there was an unrepresented cheque of £18.00.

NB went on to say that there had been no transactions either into or out of the Business Savings Account and that the balance in that account at the 14th May was £17,819.80.

LK had informed NB that she had now received a card and a card reader from the bank but was still waiting to receive the PIN.

#### **2.02 (2.02) Membership**

RP reported that there were 142 people on the database, four of whom had not paid their subscription. She said that she thought that Sharon Lloyd, Pam Connolly and Mrs. Franks were not going to pay and should be removed from the list.

#### **2.03 (2.03) Newsletter**

RP said that the next newsletter would be out in August.

#### **2.04 (2.04) Electronic Communications**

CHB had reported that the webpage domain [www.wiltshirebridleways association.co.uk](http://www.wiltshirebridlewaysassociation.co.uk) was due for renewal in September. The cost of renewal for four years from September 2024 to September 2028 would be £47.96 and it was agreed that this domain should be renewed.

#### **2.05 (2.05) Pleasure/Guided Rides**

RP said the ride planned to take place on 2nd June had had to be cancelled due to the parking field being very wet. She suggested that it may be possible to reorganise the ride for later in the year with a change to the route, she undertook to talk to the landowner.

RP went on to say that she would also see if it would be possible to organise a ride on Salisbury Plain. She also said that Gilly Carter would be doing another ride in August.

#### **2.06 (2.06) Brail Farm**

1. Filing etc. - BM said that she had had no information as to whether or not the WBA would be able to stay at Brail Farm.
2. External Maintenance - NB said that unfortunately he had been unable to visit Brail Farm since March 2024 and so he was expecting that attention would be needed. Ongoing.

#### **2.07 (2.07) Annual General Meeting - ongoing**

#### **2.08 (2.08) Other Organisations**

1. Wiltshire and Swindon Countryside Access Forum (WSCAF) - NB reported that the next two meetings were due to take place on 31st July and 6th November. He asked for a volunteer to attend the meeting on 31st July in his place as he was already committed to another appointment on that date.

2. Open Spaces Society (OSS) - NB said that he had received an online update for May 2024 which he had circulated.

NB went on to say that he had received the Summer 2024 edition of the OSS newsletter as well as the notification and documentation of the OSS AGM due to be held in London on 4th July which he had circulated.

#### **2.09 (2.09) Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs)**

1. West Lavington BR14 - no update, ongoing. (EH)
2. Easterton BR10 - no update, ongoing. (EH)
3. Kington Langley BR10 + BR11 (upgrade to BYs) - still pending, ongoing. (NB)
4. Stert FP11 (upgrade to BR) - nothing, ongoing. (RC)
5. Access for riders at Conock - no progress, ongoing. (NB)
6. Winterslow BY94 - awaiting decision from the Planning Inspector (NB)

#### **2.10 (2.10) Contact with Chris Clark (CC) of WC**

NB said that the last meeting had been held on Wednesday 15th May in Devizes. CC had been unable to attend but the PRoW staff at the meeting had been Paul Millard (PM), Alex Howson (AH), Alison Rasey (AR), Ben Braine (BB) and Stephen Leonard (SL). Vicky Roscoe (VR) and Carys Ford (CF) were also not able to attend as they were on annual leave.

#### **Gates**

**2.11 (2.11) Broad Chalke BR13** - discussed at WC/WBA meeting, no progress, ongoing. NB undertook to issue documentation under section 130A of the Highways Act 1980.

**2.12 (2.12) Broad Town BR25** - RP undertook to recheck it but understood that there had been no progress, ongoing.

**2.13 (2.13) All Cannings BR20 + Stanton St Bernard BR10** - discussed at meeting, no progress, ongoing. (NB)

**2.14 (2.14) Bromham BR44** - NB had visited the site on 3rd June, no progress. He had obtained a photograph which had been attached to a report and, together with photographs dated 18th March 2023, had distributed this to PM, VR, BB and the Bromham Parish Council. He had received a response from the Bromham Parish Council Clerk within 24 hours who had undertaken to look into the issue. Ongoing.

**2.15 (2.15) Longbridge Deverill BR2** - discussed at WC/WBA meeting, no progress. One of VR's colleagues had mentioned at the meeting that her survey was still awaited. Ongoing. (NB)

**2.16 (2.16) Collingbourne Kingston BR1B** - nothing, no progress, ongoing. (RP)

**2.17 (2.17) Melksham BR87** - at the meeting WC/WBA meeting BB had agreed to go and have another look at the site because he had been under the impression that it had been sorted out, ongoing. (EH)

**2.18 (2.18) Longbridge Deverill BR9** - discussed at WC/WBA meeting, no progress. One of VR's colleagues had mentioned at the meeting that her survey was still awaited. Ongoing. (NB)

**2.19 (2.19) Berwick St John BR14** - NB to visit and recheck, ongoing.

**2.20 (2.20) Huish BR14** - action required by NB, ongoing. (NB + HE)

#### **Signage**

**2.21 (2.21) Winterbourne Stoke BR5 + Shrewton BY4 + BY5** - NB to visit and recheck, ongoing.

**2.22 (2.22) Milton Lilborne BR18A** - nothing, ongoing. (RP)

**2.23 (2.23) Barbary Shooting School** - no update, NB to revisit, ongoing.

**2.24 (2.24) Bromham BR59** - nothing, ongoing. (RP)

**2.25 (2.25) Baydon BR4** - HE reported that the status on MyWilts was In Progress, no updates, no notes. Ongoing.

**2.26 (2.26) Baydon BR5 + BY17** - HE reported that the status on MyWilts was In Progress, no updates since 10.02.2022, ongoing.

**2.27 (2.27) Market Lavington BR24** - no update, not done, ongoing. (EH)

**2.28 (2.28) Chute BR4, BR36 + BR38** - no information, ongoing. (RP)

**2.29 (2.29) Tidcombe and Fosbury BR1 + BR2** - no information, ongoing. (RP)

**2.30 (2.30) Christian Malford BR9** - no update, revisit by NB still awaited, ongoing.

**2.31 (2.31) Signage around area of Westcourt, Easton Royal, Wootton Rivers and Ram Alley** - recheck by NB still awaited, ongoing.

**2.32 (4.04) Grafton RBY15** - missing signage, ongoing. (RP)

#### **Surface and Spoil on the Bridleway**

**2.33 (2.32) Baydon BY19** - badly rutted, HE reported that the status on MyWilts for this (report number 58323) was In Progress, no updates since 15.03.2022.

- 2.34** (2.33) Devizes BY58 + BY62 - overgrown and badly rutted, part survey completed, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.35** (2.34) Poulshot BR8 - spoil from ditch clearance deposited on the bridleway, discussed at WC/WBA meeting, no progress, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.36** (2.35) Pewsey BR6 - Natural England to undertake work on Pains Bridge, discussed at WC/WBA meeting when SL reported that the work had been delayed due to the wet conditions, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.37** (2.36) North Newton BR8 - ditch clearance spoil deposited on the bridleway, revisited by NB on 8th June, the path had been dry but badly overgrown. Photographs had been obtained and a further report was in the process of being compiled. Ongoing. NB went on to say that a pile of tyres had been flytipped next to the bridleway.
- 2.38** (2.37) Seend BR55 + Rowde BR21 - no update, ongoing. (EH)
- 2.39** (2.38) Tilshead BY6 - no update, NB undertook to visit the site, ongoing.
- 2.40** (2.39) Sedgehill and Semley BR28 - very wet, muddy and overgrown, discussed at the WC/WBA meeting at which AH had reported that he was currently discussing this bridleway with the Parish Council. Ongoing. (NB)

### **Overgrown Vegetation and Fallen Trees**

- 2.41** (2.40) Rowde BR19 - blocked by a fallen tree, NB's revisit to assess the current situation was still awaited, ongoing.
- 2.42** (2.41) Chapmanslade BY31 - overgrown, NB's revisit still awaited, ongoing.
- 2.43** (2.42) Market Lavington and West Lavington - various bridleways overgrown however EH had reported to NB that although a little narrow in places, these bridleways were rideable. TO BE CLOSED
- 2.44** (2.43) Bridleways in the Salisbury and Durnford area - blocked by fallen trees and vegetation, discussed at the WC/WBA meeting at which AH had reported that the only outstanding issue was the surface of Salisbury RBY3. WBA had previously written to CC and PM asking for a quote for surface work repair as WBA was willing to offer a donation towards such cost. AH was currently working with contractors to produce suitable quotations, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.45** (2.44) Melksham Without BR41 - serious overgrowth, discussed at WC/WBA meeting, inspection by WC CAO still awaited, the delay had been caused by consistently wet ground, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.46** (2.45) West Ashton BR4 - bridleway and gate are blocked by vegetation, NB's recheck still awaited, ongoing.
- 2.47** (2.46) Cheverell Magna BR12, Witchcombe Lane - EH had reported to NB that she had ridden this route "a month or so ago" and found the vegetation had been cut back at the northern end nearest the railway bridge. However she had subsequently heard that another user had reported overhanging trees and much mud. EH had undertaken to ride it again over the next month. Ongoing.
- 2.48** (2.47) Tollard Royal BR6 + BR8 - blocked by hedge, brambles and low branches, no update, to be revisited, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.49** (4.01) Urchfont BR33 - seriously overgrown, details submitted via MyWilts (report reference 00167213). (CHB)
- 2.50** (4.05) Little Bedwyn BR2 - fallen tree. (RP)

### **Planning Applications**

- 2.51** (2.49) Preshute BY12 - PL/2024/01824, construction of a grain store at Manton. NB reported that the application was recorded on the WC webpage as "closed" with the reason given being "withdrawn by applicant". TO BE CLOSED

### **Solar Farms**

- 2.52** (2.50) Proposed solar farm at Potterne Park Farm - KDC reported that the decision from the Strategic Committee of WC was due on 19th June.
- 2.53** (2.51) Proposed solar farm on One Tree Hill - KDC reported that a planning application had now been put in to WC (PL/2024/04926). It was agreed that WBA should object to this application and KDC undertook to make sure that CLC was aware that the application had gone in and that the WBA wished to object to it. (CLC)
- 2.54** (2.52) Proposed solar farm in the Malmesbury area (Lime Down), no update, ongoing.

### **Other**

- 2.55** (2.53) Ogbourne St George BR7 - discussed at WC/WBA meeting when it became clear that the CAOs had no knowledge of it. NB undertook to resubmit the file, ongoing.
- 2.56** (2.54) Shalbourne BR50 - nothing but RP will contact SL and get him to have another go at it. RP further undertook to contact the Shalbourne Parish Council.
- 2.57** (2.55) Hullavington BY9 + BY32 - discussed at WC/WBA meeting at which SL reported that despite constant attempts, he was still receiving no response from the Dyson empire. He agreed to continue trying, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.58** (2.56) Stert BR7 - slippery bridge, gate and vegetation, WC reported that the work had been completed and CLC had agreed to check the route prior to closing the report. CLC had contacted NB on 10th June to report that she had been unable to complete this task due to illness and, latterly, a lame pony. She was going to request a fellow rider to check the route. Ongoing.
- 2.59** (2.57) Steeple Ashton RBY30 - bollards that restrict carriage driving, no update, ongoing. (EH)

**2.60** (2.58) Durnford BR11 + Winterbourne BR27 - no reaction, RP undertook to revisit and take some photographs. Ongoing.

**2.61** (2.59) Chute BY35 - rocks and wooden fence posts on the PRoW, discussed at the WC/WBA meeting when AH had reported that although CF had arranged a meeting with the landowner during the first week of April, the landowner had failed to attend the meeting. Attempts were being made to make further arrangements but the landowner had already intimated that should he attend, he would be accompanied by legal representation. RP undertook to take photographs of the overgrown boulders. Ongoing. (RP and NB)

**2.62** (2.60) Horse warning signs in the West Grafton/Burbage area - no information, ongoing. (RP)

**2.63** (2.61) Easterton BR26 - constantly blocked by cultivated crops. Discussed at WC/WBA meeting and PM had agreed to arrange for a letter to be written and/or visit to landowner. NB had visited the site on 3rd June and the definitive line of the PRoW had been cleared to a width of 2 meters. Photographs had been obtained and placed on file. TO BE CLOSED

**2.64** (2.62) Ramsbury FP5 + FP8C + BR6 + Little Bedwyn FP20 - correspondence from Craig Harlow (CH) the Definitive Map Officer of WC had informed the WBA that the meeting of the Eastern Area Planning Committee due to take place on 23rd May had been postponed to 13th June. Ongoing. (NB)

**2.65** (2.63) PRoWs over Gypsy Lane/The Cloisters (Chippenham BR2A) - the order had been made to upgrade the bridleway to a restricted byway. TO BE CLOSED

**2.66** (2.64) Application to delete Ogbourne St George BY1, also known as Gypsy Lane, and add BOAT in the parish of Chiseldon. No update, ongoing. (NB)

**2.67** (2.65) Devizes incident report (00145938) of delivery vehicles illegally using the bridleway to access a local housing estate, no update, ongoing. (NB)

**2.68** (2.66) Search for new Chairman of the WBA - during a full discussion NB undertook to create a document with two sections, one would detail the essential parts of the job and the second would detail all the other things that NB did on behalf of the WBA.

**2.69** (2.67) Notification to Parish/Town Councils to make them aware of who may and may not legally use PRoWs. This had been discussed at the WC/WBA meeting at which the CAOs present had agreed that this would be best achieved by notification from WC via Area Boards and cascaded down to Parish/Town Clerks. PM agreed to arrange this. TO BE CLOSED

**2.70** (2.68) Search for new Filing Clerk for the WBA - NB stressed that this matter was urgent and asked all members of the Committee to think of someone who could take this on, ongoing. (All)

**2.71** (4.02) Between 21st May and 7th June Clare Brixey submitted twenty-eight PRoW defect reports to WBA, all of which she has also notified to WC. NB said that he was slowly working through these, as time allowed, and would take action as necessary.

### **3.00 Correspondence**

**3.01** 10th May - from Jane Hughes (JH) at WC - DM and Statements for Alderbury FP16, Bratton FP42, Calne FP25, Landford FP5, FP11 and FP28.

**3.02** 10th May - from Barclays Bank, confirmation of mandate change.

**3.03** 15th May - from CH at WC (see 2.64 above).

**3.04** 16th May - from CH at WC re proposed diversion of Corsley FP7 and FR14/24 (Somerset) at High House Farm, Corsley, to be shredded.

**3.05** 22nd May - from JH at WC - DM and Statements for Sutton Benger FP11

**3.06** 1st June - email from NB forwarding May's edition of *Open Spaces*

**3.07** 1st June - email from NB forwarding draft minutes of WSCAF meeting held on 10th April

**3.08** 1st June - email from NB forwarding organisation chart for Highways/PRoW Department at WC

**3.09** 1st June - from CH at WC (see 2.65 above)

**3.10** 4th June - from CH at WC (see 2.64 above)

**3.11** 10th June - from LK via NB, letter re Barclays Bank and signatories/cards/card reader

### **4.00 Any Other Business**

**4.01** Sherrington BR1 - reported as a closed bridleway. (RP)

**4.02** Notification of proposal for a 160 acre solar farm which may affect Marden BR6, Wilsford BR6 + BR10 + BY7. The track aligned diagonally through the site has a DMMO (D/2010/008). (RC)

**4.03** Upgrade and signage of Grafton RBY29 + RBY30. (RP)

**4.04** Enquiries regarding the possible upgrade of Savernake FP30. (RP)

**4.05** RP reported that she was having difficulty in getting any response to emails she sent to CAOs. NB suggested that going forward any emails she sent should be copied to CC which might help the situation.

**4.06** RP reported that she had been in touch with Andrew Speed, the land agent for Chris Rokos who now owns Wilton (Marlborough). She said that in the past Great Bedwyn FP6 had been ridden on but the land had been sold and the then owner stopped people riding. RP went on to say that the land now belongs to Chris Rokos who rides himself and suggested that it might be possible for people to ride there once again.

**4.07** HE reported that there was a fallen tree on West Overton BR32, it had been reported to WC on 7th May (report number 00169257) and she had heard that it had been dealt with but hadn't had a chance to check on it.

**5.00 Date of Next Meeting**

**5.01** The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday 10th July 2024 at 7.30pm in the Marsden Room at the Quaker Meeting Rooms, Sussex Wharf, Devizes.

The meeting closed at 2145 hours.