

WILTSHIRE BRIDLEWAYS ASSOCIATION (WBA)

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 8th May 2024 at the Quaker Meeting Rooms, Sussex Wharf, Devizes.

Present:

Mr. Norman Beardsley - Chairman; Sustrans Liaison; CAF Representative; Netheravon Area Representative; (NB)
Mrs. Kate Dilnott-Cooper - Minutes Secretary (KDC)
Mrs. Heather Emery - Marlborough Area Representative (HE)
Mrs. Liz Keen - Treasurer (LK)
Miss Barbara MacMullen - Filing Clerk (BM)

Apologies:

Mrs. Rosie Cunningham - Administration Secretary (RC)
Mrs. Charlotte Curtis - Devizes Area Representative (CLC)
Mrs. Charlotte Hill-Baldwin - Web Master (CHB)
Mrs. Rosie Pack - Membership Secretary; Newsletter Editor; Ride Organiser; (RP)
Mr. Bill Riley - Historical and Legal Advisor (BillR)

1.01 Minutes of the last Meeting - it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2024 were a true recording of proceedings, a copy was signed by BM and she undertook to file the document at Brail Farm.

2.00 Matters Arising

2.01 (2.01) Treasurer's Financial Report

LK presented a bank reconciliation document which showed that the opening balance of the Current Account at the beginning of April was £6,598.31 since when there had been income of £233.00 and expenditure of £63.00. The closing balance of the Current Account at the 12th April was therefore £6,768.31. In addition to this, £69.00 had been received in cash but had not been paid into the account and there were unrepresented cheques of £90.95.

LK 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 12th April was £17,819.80.

2.02 (2.02) Membership

RP had reported that there were now 135 members who had paid a subscription and there were another five outstanding subscription payments, four of which were standing orders. BM said that overall the membership was very low. As taking part in the ride described in 2.05 is open to both members and non-members KDC suggested that she could go to Wilton as the ride finished to talk to those who had enjoyed the ride to see if any of them would sign up as members.

2.03 (2.03) Newsletter

The newsletter had been circulated and the next one would be out in August.

2.04 (2.04) Electronic Communications

CHB was continuing to work on both the website and the Facebook page and they were both updated with new information as and when necessary.

2.05 (2.05) Pleasure/Guided Rides

The next ride was due to take place on Sunday 2nd June, starting and finishing opposite the pond in Wilton (Marlborough NOT Salisbury). RP had reported to NB that she had received eight entries for the ride.

2.06 (2.06) Brail Farm

1. Filing etc. - BM said that this was continuing very slowly. She also said that the dehumidifier was working well.
2. External Maintenance - NB said that nothing was happening at the moment.

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 a meeting had taken place on 10th April at which he was unable to be present and that he was waiting to receive the minutes.
2. Open Spaces Society (OSS) - NB said that he had recently circulated the Committee with the April update from the OSS.

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) - no further information, ongoing. (NB)
4. Stert FP11 (upgrade to BR) - no update, ongoing. (RC)

5. Access for riders at Conock - NB said that he was getting nowhere on this, ongoing.
6. Winterslow BY94 - NB said that he was still waiting for a decision from the Planning Inspectorate.

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

NB said that the next meeting would take place at 9.30am on Wednesday 15th May at Kennet House in Devizes.

Gates

- 2.11 (2.11)** Broad Chalke BR13 - no update, on the Agenda for meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.12 (2.12)** Broad Town BR25 - no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.13 (2.13)** All Cannings BR20 + Stanton St Bernard BR10 - no update, on the Agenda for meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.14 (2.14)** Bromham BR44 - no update, NB undertook to visit and recheck this, ongoing.
- 2.15 (2.15)** Longbridge Deverill BR2 - NB said that he was still waiting for a survey from the Access Officer Vicky Roscoe (VR) and that this was on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing.
- 2.16 (2.16)** Collingbourne Kingston BR1B - no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.17 (2.17)** Melksham BR87 - nothing further, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (EH)
- 2.18 (2.18)** Longbridge Deverill BR9 - NB said that he was still waiting for a survey from the Access Officer Vicky Roscoe (VR) and that this was on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing.
- 2.19 (2.20)** Berwick St John BR14 - NB to visit and recheck, ongoing.
- 2.20 (2.21)** Huish BR14 - action required by NB, ongoing. (NB + HE)

Signage

- 2.21 (2.22)** Winterbourne Stoke BR5 + Shrewton BY4 + BY5 - NB to visit and recheck, ongoing.
- 2.22 (2.23)** Milton Lilborne BR18A - no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.23 (2.24)** Barbary Shooting School - no update, NB to revisit and chase, ongoing.
- 2.24 (2.25)** Bromham BR59 - no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.25 (2.26)** Baydon BR4 - HE reported that the status on MyWilts was In Progress, no updates, no notes. Ongoing.
- 2.26 (2.27)** Baydon BR5 + BY17 - HE reported that the status on MyWilts was In Progress, no updates since 10.02.2022, ongoing.
- 2.27 (2.28)** Market Lavington BR24 - still missing a sign at the Easterton end, no update, ongoing. (EH)
- 2.28 (2.29)** Chute BR4, BR36 + BR38 - no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.29 (2.30)** Tidcombe and Fosbury BR1 + BR2 - no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.30 (2.31)** Christian Malford BR9 - no update, NB undertook to recheck and chase, ongoing.
- 2.31 (2.32)** Signage required on the route from Westcourt - no progress, ongoing. (NB)

Surface and Spoil on the Bridleway

- 2.32 (2.33)** 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. HE further said that a major problem with this was that most of the track was in a different county.
- 2.33 (2.34)** Devizes BY58 + BY62 - overgrown and badly rutted, no update, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.34 (2.35)** Poulshot BR8 - spoil from ditch clearance deposited on the bridleway, no update, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.35 (2.36)** Pewsey BR6 - Natural England to undertake work on Pains Bridge, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.36 (2.37)** North Newnton BR8 - ditch clearance spoil deposited on the bridleway, no update, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.37 (2.38)** Seend BR55 + Rowde BR21 - no update, ongoing. (EH)
- 2.38 (2.40)** Tilshead BY6 - no update, ongoing. (EH)
- 2.39 (2.41)** Sedgehill and Semley BR28 - very wet, muddy and overgrown, no update, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)

Overgrown Vegetation and Fallen Trees

- 2.40 (2.39)** Rowde BR19 - blocked by a fallen tree, NB to revisit and chase, ongoing.
- 2.41 (2.42)** Chapmanslade BY31 - vegetation overgrowth, no update, NB to recheck and chase, ongoing.
- 2.42 (2.43)** Market Lavington and West Lavington - overgrown vegetation along various BRs. No update, ongoing. (EH)

- 2.43 (2.44) BRs in the Salisbury and Durnford area - blocked by fallen trees and vegetation, clearance and remedial action in progress, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.44 (2.45) Melksham Without BR41 - serious vegetation overgrowth, no update, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.45 (2.46) West Ashton BR4 - BR and gate are blocked by vegetation, no update, NB to recheck and chase, ongoing.
- 2.46 (2.47) Cheverell Magna BR12, Witchcombe Lane - overgrown, no update, ongoing. (EH)
- 2.47 (2.50) Tollard Royal BR6 + BR8 - blocked by hedge, brambles and low branches, no update, ongoing. (NB)

Planning Applications

- 2.48 (2.51) Chirton BR3 + Marden BR4 - PL/2023/08165, the application had been agreed with conditions and conveyed in the decision letter dated 4th April. The decision report has been placed on the WBA file. TO BE CLOSED
- 2.49 (2.52) Preshute BY12 - PL/2024/01824, construction of a grain store at Manton. NB checked on 7th May and there had been in excess of fifty letters of objection submitted. A report had been submitted by Councillor Jane Davis of WC "calling application in" for consideration by the Planning Committee. Ongoing.

Solar Farms

- 2.50 (2.53) Proposed solar farm at Potterne Park Farm - KDC reported that the decision on this application would now be taken by the Strategic Committee of WC but that there was not yet a date for the meeting at which this would happen.
- 2.51 (2.54) Proposed solar farm on One Tree Hill - no update, ongoing. (CLC)
- 2.52 (3.02) Proposed solar farm in the Malmesbury area (Lime Down), no update, ongoing.

Other

- 2.53 (2.55) Ogbourne St George BR7 - no progress, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.54 (2.56) Shalbourne BR50 - no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.55 (2.57) Hullavington BY9 + BY32 - no update, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.56 (2.58) 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, ongoing.
- 2.57 (2.59) Steeple Ashton RBY30 - bollards that restrict carriage driving, no update, ongoing. (EH)
- 2.58 (2.60) Durnford BR11 + Winterbourne BR27 - poor access on and off a main road, no update, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.59 (2.61) Chute BY35 - rocks on the byway, Carys Ford (CF) of WC reported that she had arranged a meeting with the landowner responsible during the first week of April, no further communication received. This is on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing. (RP + NB)
- 2.60 (2.62) Horse warning signs in the West Grafton/Burbage area - no information, ongoing. (RP)
- 2.61 (2.63) Easterton BR26 - NB reported that he had checked this on 1st May and the north side of the field abutting Urchfont BY34 had been ploughed but the line of the BR had not been reinstated. The south side of the field abutting the road (B3098) contained growing crops, at a height of 12" - 18" (30cm - 45cm) and no path had been cleared. WC had been informed and it is on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May, ongoing.
- 2.62 (2.64) Ramsbury FP5 + FP8C + BR6 + Little Bedwyn FP20 - the order had been made by WC and four objections had been received, it will therefore go to the Eastern Area Planning Committee on 23rd May. Ongoing. (NB)
- 2.63 (2.65) PRoWs over Gypsy Lane/The Cloisters (Chippenham BR2A) - no update, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.64 (2.66) Application to delete Ogbourne St George BY1, also known as Gypsy Lane, and add BOAT in the parish of Chiseldon. No update, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.65 (2.67) Devizes incident report (00145938) of delivery vehicles illegally using the bridleway to access a local housing estate, no update, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.66 (4.01) Search for new Chairman of the WBA, ongoing. (All)
- 2.67 (4.02) Notification to Parish/Town Councils to make them aware of who may and may not legally use PRoWs, on the Agenda for the meeting on 15th May.
- 2.68 (4.03) Search for new Filing Clerk for the WBA, ongoing. (All)

3.00 Correspondence

- 3.01 5th May - email from NB, update on the work done by the Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA) PRoW Volunteer Group.
- 3.02 5th May - email from NB, news update from the OSS for Apr 2024.
- 3.03 5th May - email from NB, additional information on the Access Training Day to be read in conjunction with the news update from the OSS (see 3.02 above).
- 3.04 6th May - email from RC, forwarding email from Craig Harlow (CH) of WC, concerning the meeting of the Eastern Area Planning Committee to be held on 23rd May (see 2.62 above).

4.00 Any Other Business

4.01 NB informed the meeting that he had been made aware of problems on Urchfont BR33 which had been reported on MyWilts by CHB (00167213).

4.02 NB reported that he had received correspondence from Clare Brixey concerning PRow issues and the reporting process. The issues that she had were in the Corsley and Longbridge Deverill area.

4.03 NB asked the Committee for suggestions for the way forward for the WBA.

4.04 RP had drawn attention to the lack of a sign on the Fairmile on Grafton RBY15.

4.05 RP had reported a fallen tree on Little Bedwyn BR2.

5.00 Date of Next Meeting

5.01 The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday 12th June 2024 at 7.30pm in the Marsden Room at the Quaker Meeting Rooms, Sussex Wharf, Devizes.

The meeting closed at 2115 hours.