

## WILTSHIRE BRIDLEWAYS ASSOCIATION (WBA)

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 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)  
Mrs. Emma Hodgson - Lavington Area Representative (EH)  
Mrs. Liz Keen - Treasurer (LK)  
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)  
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 12th June 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**

LK presented a bank reconciliation document which showed that the opening balance of the Current Account at the beginning of June was £6,985.81 since when there had been no income and no expenditure. The closing balance of the Current Account at the 30th June was therefore £6,985.81. In addition to this there was an unrepresented cheque of £18.00. LK went on to say that she understood that the unrepresented cheque was in respect of the cost of the meeting room for the WBA's April meeting but that no invoice had been received for the May meeting. She undertook to email her contact at the Quaker Meeting Rooms to sort this out but also said that she hoped that these payments would be able to be made online once everything was arranged with Barclays Bank.

The Business Savings Account had received interest of £66.64 during the month and the balance in that account at the 30th June was £17,886.44.

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

RP reported that there were 141 members. She said that no payment had been received from Mrs. Franks who paid by standing order but she would watch for the payment as she believed that it was usually made in July or August.

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

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

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

NB said that these were continually monitored and updated as necessary by CHB.

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

RP said that she had had high hopes that it would have been possible to run the Wilton ride later in the year but having spoken to one of the farmers involved, she said that sadly this was not going to be possible. She undertook to contact Landmarc (the managers of the military training areas) to see if it would be possible to arrange a ride from Everleigh in September.

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

1. Filing etc. - BM said that she was still filing maps but said that the WBA did need a plan for the future. NB undertook to help with the sorting of the large number of documents at Brail Farm.
2. External Maintenance - NB said that this needed looking at, ongoing.

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

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

1. Wiltshire and Swindon Countryside Access Forum (WSCAF) - NB said that he had received no correspondence for the next meeting which was provisionally planned for 31st July. He went on to say that if it did go ahead, he needed a volunteer to attend in his place as he was already committed to another appointment on that date. RP and LK both said that it might be possible for them to attend.
2. Open Spaces Society (OSS) - NB said that no further correspondence had been received.

#### **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 the decision of the Planning Inspectorate (NB)

**2.10 (2.10) Contact with Chris Clark (CC) of Wiltshire Council (WC)**

NB said that the next meeting was scheduled for 4th September. He went on to say that he very much hoped that CC would be present at the meeting rather than just the members of his team, he said that far more actually happened when CC was at the meeting.

**Gates**

**2.11 (2.11) Broad Chalke BR13** - NB said that he was awaiting confirmation from WC that the gates were not recorded as authorized prior to the submission of section 130A documentation under the Highways Act 1980. Ongoing.

**2.12 (2.12) Broad Town BR25** - RP said that she had not been to check the situation but she understood that nothing had been done.

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

**2.14 (2.14) Bromham BR44** - NB said that he had had no response from WC but that he had visited the location on 9th July. He said that the broken gate had been removed from its hinges and that the route of the bridleway now had clear access. A report was to be placed on file. TO BE CLOSED

**2.15 (2.15) Longbridge Deverill BR2** - no update from WC, ongoing. (NB)

**2.16 (2.16) Collingbourne Kingston BR1B** - no progress, RP will email WC with a copy to CC. Ongoing.

**2.17 (2.17) Melksham BR87** - EH said that she had not been to check on this but will do so. Ben Braine (BB) of WC had previously said that he would sort it out and EH undertook to email him to ask what he had done.

**2.18 (2.18) Longbridge Deverill BR9** - NB said that there had been no update from WC. Ongoing.

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

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

**Signage**

**2.21 (2.21) Winterbourne Stoke BR5 + Shrewton BY4 + BY5** - NB's visit and recheck still pending, ongoing.

**2.22 (2.22) Milton Lilborne BR18A** - no change, RP undertook to email WC.

**2.23 (2.23) Barbary Shooting School** - no update, revisit by NB still pending, ongoing.

**2.24 (2.24) Bromham BR59** - no change, RP undertook to email WC.

**2.25 (2.25) Baydon BR4** - HE reported that the status on MyWilts was In Progress, no updates, no notes. She undertook to email Stephen Leonard (SL) and Alison Rasey (AR) of WC. 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. She undertook to email SL and Alison Rasey AR of WC and if that received no response to forward the email to CC.

**2.27 (2.27) Market Lavington BR24** - EH said this had still not happened and she undertook to email WC.

**2.28 (2.28) Chute BR4, BR36 + BR38** - nothing has happened, ongoing. (RP)

**2.29 (2.29) Tidcombe and Fosbury BR1 + BR2** - nothing has happened, ongoing.

**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. NB undertook to email WC.

**2.32 (2.32) Grafton RBY15** - RP said that a post was needed, ongoing.

**2.33 (4.03) Grafton RBY29 + RBY30** - upgrade and signage, no response, ongoing. (RP)

**Surface and Spoil on the Bridleway**

**2.34 (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. She undertook to email SL at WC.

**2.35 (2.34) Devizes BY58 + BY62** - overgrown and badly rutted. NB reported that the survey of both routes had been completed on 14th June. Both had a substantial tarmac surface and, although showing some evidence of wear, were considered perfectly suitable for walking, riding, carriage driving, cycling and use by multi-purpose vehicles. The Definitive Statement records that both routes were designated as Byway Open to all Traffic (BOAT) status with effect from 1st April 2017. He said that a full report was in the process of being prepared, plus photographs, to be held on WBA files. TO BE CLOSED

- 2.36** (2.35) Poulshot BR8 - no progress, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.37** (2.36) Pewsey BR6 - no further progress, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.38** (2.37) North Newton BR8 - NB said that he had visited this site recently and had sent a further report to WC, ongoing.
- 2.39** (2.38) Seend BR55 + Rowde BR21 - EH said that she had not visited this site and so had nothing to report.
- 2.40** (2.39) Tilshead BY6 - revisit by NB still awaited. EH said that she had ridden it recently and the first part was OK.
- 2.41** (2.40) Sedgehill and Semley BR28 - no further update, ongoing. NB said that he understood that Alex Howson (AH) of WC was in discussion with the Parish Council on this subject.

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

- 2.42** (2.41) Rowde BR19 - blocked by a fallen tree, NB's revisit to assess the current situation still awaited, ongoing.
- 2.43** (2.42) Chapmanslade BY31 - overgrown, NB's revisit still awaited, ongoing.
- 2.44** (2.44) Bridleways in the Salisbury and Durnford area - NB reported that the work had been completed with the exception of the surface repair of Salisbury RBY3. A quotation of the cost from the WC contractor was still awaited, the WBA was to make a contribution. Ongoing.
- 2.45** (2.45) Melksham Without BR41 - serious overgrowth, awaiting action by WC, ongoing. (NB)
- 2.46** (2.46) West Ashton BR4 - bridleway and gate are blocked by vegetation, NB's revisit still awaited, ongoing.
- 2.47** (2.47) Cheverell Magna BR12, Witchcombe Lane - EH to relook at this one and then email WC. She said that the railway end had been cleared but that it would have grown again.
- 2.48** (2.48) Tollard Royal BR6 + BR8 - blocked by hedge, brambles and low branches, no update from WC, to be revisited by NB, ongoing.
- 2.49** (2.49) Urchfont BR33 - CHB had reported that this had been cleared to a certain extent and was now usable. TO BE CLOSED
- 2.50** (2.50) Little Bedwyn BR2 - RP said that she understood that the fallen tree had been cleared. TO BE CLOSED
- 2.51** (4.07) West Overton BR32 - fallen tree which had been cleared. TO BE CLOSED (HE)

#### **Solar Farms**

- 2.52** (2.52) Proposed solar farm at Potterne Park Farm - KDC reported that the Strategic Committee of WC had not taken the decision on this application. Further documents had been submitted by the applicant and the consultation had been extended to 31st July. She said that she had read the new documents and felt that nothing had changed and proposed that WBA should confirm its objection to the project to ensure that those involved in taking the decision were not under the misapprehension that the new information had changed the WBA's view. KDC had drafted a further objection from the WBA to add to the comments, this was agreed by the Committee and she undertook to post it on the WC website.
- 2.53** (2.53) Proposed solar farm on One Tree Hill - KDC had drafted an objection to this project from the WBA, this was agreed by the Committee and she undertook to post it on the WC website.
- 2.54** (2.54) Proposed solar farm in the Malmesbury area (Lime Down) - no further information, ongoing.
- 2.55** (4.02) Proposed 160 acre solar farm which may affect Marden BR6, Wilsford BR6 + BR10 + BY7 - RC said that she had heard nothing and that no planning application had yet been made.

#### **Other**

- 2.56** (2.55) Ogbourne St George BR7 - NB said that a further file was under construction for submission to WC, ongoing.
- 2.57** (2.56) Shalbourne BR50 - RP said that she had been in contact with the Chairman of the Shalbourne Parish Council and had also been put in contact with the individual member of the Parish Council who would deal with this situation.
- 2.58** (2.57) Hullavington BY9 + BY32 - NB said that there had been no further update from WC. Ongoing.
- 2.59** (2.58) Stert BR7 - NB reported that he had visited the location and that substantial non-slip strips had been affixed to every tread board of both bridges across the entire width. He had taken photographs for file purposes. It was agreed that CHB should be asked to put this information on Facebook and that it should also be added into the next newsletter. TO BE CLOSED
- 2.60** (2.59) Steeple Ashton RBY30 - EH said that she had heard nothing and she undertook to email WC to ask if anything was going to happen.
- 2.61** (2.60) Durnford BR11 + Winterbourne BR27 - RP undertook to look at this at the upcoming weekend, ongoing.
- 2.62** (2.61) Chute BY35 - no information, RP agreed to send another email, ongoing.
- 2.63** (2.62) Horse warning signs in the West Grafton/Burbage area - no change, ongoing. (RP)

**2.64** (2.63) Easterton BR26 - although it had been agreed to close this at the last meeting, it was noted that the part of the field visible from the B3098 was covered in crops and NB undertook to revisit the site.

**2.65** (2.64) Ramsbury FP5 + FP8C + BR6 + Little Bedwyn FP20 - NB said that he was awaiting the result of the meeting of WC's Eastern Area Planning Committee held on 13th June. Ongoing.

**2.66** (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)

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

**2.68** (2.68) Search for new Chairman of the WBA - during a full discussion NB said that he was in the process of creating a document with two sections, one detailing the essential parts of the job and the second detailing all the other tasks that NB undertook on behalf of the WBA. It was agreed that once this document was completed, it could be added to both the website and Facebook so that it could be accessed by anyone who might be interested in taking on the role.

**2.69** (2.70) Search for new Filing Clerk for the WBA - it was suggested that it would be helpful if BM could produce a document detailing all that she undertook on behalf of the WBA in this role, ongoing. (All)

**2.70** (2.71) Twenty-eight PRow defect reports submitted by Clare Brixey - NB said that during the process of working through these, it had become apparent that some were a duplication of work being done by the Salisbury Plain Training Area Volunteer Group (SPTAVG) and Richard Broadhead of the Cranborne Chase project. Ongoing.

**2.71** (4.01) Sherrington BR1 had been reported as a closed bridleway but was now open. TO BE CLOSED (RP)

**2.72** (4.04) Savernake FP30 - enquiries re possible upgrade, ongoing. (RP)

### **3.00 Correspondence**

**3.01** 19th June - from Jane Hughes (JH) at WC - DM and Statements for Calne FP51 and FP73 in addition to Lyneham FP30.

**3.02** 19th June - from CH at WC re an application to upgrade Calne Without BR89 to a restricted byway. The application had been refused. To be shredded.

**3.03** 20th June - email from NB circulating the latest copy of the Countryside Access Officers' area of responsibility.

### **4.00 Any Other Business**

**4.01** NB reported that sadly CLC had resigned from the Committee due to personal reasons.

**4.02** NB informed the Committee that Katie Wright had told him of a report that she had made to WC of several path problems although she had not given him any locations. The WC reference for this report was 00175136. RP undertook to ask which PRowWs were involved.

**4.03** NB said that he had received an email from Jane King saying that Calne Without BR37 was severely overgrown. She had reported it to WC, reference number 00176319. LK said that this was in the Stockley Hollow area and she undertook to go and look at it.

**4.04** NB went on to say that he had also received an email from Sally Turnnidge saying that Seend BR41 and BR42 were overgrown and barely passable. She had reported this to WC but had not provided NB with the reference number. NB undertook to go and look at it.

**4.05** NB further said that he had received an email from Sarah Burrows concerning the blockage of the bridleway The Lane which runs from Hinton Parva to Horpit in the Swindon/Wanborough area. The bridleway gate had been replaced with two large blocks of concrete and the gap between them was far too small to safely get a horse through, even if the rider dismounted and removed the saddle. He went on to say that this had not yet been reported to Swindon Borough Council. RP undertook to get in touch with Sarah Burrows.

**4.06** RP said that there was a log on Burbage BR37.

**4.07** BM said that this was the time of year at which she would normally book the Marsden Room for the WBA meetings from October onwards. It was agreed that she should do this.

**4.08** RP said that Pewsey BR69 was severely overgrown and she had reported this on MyWilts.

**4.09** EH said that she had recently walked along Wilcot BR38 and BR19 which had necessitated crossing the main road. She said that there were no signs for either bridleway at that point and undertook to report it.

**4.07** KDC reported that a planning application (PL/2024/04207) had now been put in for six houses in Easterton, the access to the site both during construction and for any future residents was Easterton BY5. This project had been added to the Annex List in November 2023. She went on to say that the consultation had now closed but that she had put in her own personal objection to the project, on the basis of flooding and the use of the byway.

### **5.00 Date of Next Meeting**

**5.01** The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday 14th August 2024 at 7.30pm in the Marsden Room at the Quaker Meeting Rooms, Sussex Wharf, Devizes.

The meeting closed at 2130 hours.