

Valley Parishes Alliance Meeting

3rd June 2015

Monkton Combe Village Hall

Present: Hugh Delap (Freshford), Simon Coombe (Limpley Stoke), Des Wighton (Monkton Combe), Anna Beria (Claverton), Steve Mackerness (Bathford), Robin Davies (Winsley), David Gwyther (Limpley Stoke), Geoff Parkes (Hinton Charterhouse), Hugh Baker (Bathford), Andrew Orme (Freshford), Martin Newman (Bradford on Avon),

Ingrid Maher Roberts – Minute secretary

<p>1.0 Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Lyn Alvis (Monkton Combe), Chris Clemence (Hinton Charterhouse), Mike Townly (Batheaston), Moira Brennan (Bathampton)</p> <p>2.0 Minutes and matters arising from meeting on 4th March 2015 Geoff Parkes representing Hinton Charterhouse was warmly welcomed as a new member of the VPA.</p> <p>3.0 A36/46 Link Road The timing of the VPA's letter to the Bath Chronicle was not helped by the recent election, so it did not have the desired impact. AB will be meeting Alison Miller the new Ward Cllr for Claverton to discuss her views on the A36/46 link road and park and rail proposal (she currently supports the plans). NS confirmed that Ward Cllr Neil Butters would be supportive of the VPA's opposition to any future link road/park and rail scheme.</p> <p>Action: AB and SM arrange to meet with Jacob Rees Mogg (B&NES MP)</p> <p>Action: Invite Tim Warren the new B&NES Leader to the next VPA meeting</p> <p>Action: SC and RD arrange to meet Michelle Donelan (Wilts MP)</p> <p>4.0 VPA Highways Update (HD & DW) HD and DW met with Rachel Scott the Highways England representative at the A36 works site. It was clear that due the large scale machinery being used to stabilise the road, it was essential that the road needed to be closed for 16 weeks. The works are currently a few days behind, due to some poor weather and problems with the delivery of materials, however they anticipate the works will be completed on schedule. There is a strong possibility that further work will need to be carried out further along the A36 near Bathampton in the future and Highways are monitoring the situation. Action: HD to find out from Rachel Scott the approximate cost of the stabilisation work.</p>	<p>AB/SM</p> <p>SC/IMR</p> <p>SC/RD</p> <p>HD</p>
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5.0 Neighbourhood Plan (NS)

B&NES and Wilts are now working on the referendum arrangement for the Freshford and Limpley Stoke NP. It is hoped the plan could take place around the 17th July as any later, will be impacted by the schools summer holidays.

A planning application in Freshford for a house to be built on 'Infill' has been lodged with B&NES. There appears to be a difference of opinion between B&NES Planning Development and Planning Policy teams. The former think the NP should have little weight given to it and that Green Belt legislation should take priority. Whilst the latter believe the NP should carry significant weight in terms of 'Infill' planning applications. This could just be initial teething problems between departments and it is hoped the two teams will resolve these issues in the future.

6.0 VPA K&A Canal Committee

There has been no meeting since the VPA last met, however it was positive to see that communication is working well between the CRT and the VPA. A resident of Limpley Stoke had written to SC concerned about the proliferation of art along the canal and one artist in particular was using the canal as his own personal canvas to promote his work. DW contacted CRT about the issue and a CRT representative will now meet with the artist to discuss the situation.

7.0 Finance Update

The audited accounts for the VPA were circulated, with a balance of £3834 in the bank account.

Action: IMR to chase late payment of VPA subscriptions (Freshford & Batheaston)

IMR

8.0 Election of Chairman

SC confirmed that this was his last meeting as VPA Chair as he had now stepped down as Chairman of LSPC. No-one was willing to take on the permanent position of Chair and it will be done on a rolling basis. Hugh Baker agreed to chair the next VPA meeting.

On behalf of all VPA members, NS wished to record thanks and appreciation for all that SC has done for the VPA over the years. His hard work, dedication and the manner in which he chaired meetings have led to very positive working relationships between VPA members and he will be greatly missed.

The meeting ended at 1.25pm

**NEXT VPA Meetings: 16th September 2015
2nd December 2015**

Monkton Combe Village Hall