

# Awbridge Parish Council Clerk Report – July 2024

#### 1. Planning Decisions:

1.1

#### 23/02985/OBLS 21.11.2023

Discharge Planning Obligation Clause 3 dated 25.2.22 on Planning Application 20/01448/FULLS that requires a landscape and biodiversity enhancements areas management plan and memorandum and articles of association for the management company -

Land West Of All Saints Church, Church Lane, Awbridge

**DISCHARGE** Planning Obligation 16.05.2024

1.2

#### 24/00668/FULLS 21.03.2024

Hardstanding and associated landscaping works to provide a car park comprising 12 parking spaces (retrospective) -

Stanbridge Earls, Stanbridge Lane, Awbridge

**WITHDRAWN** 14.05.2024

1.3

**24/00884/FULLS 17.04.2024** Extend length of garage, replacing hipped roof with duo-pitch and provision of solar panels on southern aspect - Broad Reach (Plot 1), Church Lane, Awbridge **PERMISSION** subject to conditions & notes 20.05.2024

1.4

**24/00885/FULLS 17.04.2024** Extend garage and provide room in roof - The Old Nursery (Plot 3), Church Lane, Awbridge **PERMISSION** subject to conditions & notes 20.05.20242.

1.5

**24/00753/FULLS 11.04.2024 Garage extension -** Awbridge Lodge, Danes Road, Awbridge **WITHDRAWN** 06.06.2024

## Correspondence: 2.1 Speed Sign

Dear Grahame and Gordon

Apologies for the delay but I checked the sign weekend before last and all was fine and working as normal.

Your device is a Speed Limit Reminder (SLR) sign and is only supposed to remind motorists (travelling over the Police enforcement level) of the posted speed limit. It will therefore only activate when vehicles are travelling over the speed limit (10% plus 2mph of the set speed limit).

If the parish would prefer to have a sign that activated at a lower threshold then I would suggest you investigate the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device (SID). These, as you probably know, are the more recent signs that have come to market and increasing in popularity, such as those used at either end of King's Somborne (they also have their old SLRs as well in the middle of the village).

The signs are manufactured by Westcotec (<a href="https://www.westcotec.co.uk">https://www.westcotec.co.uk</a>), which is the same company that manufactured your existing sign. The SID version that King's Somborne has is the Smiley / Angry face one. Tangley

Parish Council, in the north of the borough, has the Thank you / Slow down version which is slightly larger. In my humble opinion I think the smiley / angry face one is more effective and the faces universally understood.

The SID can be ordered with a data collection capacity but, again in my opinion, once you have collected the data once or twice, it really doesn't change noticeably over the years unless there is a significant amendment to the road environment, such as the introduction of traffic calming or a junction alteration. But if you have someone in the parish who is particularly interested in that sort of thing it might be worth getting. I would recommend the Bluetooth data collector version over the cable one.

If you were to change / add to your current sign, getting them from Westcotec would mean that they are compatible with your existing brackets that the SLRs are attached to.

I have found the Westcotec signs very reliable and the customer service helpful and accommodating if issues do arise. They maybe slightly more expensive but I would recommend them over other sign manufacturers for their all round simplicity, robustness and ease of use.

I hope the above helps, if you have any further gueries just let me know.

Regards, Simon

#### 2.2 Vegetation Clearance HCC

Dear Parish Clerks,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to provide you with an update regarding our seasonal vegetation management on public rights of way across Hampshire.

As you may know, each summer, Hampshire County Council's Countryside Access Group embarks on a programme of vegetation cutting to ensure safe and accessible pathways for our communities. Traditionally, this has been carried out by our dedicated Ranger Team and supplemented by contractors. However, this year brings some changes due to escalating contracting costs. Over the past three years, we've witnessed a steady increase in contracting expenses, which has seen the cost of this work over doubling. After careful consideration and review of our budget, we regret to inform you that we are unable to sustain our previous priority cutting schedule with contractors.

To address this challenge, we're seeking to mobilising a larger staff resource from within the Countryside Service. This will involve a combination of programmed works and responsive measures to address reported issues. Additionally, we're exploring partnerships with organisations such as community payback and continuing to support the invaluable contributions of our volunteers.

If your Parish is concerned about potential shortfalls in vegetation clearance, we're here to assist. We can provide guidance and support on developing your own volunteer network and through the <u>Countryside Access Parish Delivery Partnership Fund</u> (CAPDP), funding is available to support equipment and training for volunteers in your area. For further information or enquiries, please visit the CAPDP website or respond directly to this email. If your parish council is an existing member of the lengthsman scheme, you may wish to consider using your lengthsman to undertake this maintenance work.

With the ongoing financial pressures faced by local councils, we appreciate your understanding as we navigate these challenges together.

Should you have any concerns or suggestions for collaboration, please do not hesitate to reach out, using <a href="mailto:prow@hants.gov.uk">prow@hants.gov.uk</a>. Your input is invaluable as we strive to maintain our public rights of way together for the benefit of all.

If you identify any issues on the path network please report through our online reporting system - <u>Problems on rights</u> of way | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Elliott Rowe Area Countryside Access Manger - Eas

#### 2.3 TVBC Legal Team

Good Morning,

Please may I request that you provide me with a full list of the current Awbridge Parish Councillors along with their email addresses? I am currently reviewing Test Valley Borough Council's list of Parish Councillors and I can see that there are some differences between our website and the Awbridge website.

If there are Parish Councillors that are not currently on the TVBC website, please may I ask that you get them to complete the Register of Interests Form (attached in this email) and send it to me. Once received I can make the relevant changes.

TVBC have also requested that the RPI's are updated and sent over.

#### 3. Miscellaneous

- \* Public Notice of Audit was published on boards/website on June <sup>3rd</sup>. External Audit Paperwork submitted.
- \* PARISH ONLINE Digital Mapping Tool Password shared.

#### 4. Finance:

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY at 8th July 2024

INCOME		
UNITY TRUST BANK	Interest Received	176.30
	Total £	176.30
INVOICES TO PAY		
Geoxphere	Parish Online Subs	64.80
Simon Nightingale	Management of VAS Sign June	97.86
Simon Nightingale	Management of VAS Sign May	97.86
Peter Allen	Refund of Expenses	60.73
Grahame Jackson	Allowance	480.00
Tracy Sansome	Salary/Home Allowance	1,249.16
HALC	Training C. Wheeler	57.60
HALC	Training C. Wheeler	117.60
HMRC   HMRC	PAYE (CI)	320.54
HIVIRC	PAYE (GJ) Total £	120.00
OTHER PAYMENTS	Total £	2,666.15
	Total £	0.00
ALLOTED PROJECTS	Total L	0.00
CIL Funds		25,000.00
	Total £	25,000.00
Account Balances		·
UNITY TRUST BANK	Current Account	14,834.41
	Reserve Account	60176.30
	Total £	75,010.71
ACTUAL FUNDS Available		
	Less payments	72,344.56
	£	