

Chair's report for February 2021

Amesbury Area Board

On 14 January I 'attended' the Amesbury Area Board meeting (held via Zoom). I am pleased to be able to report that Shrewton Cricket Club was given a grant of £5,000 towards the purchase of a mower for the new cricket ground.

Meeting with MoD

On 21 January the Parish Clerk hosted a meeting between personnel from the MoD, Councillor Hassett and myself to discuss the ongoing issue of 'Green Fleet' MoD vehicles transiting Shrewton via London Road, the High Street and (to a lesser extent) the B3083 towards Winterbourne Stoke. The reason for the lack of progress was identified; since the meeting another errant vehicle has been reported and feedback has received that the matter was being dealt with.

Wiltshire Council Local Plan Review Consultation

On 1 February I 'attended' the Proposals for Rural Communities (virtual) briefing hosted by Wiltshire Council. During this meeting proposed policies were put forward e.g. 40% of any development of over 5 dwellings is to be affordable housing. Several issues were raised including concerns about affordable housing being further developed by its owners thus making it unaffordable for future purchasers and infrastructure capacity issues (e.g. doctor's surgeries being overwhelmed and schools not having enough places for extra children). Wiltshire Council has requested feedback on the proposals which can be seen on the website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-policy-local-plan-review-consultation

The deadline for submissions is 9 March 2021.

COVID-19

The local infection rate is falling; although the number of new infections appears to be low but we are in a relatively sparsely populated area so per head of population it is still above the national average. By obeying the rules we can drive the infection rate down and reduce the risk of infection; I know we are all being careful and people are being vaccinated so let's not reduce our guard!

This concludes the Chair's report.