

## **Chair's report for July 2021**

On 10 June I attended the virtual Amesbury Area Board meeting.

A 'report from Shrewton' had been submitted prior to the meeting, I was asked to provide an update and took the opportunity to publicise the speed and volume of the traffic using the London Road over the spring bank holiday weekend.

One of the main discussion points of this meeting was the forthcoming closure of the A360 between the A303 and the new roundabout at the top of The Avenue to allow the installation of a power cable for the A303 tunnel works. Concerns were expressed over the impact of this closure on local roads, especially over HGVs using the road through the Woodford Valley. Some questions (and possible alternative solutions) were put to the Highways England Project Manager as to why this solution was considered the best option, concise answers were provided to these questions and reasons given as to why the alternative solutions were not feasible.

We were informed that there is a camp near Stonehenge (albeit currently a small one) of protesters who are against the tunnel.

We were also informed that there is a possibility that Amesbury fire station will be being returned to full crew during the day, however the fire service is still in need of volunteers.

A new approach to improving communication within the Amesbury Area is the setting up of informal monthly meetings where Parish Council Chairs can 'drop in' and voice their concerns, chat over new ideas or just find out more information on how we can help our community. The first of these was held on 28 June and the matter of the closure of the A360 was raised again. During this meeting the 'Paths for all' initiative was introduced to those attending; this is the provision of funds for access improvements to assist those who may suffer difficulties on some footpaths.

This concludes the Chair's report.