



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Stonehenge, Avebury  
and Associated sites  
inscribed on the World  
Heritage List in 1986

---

## **AVEBURY WORLD HERITAGE SITE STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday 11 May 2011 at 10.00 a.m.  
**Venue:** Council Chambers, Browfort, Devizes (Wiltshire Council East Hub)

**Present:**

Andrew Vines (Chair) – English Heritage  
Christopher Young – English Heritage  
Amanda Chadburn – English Heritage  
Sarah Simmonds – World Heritage Site Officer  
Gill Swanton – North Farm, West Overton  
Colin Shell – AAHRG  
Andrew Williamson – Avebury Parish Council  
Kate Fielden – WAHNS  
Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger – County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council  
David Vaughan – Assistant County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council  
Stephanie Payne - Natural England  
Andrew Lord – Planning Advisor, North Wessex Downs AONB  
Sue Rogers – Fyfield & West Overton Parish Council  
Bill Buxton – Winterbourne Monkton Parish Council  
Mike Wilmott - Area Development Manager, Wiltshire Council  
Robin Butler – Avebury Farmers Group  
Garry King – Strategic Landscape Manager, Wiltshire Council  
Jan Tomlin – National Trust  
Andrew Lord – North Wessex Downs AONB  
Liz Moore – Avebury Parish Council (Clerk)  
David Trump (guest) – Natural England  
James Proyer (minutes) - Wiltshire Council

**1. Introductions & Apologies**

Apologies were received from Georgina Clampitt-Dix, Alistair Cunningham, Henry Oliver and Stuart Wheeler.

David Trump from Natural England attended to present the results of the World Heritage Site (WHS) Burrowing Animals Survey at item 4 of the agenda.

Due to time constraints, Jan Tomlin's NT update and TVM report were moved up to point 8 and 9 on the agenda respectively.

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising**

The minutes of the last Steering Committee meeting held on 11 November 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed off with four minor corrections.

The list of actions was reviewed and progress noted. Those not fully reported on as agenda items are set out below.

- Action 2 JT explained that National Trust (NT) staff contact numbers could not be given out as emergency numbers. JT advised that the standard approach is to contact the police directly. GS suggested that this approach is time consuming to the detriment of the police and landowners. RB suggested that local landowners could be given contact numbers of tenants that have animals in the area. JT accepted that, with the consent of landowners, a list of emergency contact numbers could be coordinated.
- Action 5 CY reported that DCMS had sent the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) to UNESCO for consideration. There have been very slight changes to the document including the addition of a descriptive paragraph at the beginning of the statement. CY wished to thank those involved with producing the document.
- Action 9 SS has been in contact with Henry Oliver and Natural England (NE) regarding the National Landscape Area review. The programme is ongoing and she will be involved in providing input to the process on behalf of the WHS.

**Action: JT to coordinate and circulate a list of emergency contact numbers (on the basis that permission to give out each phone number is agreed)**

### **3. WHS Officer Report - SS**

SS summarised her report with a PowerPoint presentation. The report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Information in the report included details of progress over the last six months:

- Projects completed:
  1. Condition Survey (D1)
  2. Badger/Burrowing Animal Survey (D3)
  3. Submission of draft SOUV to UNESCO (I3). DCMS submitted the draft SOUV to UNESCO in February 2011. This now carries weight in plan making and planning decisions although the full UNESCO assessment is likely to take 18 months.
- On-going projects:
  1. Arable Reversion (E1/2, F2/5)
  2. WHS Research Framework (Y3/S1)
  3. WHS Woodland Strategy (G1)
  4. Wiltshire Core Strategy (L2, M1)
  5. *Making Sense of Our Sites* (V9). The UK WHS Youth Summit will be held in Greenwich in 2012. Sheldon School in Chippenham, now a UNESCO Associated School, is interested in attending. SS is looking for other schools that might be interested (open to 13-19 age group). She will be available to provide support and guidance in the process of preparation. Funding for accommodation is available from the UNESCO UK Commission.
- Projects initiated:
  1. Traffic and Design Guide Project (N1, O1/4, R1)
- Funding:
  1. SW WHS Project (S2, U2). Four WHSs received funding of £135,000 from RDPE for the SW WHS project. The funding is to promote awareness, understanding, sustainable visits and rural livelihoods across the four WHSs in the region. There will

be a review of the existing impact of leaflets and web pages and the feasibility of developing digital technologies such as mobile phone 'Apps'.

Education - SS will be working with two masters' students from the Institute of Archaeology, UCL in May-June. These students will explore opportunities for digital media/Apps in the WHS and provide recommendations to inform interpretation including the SW WHS project, Fyfield Down interpretation project and WHS Circular Walks. They will in touch with relevant WHS partners over the next few weeks.

Towards 2012 and Beyond – Cultural Olympiad project aims to raise the profile of UK WHS and increase understanding and support both nationally and internationally. The initial HLF bid has not been successful but other funding opportunities to support WHS-based activities are currently being reviewed. Although the project is unlikely now to coincide with 2012, there is potential for it to yield benefits in the future. This is the first UK-wide project of its kind and has already provided valuable experience of joint working and the development of an approach to joint presentation of UK WHSs. There is also confirmed private sector interest in the project from Endemol and SW Screen.

#### **4.1 WHS Condition Survey: Overview of Results - SS**

As part of her PowerPoint presentation SS summarised the results of the recently completed Condition Survey. This was based on the draft report. The final report will be available in due course.

- Business Case:
  1. To meet UNESCO requirements for periodic reporting
  2. To agree a single method of assessment across both parts of the WHS
  3. To assess success of management strategies
  4. To inform future management and influence funding

English Heritage funded Wessex Archaeology to carry out the survey.

- Process:
  1. Methodology agreed by Project Board of WHS partners (EH, NT, Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service, WHSO)
  2. Challenge was to combine the different methodologies for assessing condition of monuments
  3. Desk-based surveys were followed by field survey teams visiting Stonehenge and Avebury. SS thanked landowners for allowing permission to carry out the study.
  4. 1002 monuments surveyed (of which 341 in Avebury)
  5. Next stage in process to analyse results and provide management recommendations
  6. Deliver report and GIS management tools to partners (currently in draft form)
- (Draft) results:
  1. Tangible improvement across the WHS
  2. Stabilised or improved the condition of substantial percentage of Monuments: 20.2% improved condition and 61.4% stable.
- Successful management strategies:
  1. Removal of monuments from cultivation through wider grassland reversion and the extension of buffer strips
  2. Reduction in the impact of stock, vegetation and visitor erosion due to positive management regimes

- Continuing and emerging challenges:
  1. Decline in condition 11.1%. Cultivation still considered to be the biggest threat. SS stressed the need to continue to work with farmers and landowners, NE and DEFRA
  2. Impact of burrowing animals, particularly badgers. Increase at Avebury from 2 monuments (1999) to 21 monuments (2010).
  3. Human impacts, in particular vehicular damage – requires strategies to halt this

Results will be provided as GIS layers to assist in targeted management.

Key comments arising from the group in response to SS's presentation:

- GS raised a concern that the new HLS scheme cannot deliver the same payment levels as the Countryside Stewardship special project which has now be superseded.
- SS and RB also expressed concern about losing the benefits achieved through stewardship schemes if landowners chose not to take them up due to lack of adequate financial incentive. Financial incentives should be retained for WHS farmers.
- AC explained that farmers in Avebury had benefitted from the option of what was essentially Countryside Stewardship 'Plus' with special payment benefits (greater than elsewhere in the UK) offered for land within the WHS. AC suggested that a discussion with Natural England relating to HLS schemes would be beneficial.
- SP suggested that Natural England might wish to review the schemes in 2013 in conjunction with CAP reform but that HLS is a more urgent issue in the WHS and more particularly Avebury where a number of schemes are coming up for renewal. She and other colleagues have looked at addressing the issue internally but she indicated that representations from the Avebury WHS Steering Committee would be helpful in highlighting the issue.
- In response to a query from MPK, SP confirmed that there were 4 existing HLS agreements and that 2/3 Countryside Stewardship agreements would require renewal within the next two years.

**Action: AV to write to NE/DEFRA on behalf of the Committee to request a continuation of adequate incentive payments to WHS landowners entering HLS agreements. SS to draft letter**

#### **4.2 Burrowing Animals/Badger Survey - DT**

DT gave a brief presentation on the results of the survey. He distributed draft maps of the location of Badger sets within Avebury WHS. Each red dot on the map representing a badger set. The size of the dot is relative to the size of the set.

DT outlined the process and key findings of the survey, as follows:

- The project to examine badger activity in the wider landscape of Stonehenge and Avebury originated around a year ago
- In September 2010 a training session was conducted with Wessex Archaeology to enable them to differentiate between different types of burrowing animal damage as part of the Condition Survey
- In addition in November 2010 sixteen NE staff spent a day in Avebury and in Stonehenge looking for evidence of badger sets and categorising set entrances as active, disused or unknown. A second survey was carried out in March to fill gaps in the data
- The rapid survey provides an indication of the extent of badger activity in the area. At Avebury there are approximately 86 separate sets (accessed by 30 entrances). This is a markedly higher number than at Stonehenge where 14 Badger sets were identified
- Sets were discovered in some unusual locations, including within flat arable fields
- The east, north and south of Avebury WHS is considered to be 'pretty full' of badgers
- The next stage of the process is to identify where badger territories are. This will involve

'bait marking' to establish whether to close down particular sets. Currently, there are no lethal measures for dealing with badgers but there are a number of potential options to remove badgers from vulnerable areas

- A more detailed report will follow. This will include a summary of the results and an indication of the priority areas to tie in with the Condition Survey

Key comments arising from the group:

- Referring to the 1999 WHS Condition Survey which did not identify a high number of badgers, SS questioned whether the level of badgers really could have increased that significantly over the last ten year or whether it might have been due to different approaches to identification. DT concluded that this increase was quite possible given national trends. A 1997 report identified that the national population of badgers had increased by 70% between the mid-1980s and mid-1990s. DT suggested that an additional increase was not inconceivable and that anecdotal evidence and surveys may well support this. DT emphasised that the increased population of badgers was still a localised issue related to local conditions. GS noted that the population of Badgers on her land has increased by at least 50 per cent in the last ten years. DT mentioned that the population of badgers will not increase perpetually – there is a carrying capacity.
- MPK queried how the results of the survey would be integrated with the Condition Survey. AC explained that these were two separate projects but that GIS layers could be useful in providing a more complete picture of the WHS. SS confirmed the need to integrate results of both projects.
- In response to a query from AC, DT explained that the survey should be complete within the month.
- CS noted that Badgers cause other problems in addition to damage to monuments, notably harm to ground dwelling birds.

**Action: DT to contact Paul Cripps at Wessex Archaeology to discuss how the Condition Survey and Badger Survey results can be incorporated.**

**Action: DT to send copy of the final report to SS**

## **5. Update of Avebury WHS Management Plan – CY**

CY spoke briefly about the need to update the Avebury WHS Management Plan.

UNESCO and government require that WHS management plans should be reviewed every 5-6 years to adapt to changes in policy and local context. CY identified as an example the increase in badger numbers as a local matter that has grown in significance since the last Avebury WHS Management Plan.

Avebury will be only the second WHS in the UK to undertake a third review of its management plan.

The document must be adopted by the Steering Committee and agreed with associated and key stakeholders.

Key comments arising from the group in response to CY's presentation:

- In response to a query from CS, SS stated that the document is likely to take up to approximately two years to be complete. The process of engagement is an important part of the review.

- SS explained that the next stage in the process will be to produce a project outline, drawing on advice from Stonehenge, other WHSs and MPK's work. SS suggested that this would be complete in the summer. This will be circulated to the group.
- SS underlined the importance of the Management Plan in securing the release of often substantial project funds and a commitment to coordinated partnership working and best practice. AV agreed with this point.
- MPK queried the relationship between the management plan and the pending Governance Review. AC reported that the Governance Review, which has still not happened, will feed into the Management Plan. CY noted that UNESCO is likely to say that the two parts of the WHS should have a shared management plan. SS suggested that there are a range of management plan options that should be discussed. AC noted that a joint overarching document split with two discrete elements for Stonehenge and Avebury could be considered as an option.
- In response to a query from GS, SS explained that a review of what has been achieved in the last 5/6 years since the previous Avebury WHS Management Plan would be compiled.
- AC warned that the revision of the management plan will require additional time and resources from the group, based on the experience of revising the Stonehenge Management Plan. The potential for a Management Plan workshop was mooted.

**Action: SS to put together a project outline for the Management Plan review and circulate to the group**

## **6. Governance Review – AC**

AC gave a brief update from English Heritage, acknowledging the lack of progress on the planned Governance Review.

AC explained that changes in government funding have meant that English Heritage is not able to pay for consultants and so work cannot be outsourced. AC and CY clarified that they had not been able to prioritise the Governance Review due to other commitments.

GK made reference to Action 6 of the most recent Steering Committee, stating that there was still potential for Wiltshire Council to run the contract. AC indicated that she was unsure whether this could be done but that clarification would be sought as to whether the work could be outsourced.

CS noted that if consultants were involved they would have to be provided with a high level of information which might be equally as time consuming.

**Action: AC and CY to clarify whether work can be outsourced and discuss with GK**

## **7. Skokholm – WHS Planning Circular 07/09 - AC**

AC explained that this was an issue related to a planning permission for a dwelling which was granted despite an outstanding objection by English Heritage related to the negative impact on outstanding universal value (OUV).

AC expressed her disappointment that expert advice from EH, the County Archaeology Service and the WHSO had not been taken given sufficient weight and that the planning officer involved did not apply the regulations correctly. Circular 07/09 on the protection of World Heritage Sites requires any proposal where EH has an outstanding objections to be referred to the Secretary of State to consider a call-in. AC stressed the need to ensure such

a scenario would not happen again and suggested that planning officers need to treat both halves of the WHS with equal care and attention to protection.

CS reported that the matter had caused considerable concern at AAHRG, suggesting that although Skokholm is a specific case, failure to heed expert historic environment advice is an on-going problem. CS supported the need to ensure expert opinion is taken on board and given appropriate weighting in planning decisions.

MPK noted that the Skokholm decision also went against her own advice. It was noted that SS, MPK and DV had met MW to put in place a number of measures to avoid future occurrences including greater ongoing contact with planners such as joint site visits to ensure that planning officers are familiar with impacts on OUV. SS indicated that since the Skokholm incident there had been more considered attention to impacts on OUV. The Wiltshire Core Strategy will have a policy underlining the weight of OUV.

AC reported that the Secretary of State has advised Wiltshire Council that although the correct process was not followed, permission has been granted. KF noted that it is a legal requirement that the Secretary of State should have been informed of the OUV objection and therefore there is potential for the case to go to judicial review.

#### **8. National Trust update – JT**

The National Trust report was tabled and is attached as an appendix to the minutes; JT summarised the main points.

R1: Establish safe crossings in the henge. This is a priority objective for NT. The road through Avebury is becoming increasingly dangerous. The crossings are currently inadequate and particularly hazardous for disabled visitors and those with children. The NT is working with English Heritage to improve safety.

T3: Visitor counts are being taken forward as part of the work commissioned with LM Associates (funded centrally by the NT) to improve understanding of where visitors go and dwell times. This is a priority for Avebury but it is a time consuming process.

#### **Avebury Manor Partnership with the BBC**

- The NT has reached an agreement with the BBC for them to transform a number of rooms in Avebury Manor for a series to be aired on BBC1 in the autumn. The Grade 1 Listed Manor is currently empty, with no furniture, carpets or curtains. The BBC will transform around a four rooms, and the small walled garden
- The rooms will be dressed to reflect how these would have looked in the following periods: Tudor, Georgian, Victorian and late 20<sup>th</sup> Century
- The result will be authentic rooms where everything is touchable
- The noted historian Dan Cruikshank will be the BBC's senior advisor
- The rooms will be transformed between May-September 2011. The series is due to be aired before Christmas
- When the BBC leave the contents of the rooms will become the NT's
- LM Associates and the Head the NT will be meeting to discuss how to manage the anticipated additional visitor numbers. JT indicated that such potential schemes as ticketing systems and Park & Ride will be looked at by the independent group
- With the help of volunteers, work has begun on the walled garden, which is likely to be turned into allotments in the future

JT noted that engaging people with the wider landscape was a key priority of the NT and part of the work with SS

JT stated that the NT is in the middle of a significant programme of change. A positive development has been the appointment of Dr Nick Snashall as the NT Archaeologist for both halves of the WHS

Key comments arising from the group in response to JT's presentation:

- In response to a query from BB, JT explained that some trees have been cut down because they were diseased.

**Action: JT to clarify the reasoning for recent tree felling with the Countryside Manager**

#### **9. Report from the TVM – JT**

JT commented briefly on the TVM summarising its support for the emerging Traffic Strategy and Design Guide Project led by Wiltshire Council.

Key comments arising from the group in response to JT:

- KF asked whether it would be possible to reduce speed through Avebury to 20mph without adding more signage to warn road users. JT agreed that the current speed restriction of 30mph is too high. SS noted that the Traffic Strategy led by Tim Davis will look at these issues, in terms of solutions appropriate to the historic environment. The inception meeting will take place in July
- SS noted that she was pleased to hear about the NT's work on visitor numbers as it would provide a helpful evidence base for the Management Plan review. AC agreed with this point.

#### **10. The Great Stones Way – KF**

KF spoke briefly about the proposed Great Stones Way:

- KF welcomed the information that an environmental impact study is planned to accompany the Great Stones Way proposal.
- KF requested that the environmental assessment for the proposed trail be adequate in scope to reflect the true impact of the number of users predicted.
- KF warned that the trail distance of 24 miles would make it suitable for sponsored walks with high numbers of people.
- KF suggested that residents of Pewsey were also concerned about the Great Stones Way.

Key comments arising from the group in response to KF:

- In relation to the process of scoping the environmental impact study, SS suggested that it might be difficult for all parishes to be included in the scoping process but that she would pass on concerns regarding the scope of the study and the need to cover any likely social, economic and amenity impacts on local communities.
- AW informed the Committee that he had requested Avebury Parish Council be part of the Great Stones Way group advising on the scope of the study. Avebury is likely to be one of the communities most heavily affected.
- AC agreed that local communities should be included in process adding that this is also part of the WHS Steering Committee's role.
- In response to an enquiry from KF, SS had advised that the scope of the environmental impact study should establish where people would be likely to park in respect of the Great Stones Way.
- CS asked whether parking had been considered by the TVM. SS responded that the proposal was not yet at a stage where this would be appropriate, and that the study would have to be done before the Group could meaningfully provide comment and suggestions. CY noted that proposed related car parks or signage would fall within the planning system.



**Action: SS to write to Friends of the Ridgeway to pass on suggestions re the scope of the environmental impact study and the request that an Avebury Parish Council representative be involved in scoping local interests.**

**11. English Heritage update – AC**

AC summarised the main points related to Management Plan objectives:

- There is a final draft of the Condition Survey in place. AC to get GIS layers
- Arable reversion – continue to advise NE on applications
- Review of Scheduled Monuments – the Condition Survey has flagged up a number of issues.
- Member of WHS Woodland Strategy project board
- Archaeological Research Framework – EH funded the framework. There will be a seminar for researchers on June 24th
- Silbury Hill archaeological monograph is due to be published soon
- Harriet Atwood the education manager for the south west is on maternity leave. Win Scutt is covering for Harriet.

**12. Wiltshire Council update – GK**

The Wiltshire Council report was circulated prior to the meeting; GK summarised the main points:

- H1: Landscape Enhancement. Progress on Historic Characterisation Project. The Archaeology Service has just finished the Project Design for English Heritage, who if they approve it, will be funding the project for 3 years, starting in October 2011. The project will include a detailed analysis of the WHS landscapes.
- I2: It is anticipated that this objective will be reviewed as part of the core strategy development process
- L2 and L3: Core Strategy. Wiltshire Council will publish a draft Core Strategy consultation document during June. It is anticipated that the consultation exercise will run for an 8 week period and will include a series of events across Wiltshire's community areas. The consultation will contain draft policies for comment. It will also start to bring the policies from the emerging South Wiltshire Core Strategy into the main Wiltshire Core Strategy. The first round of consultation will be in addition to the formal consultation stage programmed for late 2011. The first stage will assist in producing what the council believes to be a sound plan for the final statutory consultation period.

As part of preparing the Wiltshire Core Strategy, a series of topic papers are being produced to address both key policy themes and locally distinctive issues based on key areas in Wiltshire. These papers will bring together relevant issues and opportunities as well as evidence and will inform the preparation of discrete draft policy options. These policy options will then undergo assessment through the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Assessment process.

It is anticipated that the draft World Heritage Site policy will consider the appropriateness of developing SPD which could include important principles to support the protection and management of the World Heritage Site, with the emphasis on protecting and enhancing the Site's OUV and its setting.

The WHSO is assisting in advising policy officers preparing policies relating to the World

Heritage Site. Members of the Steering Committee and WHS working groups are encouraged to respond to the consultation.

Key comments arising from the group in response to GK:

- DV confirmed that the Historic Characterisation project design was submitted on Friday 6th May. MPK noted that it will also cover the Swindon area.
- In response to a query from AW, GK said that it was difficult to say whether there would be any changes in policies related to Avebury but that there would be many saved policies from district plans. SS confirmed that detailed policies for Avebury in the Saved Local Plan would be saved if not addressed by the evolving Core Strategy.
- In response to a request from KF, SS stated that there would be overarching policy for both parts of the WHS together.
- AL spoke briefly about the direction of recent government planning guidance, the 'planning for growth statement', which focuses on sustainable development. AL indicated a hope that in the AONB normal practice would continue and policies still apply.

**Action: SS to alert Group when the Core Strategy consultation period commences.**

### **13. Natural England update - SP**

The NE report was circulated prior to the meeting; SP summarised the main points:

- E1-2: Since November a further two key stewardship agreements have been agreed. One has been agreed and signed and the second will be offered for a 1 June start date. We now have 5 live HLS agreements within the Avebury part of the WHS. ELS options have also been used to protect key archaeology. Natural England will be approaching farmers who are currently only in ELS or whose CSS agreements are due to expire soon to discuss the options available under the new Environmental Schemes

Arable reversion opportunities map: NE's GIS specialist has completed work on a user friendly interface. This will shortly be available for all partners and landowners as a PDF to help inform management decisions

- D3: A burrowing animal (primarily badger survey) was carried out this autumn / spring. The highest badger activity was found in the central and eastern part of the Avebury WHS. Less activity was recorded within the Stonehenge WHS
- G1: A special project grant has been secured as an amendment to an existing CSS agreement. The project has to be completed by the end of September 2011 to secure the grant. Work on the Woodland Strategy brief has been completed by the Project Board and it has now gone out to tender. There will be a meeting to tenders submitted this month
- Q5-6: NE is still pursuing funding and educational access opportunities for Fyfield Down and adjacent farms in HLS.
- National Character Areas: NE will be updating profiles and developing integrated Statements of Environmental Opportunity for each of the NCAs over the next couple of years. There are 41 NCAs that sit either fully or partly in the SW. Work has already begun on completing the first 16 and it is hoped to have 8 working examples by the summer. An important part of this process will be consultation and local engagement with key partners and stakeholders including the WHS.

**Action: SP to let SS know when consultation stage on Natural Character Area begins**

#### **14. Report from AAHRG - CS**

CS presented a brief update from AAHRG, the key points summarised are:

- The previous AAHRG meeting was well attended (over 27 members), demonstrating the vitality of the group
- The group expressed concern about the lack of weight given to OUV in planning decisions
- There are concerns that replanting of the chestnut avenue on the west side of A4361 has been carried out without the proper archaeological survey and it could interfere with the view of Windmill Hill from Avebury. There are also concerns over planting at Fox Covert. The Forestry Commission should have been consulted but were not. There is concern that local landowners are not fully aware of procedures for planting in a WHS and that small changes will become incremental and create a precedent for future planting.

SS underlined that the WHS Woodland Strategy should address such issues and the planned involvement of landowners will help to raise awareness of requirements within the WHS.

#### **15. Information exchange**

GS commended Wiltshire Police for their work with the Rural Crime Prevention Scheme and their help in dealing with intrusion problems. The Police are aware of additional people expected to enter the area due to the Summer Solstice. GS informed the group that the Police recommend dialling 999 in these situations.

DV informed the group that there would be chemical spraying at the Longstones Long Barrow as part of scrub control on 16 May 2011.

AW noted that Avebury Parish Council is trying to ensure that the Tourist Information Centre continues to operate.

CS reminded the group about the Avenue to Learning educational project involving local schools and education groups in the near future. There will be an event involving the Young Archaeology Club on Saturday 21 May 2011. In June, three local schools will be involved in projects to use the WHS in education.

KF informed the group about a talk on Marden Henge by Dr Jim Leary on Friday, 10th June at 8pm in the Coronation Hall, Alton Barnes.

#### **16. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held in six months' time on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November.

## ACTIONS

Item No.	Action and Person Responsible
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JT to coordinate and circulate a list of emergency contact numbers (on the basis that permission to give out each phone number is agreed).</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AV to write to NE/DEFRA on behalf of the Committee to request a continuation of adequate incentive payments to WHS landowners entering HLS agreements. SS to draft letter</li> <li>• DT to contact Paul Cripps at Wessex Archaeology to discuss how the Condition Survey and Badger Survey results can be incorporated.</li> <li>• DT to send copy of the final report to SS</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SS to put together a project outline for the Management Plan review and circulate to the group</li> </ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AC and CY to clarify whether work can be outsourced and discuss with GK</li> </ul>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JT to clarify the reasoning for recent tree felling with the Countryside Manager</li> </ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SS to write to Friends of the Ridgeway to pass on suggestions re the scope of the environmental impact study and the request that an Avebury Parish Council representative be involved in scoping local interests</li> </ul>
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SS to alert Group when the Core Strategy consultation period commences</li> </ul>
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP to let SS know when consultation stage on Natural Character Areas begins</li> </ul>

james.proyer@wiltshire.gov.uk