



Stonehenge World Heritage Site Committee

Meeting on Thursday 18th October 2018

10.30 AM – 12.30 PM

Wiltshire Museum, Devizes

Minutes

1. Present:

Kathi Sharp (KS)	Durrington Town Council
Roger Fisher (Chair) (RF)	Amesbury Town Council
Jenny Davies (JD)	English Heritage
Philip Miles (PM)	Country Land and Business Association
Patrick Cashman (PC)	RSPB
Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger (MPK)	Wiltshire Council, County Archaeologist
Hugh Morrison (HMo)	Farmer representative
Colin Shell (CS)	ASAHRG
Bill Parks (BP)	Wiltshire Council, Highways
Nick Snashall (NS)	National Trust
Richard Crook (RC)	NFU/Amesbury TC
Sarah Simmonds (SSi)	WHSCU
Helen Miah (HM) (Notes)	WHSCU

Apologies:

David Andrews	VisitWiltshire
Ron Lock	Shrewton TC
Jan Tomlin	National Trust
Andy Shuttleworth	Winterbourne Stoke PC
Stephanie Payne	Natural England
David Dawson	Wiltshire Museum

2. Agree minutes of last meeting & matters arising

2.1. Minutes – agreed

2.2. A303 update (MPK)

DCO application due to be submitted shortly. All documents will be made public and available on their website.

Archaeological investigations being finalised and reports will be available in next few weeks.

Documents they have submitted prior to archaeological reports being made available will, if necessary, be updated. They can continue to update documents once submitted until Christmas approx.

<p>2.3. <u>Wood Henge/Durrington Walls</u> – observance camping problematic. NT met WC Heavy concrete dragons’ teeth will be put in place to deter camping. The current wooden dragons’ teeth are simply pulled up. Discussion about which roads are military and which Highways Authority responsibility.</p> <p>Action WHSCU to find out road ownership in the area</p> <p>2.4. Agreed this committee supports measures necessary to protect the monuments during observances</p> <p>2.5. Congratulations to all involved in the Chubb Centenary Day</p>	<p>HM</p>
<p>3. Experimental TRO on Byways in Stonehenge Landscape</p> <p>Bill Parks, Wiltshire Council Highways read through a prepared statement The Stonehenge WHS Committee support the ETRO. It meets the WHS Management Plan aims and policies.</p> <p>Actions RF this Committee will write in support of the ETRO to the consultation WHSCU will circulate info/weblink encouraging all partners to contribute to the consultation.</p> <p>CS concerned to ensure knowledge is shared with the Avebury in relation to TROs on byways – relevant to Ridgeway issue</p> <p>JD happy to share the EH response if requested</p>	<p>RF HM</p>
<p>4. World Heritage Site Trust update</p> <p>SSi reported HLF Resilient Heritage Grant application has been successful. We have £55,000 plus £13,000 match funding from partners and in-kind contributions.</p> <p>Trust Transition Project will now move forwards including appointment of Transition Programme Manager, to maintain current Partnership working and extend the added value that the WHSCU can bring. Project Board is already established. Opportunities to consult widely with all partners will happen throughout the process as will a review of governance and how this will relate to the new WHS Trust.</p>	
<p>5. A303 Legacy work</p> <p>Legacy Workshop held by Highway England 4th October. SSi and Alistair Sommerlad presented at this workshop focusing on delivery of the WHS Management Plan. A number of partners were also present. It is anticipated there will be further opportunities to engage with this work as the programme develops.</p>	

<p>SSi has been working directly with Highways England who have agreed to fund the WHS Sustainable Transport Strategy, Sustainable Tourism Strategy and Sustainable Landscape Access Strategy. She is now working to ensure that the WHSCU leads on the development of these activities.</p> <p>Action: Invite HE Legacy to the next Committee Meeting</p>	<p>SSi</p>
<p>6. WHS Management Plan Mid-Point Review</p> <p>SSi has met with all the partners and organisations leading on Actions.</p> <p>Great opportunity to look at what has been achieved, what hasn't and how to progress in areas that have been more difficult to progress. A great deal of progress has been made with around 20% of actions complete and 50% in progress. C. 25% of actions are ongoing and 5% remain to be actioned. Where progress has been difficult, issues are mostly around diminishing resources/staffing in many cases due to demands of responding to the A303 major infrastructure project at Stonehenge. As yet unknown challenges related to Brexit. Opportunities including Legacy and WHS Trust development.</p> <p>Actions: SS/HM Complete the Action Plan Review spreadsheet, can provide a copy for any partners who request one.</p> <p>MPK – possible that new Trust will lead on the next Management Plan CS – the setting up of the Trust will have procedural/governance implications – note there is a review of Governance as an early action in the HLF funded work.</p>	<p>SS/HM</p>
<p>7. World Heritage Site Coordination Unit Update</p> <p>See attached Update Report</p>	
<p>8. Reports from Partners on implementation of WHS Management Plan and related projects</p> <p>8.1. National Trust – Jan is making good progress and hoping to return to work end of Dec. Eva is Acting Up as GM and Nick is leading on all WHS issues. Walking programme continuing. Field work programme in landscape at Stonehenge. Fencing removal at Cursus complete. DIO and Wessex Archaeology will be removing the sewage works before Christmas.</p> <p>8.2. English Heritage – Autumn Equinox went as well as it could although the byway situation is still difficult. New exhibition opened at Visitor Centre in partnership with British Museum. There will be a special event at Stonehenge on Friday 26th October to commemorate 100 years since Stonehenge was gifted to the nation. The day will be curated by Turner</p>	

<p>prize winning artist Jeremy Deller and all members of the committee are invited.</p> <p>8.3. 2018 Seasonal update for the RSPB Normanton Down nature reserve. This spring two plots were cultivated as usual to provide nesting habitat for ground nesting birds, and in particular the reserve’s flagship species the stone-curlew. Each plot successfully attracted one pair of stone-curlews, which each laid a clutch of two eggs. The upper plot successfully fledged two young stone-curlews. Fifteen pairs of lapwing also nested on and around the plots, successfully fledging at least 5 young lapwing. A RSPB volunteer undertook butterfly surveys regularly during the summer months and recorded 13 different species of butterfly. Marbled white, large white, small white, meadow brown, gatekeeper, small heath, small skipper, Essex skipper, large skipper, common blue, painted lady, dark green fritillary and brimstone. Every 5 years, flora surveys are undertaken. This year the ancient grassland on the barrows was monitored. In brief 88 plant species were recorded on 10 barrows within the Normanton Barrow cemetery group on the reserve. Notably 25 of these were wildflowers typical of chalk grassland. Monitoring of the surrounding grassland in recent years, which is being restored to chalk grassland from arable by the landowner, has shown how this ancient flora continues to spill out and enhance the surrounding landscape.</p> <p>8.4. Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service – working closely with WHSCU and the WHS with planning applications, A303 monitoring archaeological investigations in and outside of the WHS. Mitigation strategy in development and will be a very detailed document. Outreach work – walks and Open Day.</p>	
<p>9. Parish/Town Council, Farmers’ Group Updates</p> <p>9.1. HMo Landowners/farmers lots of meetings re A303. Natural England surveys. Farmers concerned about land access post road scheme and are asking for more engagement. SS there is a need for participatory planning around landscape access and the WHSCU will look at taking this forward.</p> <p>9.2. Amesbury PC moving forwards with signage – new footbridge at Queensbury bridge and interpretation.</p>	
<p>10. Report from the Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Partnership Panel Due to meet in the summer</p>	
<p>11. Report from Avebury & Stonehenge Archaeological and Historical Research Group</p>	

<p>11.1. ASAHRG have received the following presentations:</p> <p>11.1.1. Virtual Technologies in Heritage Research – Virtual Avebury – Liz Falconer (Bournemouth University)</p> <p>11.1.2. The use of Sarsen Stone in Britain. An archaeological and ethno-historical approach to an ancient industry - Katy Whitaker (University of Reading)</p> <p>11.1.3. Living with Monuments Project: fieldwork at Butler's Field, Avebury, and Knoll Down, Summer 2018 – Josh Pollard (University of Southampton) and Ben Chan</p> <p>11.1.4. Ongoing evaluations on the A303 - Chris Moore (AECOM) and Matt Leivers (Wessex Archaeology)</p> <p>11.1.5. Preliminary Results and Implications of the Stonehenge Landscape EMI Project, 2016-2018 - Paul Garwood (University of Birmingham)</p> <p>11.2. Managing the Research Framework – Dan Miles leading on this work and looking at how it can be kept up to date</p> <p>11.3. CS – developing a protocol for disposals for ASAHRG to adopt that will focus on Museum Association good practice and be an appendix in next Management Plan. This will also cover non- accessioned and private collections</p> <p>11.4. NS – note that the NT as an organisation is an Accredited Museum.</p> <p>11.5. Setting Study brief is being finalised and a funding strategy discussed. The boundary review will follow the completion of this work.</p> <p>11.6. IT issues with HER. MPK it is a problem with WC IT servers, it is now almost ready to go live again. MPK – please contact the WC team if you need anything whilst the IT isn't working</p>	<p>CS</p> <p>SS</p> <p>MPK</p>
<p>12. WHS Committee Chair</p> <p>Roger is sadly standing down as chair after over four years in the role. He has a great deal of work with Amesbury Parish Council. The group expressed its sadness and thanks for all RF's work.</p> <p>Nominations for Chair are requested. Nominations should be seconded. You can nominate yourself., Please ask the person you are nominating) Cannot be anyone from an organisation which is represented on the Partnership Panel – National Trust, Wiltshire Council, Historic England or English Heritage. A ballot will be held if there is more than one nomination.</p> <p>Actions: SS will email info on nomination process to all members All to consider nominations</p>	<p>SS</p> <p>All</p>
<p>13. Information exchange and AOB</p>	

RF – photographs found at Antrobus House – MPK the WSHC Archives would probably be interested.	RF
14. Date of next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday 30th April 2019• Thursday, 24th October 2019	