

Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Partnership Panel Meeting

Notes

Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, Chippenham

9th May 2019

Present:

Alistair Sommerlad, Chair
 Jan Tomlin, National Trust
 Rebecca Barrett, Historic England
 Roger Fisher, Stonehenge WHS Steering Committee
 Henry Oliver, Avebury WHS Steering Committee
 Kate Davies, English Heritage
 Colin Shell, ASAHRG
 Helen Weedon, WHSCU (Notes)

Apologies:

Cllr. Richard Clewer, Wiltshire Council
 Sarah Simmonds, WHSCU

Presenter: Gavin Church, Highways England

1.	Welcome and apologies
2.	<p>Minutes of last meeting Agreed</p> <p>WHS partners are requested to make every effort to ensure they can attend WHSPP meetings or send a named deputy if they are unable so that matters can be dealt with at meetings.</p> <p>Action AS follow up with WC</p>
3.	<p>Strategic projects update</p> <p>3.1. <u>A303 Road Scheme</u> – DCO process update See attached presentation Open Floor Hearings 22/23 May – anyone wishing to attend should notify the inspectorate in advance but unlikely anyone will be turned away. CS asked about the 3D modelling and visualisations. GC a full 3D digital model will be developed at the next stage of the design and build process but GC will follow up and ensure CS has had a formal response to his written request for this model.</p>

	<p>Action</p> <p>GC follow up and respond to CS</p> <p>RB echoed the need for visualisations to help all understand the scheme/impacts.</p> <p>GC suggests at this stage the focus should be on agreeing specific requirements/design parameters i.e. not bigger than/longer than/minimum and maximum standards.</p>
4.	<p>A303 Legacy – Designated Funds</p> <p>AS noted additional funds secured. The funding will be via WC as the Unit sits in WC who have been supportive of receiving this funding.</p> <p>4.1 <u>Exploring the WHS and Beyond Project</u> Brief is now being developed with input from all partners.</p> <p>4.2 <u>Burrowing Animal Strategy</u> This will be delivered by Highways England consultants once their capacity and skills have been reviewed by the project board.</p> <p>4.3 <u>Other opportunities for WHS projects – legacies and benefits.</u> AS keen to ensure we are maximising all current opportunities with Highways England.</p> <p>KD proposed that the focus should be on the actions in the Management Plan that still need to be moved forward.</p> <p>HO suggested work on the Avebury Landscape Strategy and delivering actions in the Avebury Transport Strategy.</p> <p>CS stated that this panel should set the strategic priorities for the WHSCU and suggested having a standing Agenda item on the Management Plan Progress.</p> <p>JT suggested it would be helpful to begin to consider what the key issues are looking towards the next Management Plan.</p> <p>CS asked about progress on the Setting Study.</p> <p>AS stated that there isn't any funding for it at this time but wondered if this work could be linked to any of the other strategies that are being developed.</p> <p>RF reminded the panel that the local community are also looking to secure funding through legacy funds.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>WHSCU to consider whether the Setting and Landscape studies can be brought together and delivered through the Exploring WHS and Beyond Project.</p> <p>WHSCU to revisit progress against current plan and identify priorities for the future aligned to possible funding opportunities and the next Management Plan. A review</p>

	<p>of progress has already been done via individually meetings with all partner organisations in 2018 and is summarised in the excel spreadsheet circulated to all partners prior to the last Committee meeting.</p> <p>WHSCU to recirculate summary of outstanding Actions in the Management Plan</p>
5.	<p>WHS Arts Projects</p> <p>HO expressed a desire to be engaged in arts-led participation and audience development projects in the future.</p> <p>The Arts Framework, <i>A Guide to Creative Practice in the Stonehenge and Avebury WHS</i> is complete except for input from the NT which JT confirmed she would action.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>HW send Arts Framework to JT who will get it completed for NT</p> <p>HW Send HO a copy of the Arts Framework</p>
6.	<p>Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Trust</p> <p>Update on progress</p> <p>Doug working his way around meeting all of the partners.</p> <p>AS keen for this process to be as open and strategic as possible.</p> <p>HO to share some of the new and innovative models used by AONB's.</p> <p>Historic England funding for WHSCU agreed for extension of WHS officer post until 2021 but paper work still to follow.</p>
7.	<p>Report from WHS Committees and Research Group:</p> <p>7.1. <u>Stonehenge WHS Committee</u></p> <p>7.1.1. RF back as Chair!</p> <p>7.1.2. Following up on the Management Plan actions that the Parish Councils are responsible for. Considering whether Bulford should be invited to join the Committee.</p> <p>7.1.3. Amesbury History Centre tenders are back in and Wilts Council is helping with the assessment.</p> <p>7.1.4. Byway 11 and 12 – The Committee proposed writing to Wilts Council to express concern that the byways should be closed to all motorised traffic.</p> <p>7.2. <u>Avebury WHS Steering Committee</u></p> <p>7.2.1. Road sign scheme at Avebury - HW updated the group and explained the process to date. HO would have liked to see a more ambitious scheme.</p> <p>7.2.2. Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) on the Ridgeway – all expressed disappointment that a full closure hasn't been secured. There is a need to ensure the experiment is properly managed and evidence gathered etc. CS concerned about tranquillity. JT expressed concerned re Byway 5 and that landowners weren't consulted sufficiently and the process by which this decision was made.</p> <p>7.2.3. HO suggested that the Transport Group be brought back to being to try to get some of the projects moving.</p>

	<p>7.3. <u>ASAHRG</u> CS presentation on Ridgeway to ASAHRG re rainfall, damage by motorised vehicles and lack of tranquillity. B4003 ASAHRG asked to consider views on closure, CS proposed a one-way closure as a stepped measure.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>AOB AS – working on Benefits and Legacy looking forwards, advocating for WH in Brexit context within Whitehall. Helping Stonehenge School and talking to the MoD about rebasing and how those families/residents might engage with the WHS. AS/SS going to attend a MoD Study Day 22nd May.</p> <p>RB – The DCO process is taking considerable resource and the key focus of all current work.</p> <p>KD – as above</p> <p>JT – staffing changes: Phillip Morris leaves Thursday will be replaced by Clare Muir (3rd June) takes over as an Assistant Director South West Landscapes and Infrastructure (ex RAF) Nick Snashall will be focusing entirely on DCO process and Briony stepping up to backfill. Avebury Chapel now open, looking to develop interpretation and partnership working new member of staff. WHS Plaque will be going on the Alexander Keiller Museum - WHSCU are assisting the process</p> <p>HO – Andrew Williams has now resigned as the Avebury PC rep on the Steering Committee and thanked for his considerable contribution. The AONB Plan is ready for adoption by partners.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.30 am 7th November 2019 • 10.30 am 14th May 2020