



**Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site
Committees and Partnership Panel
Extraordinary Meeting
Thursday 23rd March 2018
2.30 – 4.30pm
Bowman Centre, Amesbury (Conference Room)**

NOTES

Present:

Phil McMahon, Historic England
Jan Tomlin, National Trust
Nick Snashall, National Trust
Roger Fisher, Amesbury Town Council (Chair)
Kate Fielden, The Avebury Society
Richard Crook, NFU
Henry Oliver, North Wessex Downs AONB
Phil Sheldrake, RSPB
Andrew Williamson, Avebury Parish Council
Stephanie Payne, Natural England
David Bullock, Highways England
Chris Moore, AECOM
Sarah Simmonds, WHS Partnership manager
Helen Miah, WHS Partnership Officer (notes)

Apologies:

Cllr Jane Davies, Wiltshire Council
Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, Wiltshire Council
Colin Shell, ASARGH
Gill Swanton, Avebury Environs
David Andrews, VisitWiltshire
Ian Barnes, National Trust
Sarah Nicholls, Fyfield and West Overton PC
Cllr Richard Clewer, Wiltshire Council
Ron Lock, Shrewton PC

1. Introductions and apologies

As above

2. Agree Notes of last Extraordinary Meeting

Add Phil Sheldrake to list of attendees.

Notes agreed.

3. A303 Road Improvement Scheme Public Consultation

Presentation by Highways England (DB and CM)

Note consultation now closes on 23rd April due to snow resulting in some cancelation of exhibitions. These have been rearranged.

Questions

Q What will happen to the spoil (RF)

A Will be processed on site and redeposited in the scheme

Q Green bridges, can they be grazed to maintain? (HO)

A Trying to promote chalk grassland, will be working with farmers to develop boundary treatments as appropriate.

Q Lighting and signage/clutter? (HO)

A Will be minimal, signals at repositioned Longbarrow Roundabout. Countess will remain as currently. No detail on signage yet but will need to meet safety requirements. HE agreed that a Signage Strategy will be required focussed on minimising impact

Q Concern re noise levels in the cuttings

A Impact not yet fully assessed

Q Impact on wildlife? (KF)

A Bats in woodland belts will be protected by a corridor and additional habitats provided

Q Need environmental statement to enable meaningful comments on scheme

A DB hasn't got the information to hand but assured all that all available up to date information will be used to inform scheme

Q What will happen if ICOMOS visit feedback is negative? (KF)

A It is premature and subjective at this stage to speculate. Report expected at end of April. ICOMOS suggested that F10 and the longer tunnel scheme were looked at as options in their last report. These have been considered. There are a lot of engineering and topographical challenges. The constraints are not just cost related.

Q Is legacy money available to help deliver traffic schemes at Avebury such as the A4 scheme proposed in the Avebury WHS Transport Strategy (AW)

A Possibly, HE welcomes participation in shaping the legacy. SS note all legacy work should be within the framework of the WHS Management Plan and delivery of its actions.

Q Will there be displacement of visitors from Stonehenge to Avebury during the construction phase? (AW)

A Unknown at this stage but this will need to be considered and analysed beforehand and any necessary mitigation put in place.

Q Will signage at Stonehenge reflect the Avebury Design Principles? (HM)

A They will be looked at in the process of developing the details.

RF thanked all for attending and encouraged all to feed in to the consultation.