

FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Report on Valley Parishes' Alliance (VPA) Meeting held on 27th February 2019

I attended as the Freshford Parish Council Representative.

The dominant discussion centred on the projected Summer Events Programme at Warleigh Weir with safety, parking and general nuisance issues emerging for a number of events. The 'festival' planned for 7-9 June was of particular concern.

An organisation including Network Rail, Great Western Railway, Kennet and Avon Canal Trust and the Avon Fisheries Association plus local residents on both sides of the valley is meeting to grapple with these issues – of passing interest to Freshford, but the congestion on the A36 at Claverton might affect all valley communities.

The meeting considered a paper submitted by Councillor Stevens from the recent meeting of the Highways group with recommendations on the A36 severance danger points. The VPA resolved to prioritise the crossings from Church Lane to Midford Lane and Pipehouse Lane to Pipehouse which was a satisfactory outcome for Freshford and Limpley Stoke.

I reported on the Woodland Trust activities regarding Avoncliff Wood, acknowledging that this is strictly speaking just outside the VPA domain. As the proposals are complimentary to the VPA desire to enhance the general image of the Valley it was welcomed and I encouraged the representatives to attend the Woodland Trust open event at Westwood Parish Rooms on 26th March (1400-1830).

Nothing else of substance was raised and the Minutes are awaited.

[PJK]