

HUGHENDEN VALLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the HVRA Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 4th May 2010 in Hughenden Small Village Hall at 7:30pm

Approved

- PRESENT:** Angus Idle (Vice-Chairman), Al Bowyer (Treasurer), Sara Hamilton, Rosemary Hewitt, Daphne Hicks, Andrea Hulley, Janet Idle, David Johnson, Dory Morgan, Edna Parker, Janette Saville, David Sharp, Geoff Wright.
Cllr Lin Smith (Hughenden Parish Council), also guest, Harry Parker.

The Vice-Chairman welcomed Harry Parker, adding that he was once Chairman.

- APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Paul Cawte (Chairman), Jill Armshaw (Secretary), Phil Gomm, Doreen Bryant, John Miller and Jerry Morley.

- MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 2nd APRIL 2010**

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes were a true record of the meeting and were **APPROVED**.

- MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 The committee further discussed the question of unapproved minutes being published on the website. Accordingly, Al Bowyer proposed, seconded by Rosemary Hewitt, that only signed off approved minutes should be published on the website. The proposal was **agreed unanimously**, and the decision of the previous meeting was therefore revoked

4.2 Janet Idle had congratulated Jill on the very full Minutes.

- TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Accounts are being audited for the year-end and will be ready for the AGM. Funds were substantially reduced since the last meeting by £1,500, the cost of printing Hughenden News, but advertising revenue is awaited.

Totals as at 4th May 2010: Deposit Account £4,049.53, Current Account £1,828.49, cash & cheques in hand £411.14, total overall funds £6,289.16, uncleared cheques £1,513.17, uncleared payments nil, available funds £4,775.99. Final subscription fees received to date £2,014.00 and final advertising revenue received for 2009/10 is £2,927.00.

The Treasurer questioned whether or not to increase the subs to cover the cost of printing the magazine. Bearing in mind the economic climate, he proposed, seconded by Andrea Hulley, that the subs be held at £5.
Agreed unanimously

It was suggested that when Road Reps are collecting subs they ask for residents' email addresses to facilitate rapid communication. This was left as optional.

- RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

The Chairman of the Planning Sub-Committee referred to the letters that she and the HVRA Chairman had written to the Chairman of Hughenden Parish Council (HPC) and the subsequent reply from the Clerk dated 22nd April 2010, and the Committee **Agreed** that the Planning Sub-Committee would compose a reply.

Dory reported that a resident had written a letter to HPC regarding correspondence between WDC and the various Housing Associations. Dory and Rosemary are in the process of composing a letter along the same lines. Both letters will be available to view on the HVRA website and describe in detail the turn of events.

Cllr Lin Smith re-iterated that to the best of her knowledge, HPC had no knowledge of the letters that were going back and forth and the history described, stressing that the matter must be investigated because the HPC has to know what went on.

Dory was critical that out of the 32.3% of households in the Parish that responded to the Parish Appraisal 50% were in favour of affordable housing, i.e.: 16.15% of the population of the Parish, and based on this the Housing Needs Surveys followed in 2005. HPC employed the RHT to carry out the surveys on their behalf, and the HVRA website details our observations and the discrepancies. It was a Parish generated idea in the first place, working with a housing enabler.

A Committee member believed that perhaps we should be cynical when responding to questionnaires in the future.

7. HIGH SPEED RAIL LINK

A public meeting on HS2 has been organised for Monday, 21st June at 8 pm in the Village Hall when Steve Rodrick of the Chilterns Conservation Board and representatives from the Chiltern Society will give presentations. All 3 District Councillors will be attending. As the HVRA will pay for the hire of the Hall approval was sought. **Agreed unanimously** to go ahead with the arrangements

ACTION: The HS2 meeting will be advertised throughout the Parish but predominantly held for the residents of Hughenden Valley, Great Kingshill, North Dean and Naphill, although Brands Hill Residents Association and Speen wished to attend. Route 2.5 (the Hughenden route) will be discussed and the aim is to unite everyone into saying "*Not in the Chilterns*".

The www.hs2actionalliance.org website was recommended for information on the Exceptional Hardship Scheme and other HS2 issues.

Following the HS2 Action Group's meeting held in Quainton on 18th April, (please refer to the Report posted on the HVRA website) Angus will chair a meeting of HS2 Action Conservation Group. It will aim to set up a procedure linking and co-ordinating all the towns and villages up and down the lines, from Bucks, Northants, Warwicks and Staffs. They will be looking at a strip 2 kilometres either side of the tracks of the preferred route and HS2.5, e.g. the environmental impact on historic places, footpaths, wild life, ecology etc.

8. ROAD SAFETY

Angus had a meeting with Cllr Pushman regarding the difficulty of finding the right turn into Burnham Road when coming down Coombe Lane at night time. Ken Moloughney of Bucks County Council Traffic Management South has promised to conduct some experiments at the junction.

9. EVENTS

9.1 Senior Citizens Evening, 15th May 2010. Rosemary gained approval for the buffet to be similar to the previous year, circulated the help list as a reminder of the times when help was needed and had received numerous song requests for the entertainer. She asked for raffle prizes, confirmed the transport arrangements and dress code.

9.2 AGM, 1st June 2010. The Agenda is in the HVRA magazine and nominations for the Election of Officers should be given to the Chairman rather than the Secretary. Rosemary will provide the Cheese & Wine. The AGM flyer can be downloaded from the HVRA website for display in prominent places. The current Officers were standing for re-election but the Chairman will be standing down in 2011.

9.3 Potter Cup Quiz, 9th October 2010. Al Bowyer hoped to arrange a meeting sometime in June to organise the Quiz.

10. Communications

10.1 Hughenden News. The Editor apologised for any errors in the magazine and said that a correction was put on page 22 regarding the caption under the photograph of Site 2 in Warrendene Road.

When eventually contributions came flooding in there was too much for the 90 page limit of the magazine and some items had to be cut and some deferred.

Since impact was needed for the HS2 - route 2.5, the front cover, for which there has been much praise, was created showing the proposed viaduct crossing the valley.

She believed that the HVRA aims and objects had been reflected in the magazine, viz. *to promote and encourage community spirit and social activities and to be aware of the interests and concerns of residents, where appropriate to seek resolution and make representations to the various authorities etc..*

Daphne and Janette will help with an item on Cryers Hill. David Sharp will assist with the updating of lists when changes occur.

Whether the magazine will grow to four issues a year or not was deferred. Andrea and Al Bowyer both praised the magazine. Janet agreed to confer even further about contributions which might have to be altered.

All voted in favour

10.2 Website The new official HVRA website (www.hughendenresidents.org) was launched in the last issue of Hughenden News and everyone agreed it was excellent as it contained information about HS2 with all the various links, rural affordable housing and much, much more.

11. REPORTS

11.1 Road Representatives

11.1.1 Cryers Hill. Residents believe the situation has improved recently at **Evington** although they will continue to monitor the situation. Disappointment was expressed that the developer had got planning permission to have windows in the roof at **Greenacres**.

11.1.2 Residents were concerned that a structure had appeared at the top of the Property Spy field. The Neighbourhood Police Officer discovered that local youths had built an encampment with numerous stakes taken out of the ground. PC Lee Turnham will go along and ask the youths to take down their camp.

11.1.3 Orchard Close. It was warned that various people are in the area doing odd jobs and everyone should be vigilant because they come around with a small truck and take items, e.g. dishwashers etc from residents' drives without permission.

11.1.4 Bryants Bottom. Sarah Hamilton was very sorry to hear of Jill Armshaw's resignation as Road Rep for Bryants Bottom (E) adding that many people have expressed their regret.

11.1.5 Fleet Close. Andrea Hulley had spoken to Mrs McClelland, Headteacher of Hughenden First School, about car parking problems as well as the Police Officer at *Have your Say* who suggested that the Headteacher emails him about the problems. A Support Officer will appear now and again. .
Cllr Lin Smith asked if she could take this problem up with NAG. **Agreed**

11.1.6 Warrendene Road. Al Bowyer congratulated Dory on organising such a good meeting on 29th April to discuss Country Supplies.

11.2 PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

11.2.1 Country Supplies. A very successful and well-attended meeting was held at The Gate on Thursday, 29th April to discuss issues of concern, with more than 50 people attending. Ken Moloughney, Team Leader of BCC Traffic Management South, David Ab Iorwerth, PC Lee Turnham and our 3 District Councillors attended.

Dory outlined an action plan, which has been circulated to the Residents most affected by the activities at Oakleaf Farm. The Action Plan can be viewed on the HVRA website.

11.2.2 Evington. New legislation on Multiple Occupancy came out on 10th April. At the moment the rule is 6 people as a maximum but that could be reduced to 4, it may be retrospective and apply to occupancy at Evington. The new policy is awaited but it may change again after the Election.

11.2.3 Greenacres. There have been numerous planning applications associated with this property. The developers have just gained permission to lift Condition 6 from the current permitted plans. Under Condition 6 planning permission would need to be sought and approved for the installation of windows in the roof to prevent expansion, which would exceed the 50% rule. However, Condition 5 which removes Permitted Development Rights would require the same.

11.2.4 WDC's Quality Counts Tour. Rosemary and Dory are keen to join WDC's Quality Counts Tour on 20th May, as it will focus on rural development and housing exceptions in rural areas.

11.3 Parish Council. Cllr Lin Smith gave details of the Annual Parish Meeting on 25th May at 8pm in North Dean Village Hall. It is an open meeting when members of the public can ask questions and have their say, followed by guest speaker, Jim Foy, of the National Trust at Hughenden Manor.

11.4 Neighbourhood Action Group. The next meeting will be held next week. Cllr Smith was very sad to hear that Jill Armshaw has resigned from NAG.

11.5 Village Hall Committee. Dory asked the Committee for their preference for Christmas tree lights. After a brief discussion it was **Agreed unanimously** to have multi-coloured lights.

11.6 The Surprise Party for the postman who is retiring at the end of May will be held at the Small Village Hall on Friday, May 28 between 6 and 8pm. Please get all donations to Dory as soon as possible. Angus requested photos of Pickwick to put up at the party.

11.7 Community Shop. After some research, Dory has found a good quality aluminium framed notice board, 44" x 55", competitively priced at approx £350 including VAT. It was **Agreed unanimously** that the HVRA purchase the notice board. Dory was pleased that it can be presented at the shop's 1st birthday celebration on 22nd May.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Al Bowyer reminded everyone of the **CASH BINGO NIGHT** on Saturday, 22nd May in the Village Hall. Cost £10 to include a Fish & Chip supper. Tickets are selling like hot cakes.

12.2 In a recent letter to the Chairman of the HVRA the HPC Clerk had queried that the Planning Sub-Committee acted under delegated powers. Al Bowyer proposed that, to avoid any doubt, there should be reacknowledgement from all the members of the Executive Committee that the Planning Sub-Committee is accountable to the Main Committee and continues to deal with planning matters in the way that is customary; items that are urgent with the approval of HVRA Officers, and where time will allow bring items to be accounted for to the full committee for approval. **Agreed unanimously**

12.3 Executive Committee The Editor read from the HVRA constitution to remind everyone that the Executive Committee of the HVRA consists of the Officers and the Road Reps.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: AGM 1st June 2010.

The meeting closed at 9:22 pm