

Hughenden Valley Residents Association

Minutes of the HVRA Executive Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 5th November 2013 at Hughenden Valley Village Hall.

CONFIRMED

The meeting started at 7:30pm.

Action

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PRESENT:

Tony Konieczny (Chairman), Angus Idle (vice-Chairman), James Perkins (Secretary), Heather Dempsey, Sara Hamilton, Rosemary Hewitt, Daphne Hicks, Janet Idle, Dory Morgan, David Sharp, Jill Thompson, Geoff Wright

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Derek Armshaw, Clare Atkinson, Al Bowyer, Chris Bowyer, Alison Burnham, Anna Burniston, Karen Dynes, Andrea Hulley, Jerry Morley, Edna Parker.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

These were adopted as a correct and true record of the October meeting.

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MATTERS ARISING:

Item 4b. It was Steve Kirkpatrick that was contacted at the National Trust

Item 4c. Geoff Wright contacted the council re the Trees Road/Avenue drains. They allocated job no is CRN426890. Geoff to send copy of the mail from the council to attach to the minutes.

GW

Item 4g. From James Tunnard at Bucks CC:

The overhanging bushes etc will be trimmed back along Valley Road from Orchard Close to the school by about 21 Oct. (Completed before the meeting).

RH

RH

He wrote to the householders at the former shop to ask if they would cut back their overhanging hedge and they complied. The residents who live next door to the entrance to the Village Hall carpark did not comply with the cutback request so he will write again today. If they do not comply then BCC will cut their hedge back and send them the bill. (motorists encounter difficulty when exiting the car park.)

Item 19d. He has been to look at the invisible bus stop outside the Magnolia Sports & Social club and has come to the conclusion that even if the trees, saplings and bushes were cleared away, the actual bus stop is in an inappropriate position stuck up on a bank. In the circumstances, he is passing this problem over to Dave Roberts who is in charge of bus stop placements

The complaint that the pavement along Valley Road from Cryers Hill roundabout to the town boundary has gradually been narrowed by the encroachment of grass and weeds will be looked at and hopefully dealt with shortly when the Maintenance vans/gangs are out working.

He apologises if they cannot always do the jobs when promised but they do try their best.

Item 9. The school and residents were happy with the existing arrangements and no further action with regard to flashing amber lights etc was needed.

Rosemary Hewitt passed on the the complaints about Coombe Lane to Dave Carroll who said the road will be put on his list as a priority.

Janet Idle agreed to photocopy a map of the village on which residents could mark areas in need of maintenance. She would bring copies to a future meeting.

Jl/JP

- 5 **TREASURER'S REPORT** AB
- The treasurer was unable to attend the meeting but did forward the October report which showed available funds at £5,557.04. This included advertising revenue of £3,394 and subscriptions of £1,450. Road representatives were reminded that a good opportunity to collect overdue subs would be when they deliver the November issue of Hughenden News.
- 6 **EVENTS**
- 6a **Potter Quiz**
- Thanks were expressed to all those who helped to make this another successful event which resulted in a profit of £580. Continued enthusiasm was expressed by the organisers who expressed their willingness to organise next year's event although it was pointed out that help from the younger generation would be welcome with the setting up and food preparation for this and the senior citizens event. A debrief meeting was requested by Angus Idle and seconded by Daphne Kicks.
- 6b **Senior Citizens – 21 June 2014** RH
- Rosemary Hewitt did get in touch with the Lamp House singers. They are a group of 13 ladies who sing in harmony. As a charitable event they will charge £150 for 2 half hour sessions. They would love to sing for us – either their own programme or from our song list. The date RH has provisionally booked for the Village Hall is Saturday 21 June 2014. She is awaiting confirmation..
- 6c **Chistmas Bazaar – 23 November 2013** SH/AB
- A flyer has been produced asking for items towards the tombola and has been distributed to road representatives to post through letterboxes. It was agreed that HVRA would donate a £25 M&S voucher as a prize at the event.
- 6d **Christmas Dance – 21 December 2013**
- This event being organised by the village hall has sold out
- 6e **Village Day - 19 July 2014**
- A meeting has been organised for 11th November by Al Bowyer and Vicky Bellamy to discuss the theme and to find volunteers to organise the 2014 Village Day which will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the construction of the new village hall.
- 6f **Carol Singing – 1 December 2013**
- Janet Idle had made a provisional booking for the village hall in case of inclement weather but it appears that someone made a booking afterwards that potentially overlaps our requirement. They have been asked to make sure they vacate the hall before we arrive between 4.30 and 5.00pm. The shop would be providing refreshments and Clare Atkinson offered to make mince pies. Phil Morgan is checking the tree lights.
- 7 **COMMUNICATIONS:**
- 7a **Hughenden News:** AI/JI
- The winter edition should be with the printer by 15 November and be ready for distribution the following week. Angus Idle suggested updating the Pageplus software he uses to produce the final layout but it was agreed to wait until the new publisher had been identified as they may use different software. No one has shown interest in taking on the project so far.
- 7b **Website:** JP
- The requested link to Neighbourhood Watch was already in place on the "Links" section of the web site.
- 8 **CORRESPONDENCE:** JP
- Email received from HV resident expressing concern at the rage being shown at the entrance to the HV doctor's surgery. HVRA secretary agreed to write a letter to the surgery manager indicating the general concern of local residents at the bottleneck at the surgery entrance and the resulting danger and frustration.
- Communication received from council to indicate the drain cover at the mini roundabout should be fixed before 8th November.

- 9 **PARISH COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE**
It was agreed that committee members should outline their thoughts individually about the questionnaire to James Perkins and he would consolidate them and reply to the Parish Council. It was felt important that the council were requested to inform residents about the action they had taken on previous questionnaires before asking us to undertake another. ALL
- 10 **ROAD REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:**
10a **General**
Complaints received about dog poo being put in bags and slung in hedgerow. WDC advised us to remind dog owners that they face a fine of £1,000 and would we like some signs put up? James Perkins has requested some Poo Fairy stickers for display around the village. No decision was taken about asking the council to put up street signs about it.
- 10b **Bryants Bottom** – Soakaway drains at the lower end of Bryants Bottom are overflowing, also the flooded section halfway between Bryants Bottom and Warrendene Road has returned. Sara Hamilton to contact Jill Armshaw who has achieved great success in the past at having these items fixed in Bryants Bottom. SH
- 10c **Trees Road**- A committee of Trees Road residents has been set up to discuss filling the potholes in the road. GW
- 11 **PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE:**
13/06423/FUL - Proposed Demolition of the Uplands Hotel & Conference Centre, Four Ashes, by Redrow Homes for housing (16 in total)
The application has been refused.
- 13/05088/FUL - Wrightway Steel Ltd - Hunts Hill Farm, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill**
As the applicant failed to comply with WDC 6th months ruling to find an alternative site for his noisy steel fabrication plant another Enforcement Notice was issued, and hopefully, this time, the business will soon be relocating to a B2 Business site.
- 12/ 07953/FUL Country Supplies**
The applications for the Shana site and VOSA Licences are still on-going and no decisions have yet been made.
- 11/05644/FUL & 12/06273/FUL - Travellers' sites at The Hedgerows, Walters Ash and The Nursery, Flackwell Heath**
These applications are with the Secretary of State, Eric Pickles, for consideration and his decision(s) will be issued on or before 20 January 2014.
- Hemley Hill Travellers' site**
On 16 July 2013 at London's Court of Appeal, Lords Justices Tomlinson, Lewison and Underhill rejected the applicant's latest legal challenge to refusal of planning permission for the unauthorised caravan site. The travellers now have 18 months to leave.
- 12 **HUGHENDEN PARISH COUNCIL:**
Discussions taking place with insurers to recover the costs of replacing the stolen MVAS unit which is often used in Hughenden Valley.
- It was discovered that minutes of council meetings had always been left on the website as "Unconfirmed" even though they had been confirmed at the next council meeting. It was agreed to leave past minutes as they are but to change future minutes to "Confirmed" after the following meeting. A note would be put on the website to explain.
- The council had received a payment of £3,000 from the court under the terms of the compensation order which represents the money deposited so far by Mrs L Turner. She has until the 17th November to complete full payment required by the court of £12,387.89.
- The council has set up a communications work group to review the processes by which the council communicates within itself and to the outside community. It is being headed by Cllr Peter Williams.

The council is to undertake a survey of all households in the Parish in order to develop a new Parish Plan. Local organisations including HVRA have been asked to contribute to the development of the questionnaire. Concern was expressed at the relevance of some of the questions and also the lack of implementation of anything meaningful following the previous survey. It was agreed to respond on an individual basis.

13 **COMMUNITY SHOP**

Apples continue to be collected for pressing with the juice now available in the shop for £2.50 for a large bottle. If anyone has spare apples please call Louise Jones (564244) to arrange collection.

The shop will be providing refreshments for the carol singing event.

14 **NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP**

After having temporarily suspended the MVAS programme due to the theft of a machine, the programme has been reinstated following confirmation from the insurers that our method of attachment to the poles was satisfactory. Following the return of PC Lee Turnham from medical leave a new speedwatch programme was launched this month including Valley Road and Bryants Bottom Road.

Bucks CC have agreed that NAG can use a SID (Speed Indicator Device) of its own rather than depend upon the police unit. If the Parish Council agrees to purchase a machine it means the speedwatch programme can be carried out without police being present. The police will however still send out warning letters to speeding drivers caught by our own SID.

15 **HS2**

15a On Tuesday 31 October 2013, a day when a Yougov poll showed that the public mood was against HS2, MPs voted the Paving Bill through Parliament for an unlimited blank cheque to spend on high speed rail. The vote was 350 Ayes to 34 Noes.

15b The Amersham based HS2Action Alliance took the DfT to the Supreme Court on 15/16 October 2013 arguing that a full Strategic Environmental Assessment of the proposals should have been carried out before the government agreed to proceed with the plans for HS2 in 2010. The panel of seven Supreme Court judges is likely to rule on the Hearing this month. They can refer the case to the European Court of Justice for advice if necessary.

16 **VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

Japanese Knotweed has been found at Spring Rising end of Hall grounds. Discussions taking place as to the best way of dealing with it. John Moorby is being consulted.

Defibrillator is being purchased for the Village Hall. One has already been purchased by the Football Club which now has 270 children taking part with some selected for viewing by Premier Clubs.

The AGM will be the first Monday in December.

17 **ROAD SAFETY**

17a See NAG section for details of Speedwatch and MVAS.

17b The school and residents were happy with the existing arrangements for the safety of the lollipop crossing and no further action with regard to flashing amber lights was needed.

18 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

18a Rosemary Hewitt had received an email from a local resident, Peter West, who has arranged a meeting with BCC on 15 November to seek a solution to the problem of the increasing number and speed of traffic travelling along the rat-run from Missenden Road, over Hampden Crossroads, down Warrendene Road and Valley Road. He asked if anyone who is interested would like to join him. (We have since learned that Peter he will not be attending because he and his wife have decided to move as the problem is getting worse. For him, this has been a battle for several years now, hitting brick walls throughout. He eventually got the Cabinet Member for Transport etc to join him in a car ride from HW to Hughenden Valley, and then on through the lanes to Missenden Road. This apparently convinced them (BCC) that something should be done to try to make the traffic seek an alternative route by introducing traffic calming measures. However, this costs money and as money is short, nothing is likely to be done.

18b It was agreed that guest speakers should be allowed to speak early in future meetings.

Meeting finished at 9.55pm.

19 **Date of Next Meeting:** Next meeting Tuesday, 3rd December 2013 at 7:30pm.

Chairman.....

Secretary.....

Date.....