

MINUTES OF THE HVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON  
5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2019 AT HUGHENDEN VALLEY SMALL HALL

UNCONFIRMED

ACTION

WELCOME

Janet welcomed everyone who had come to the meeting despite the cold drizzly winter weather.

1. PRESENT

Janet Idle (Chair)	Angus Idle (Co-Chair)	Peter Cannon (Treasurer)	Rosemary Hewitt (Secretary)
Andrew Capey	Daphne Hicks	Janet Howe	Jerry Morley ( Vice-Chair)
Nancy Pomfret	Michael Sole	Grant Townsend	

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Al & Christine Bowyer, Anna Burniston, Karen Dynes, John Dockett and Paul Jenner.

John is not very well at the moment and awaiting surgery to have a kidney removed. We were thinking of him and sent best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Road Reps who do not attend meetings:

Virginia Foster Alison Gieler Anne Jenkins

Reports, written or verbal, are welcome from all members whether they attend meetings or not.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018 were read and with the addition of Rosemary Hewitt to the list of Apologies for Absence were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING - RH queried why the amendment was made and also why the date, 28<sup>th</sup> November, was omitted.

Item 7 b) RH asked where *the tree with the crack in it* was located? DH replied that it was towards the top of Cryers Hill Road.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Summary of Receipts and Payments covered the last two months because our last meeting was in December. A grant of £500 had been received from the Parish Council, slightly lower than the £520 the previous year, but it came with a caveat that the magazine, *Hughenden News*, should be distributed to everyone in the Valley. As residents pay a HVRA membership fee of £5, this issue was discussed under Item 7 d) iii below.

PC had received a few more subs, and the 5 people that had paid twice will have their subs carried forward to next year. The HVRA have contributed £600 towards the Notice Board that is located at the end of the village shop and paid the costs for the website domain. We had a deficit of £157 for the months of December and January which has been brought forward.

There are two Deposit Accounts: HSBC Money Market A/C with a fixed rate for 3 months holds £5,009 and £1,065 is in another Deposit A/C that has ease of access, and £1,500 is held in the Current A/C. Subs have been received from 434 households with a further 20 from Valley Road. Subs still due from South Maundin, Bryants Bottom (JP), Trees Road, Warrendene Road, Hampden Road and part of Cryers Hill Road. GT responded that, bearing in mind some other issues going on in Trees Road, he had collected as many subs as possible.

PC had drafted a letter to several residents that "*are not community minded*" setting out the benefits of being a HVRA member and living in a pleasant community that the Residents Association works hard to create. After a brief discussion **it was agreed** that, with several modifications, PC sends his letter to two residents in Friars Gardens.

As JD is stepping down from producing the magazine, Jill Graham has asked JD what is involved and if she is agreeable PC would appreciate her help contacting advertisers while he deals with the financial side of advertisements.

Al gave PC an invoice for reimbursement regarding the purchase of salt from Buildbase for Whitfield Road.

PC

## 6. HUGHENDEN NEWS – EDITING FOR THE MARCH ISSUE

A & JI had offered to produce the March and July issues but they do not know what will happen for future issues because JD definitely does not want to take on the role again. It is hoped that when his health returns he may change his mind. Angus has the December Pageplus file as the template for the magazine. A & JI produced the Hughenden News for several years before JD took it on. JI will ask David Lidington MP to submit an article.

A & JI

JI

**THE DEADLINE for articles is 2<sup>nd</sup> March.** AC has put this date on the HVRA website.

Everyone

## 7. HVRA COMMITTEE BUSINESS

### a) Road Reps – Reports and Emails

- i) **Bryants Bottom** - JH reported that 7 residents went to Aylesbury to meet David Lidington MP about the atrocious state of the top end of Bryants Bottom Road where signage states it has a “**failed surface**”. He was completely aware of the road and its poor condition, and would approach Wycombe District Council to see what their plans are. The residents complained that despite paying a huge Council Tax bill they have no street lights, no pavements and a road that is not fit for purpose. If nothing is done about the road, then they want the road closed. Residents are awaiting a progress report.

JH was asked to write a piece for the magazine and the website.

JH/AI/AC

During the recent snowy conditions JH drove at 30 mph along her road but an irresponsible motorist overtook her at speed.

- ii) **Cryers Hill Road Parking Bay** – Month after month a low-loader and a van have been parked on the layby despite residents reporting them to the DVLA and WDC because one was registered as “SORN” (vehicle off the road) and the other was not taxed. But a week last Sunday the DVLA clamped them and now the vehicles have gone!! DH had written to Cllr David Carroll asking whose responsibility it is when vehicles park up for months, but to date she has not received a response. Numerous residents had written letters of complaint to put pressure on TfB to do something but it was the DVLA that finally acted.

**Update:** Cllr David Carroll has had the vehicles removed from the bus layby opposite

DH appreciated seeing so many pretty snowdrops along the grass verge near the surgery. AI had planted them some time ago.

- iii) **Coombe Lane** - AI expressed his concern that once again Coombe Lane had become treacherous and unsafe in the recent snowy conditions. JI reported that a bus could not continue its journey down Coombe Lane because it was snow-clad but with the help of several local residents the driver was able to reverse into Hunts Hill Lane and then travel back along Main Road, Naphill and via Bradenham to High Wycombe.

AI believes a cost/benefit analysis of comparing the cost of obtaining and maintaining permanent emergency signage to warn drivers of the dangers of this this very steep hill (16%) during dangerous conditions, compared with the costs involved every time there are incidents during snow/ice conditions, from the use of services such as The Police, Emergency Recovery Service and the cost of repairing vehicles and the insurance involved, it would be highly beneficial to the County Council's budget. He will continue to pursue this serious matter through the good offices of Hughenden Parish Council

AI

- iv) **Trees Road** - GT stressed that people should be vigilant because a local Facebook Group had warned that several large men were knocking on doors selling “rubbish” items. JM warned that they were frequently known as the “Nottingham Knockers” and that we should not engage with them because they could be “sizing-up” the area.

➤ AI has a small supply of “*No Cold Calling*” notices but could acquire more if necessary. The police have excellent crime prevention leaflets.

- v) **Valley Road** – RH enquired whether cars “*For Sale*” were still being parked on the grass verge outside Chiltern Motors. She had previously submitted an on-line complaint because it is against Green Belt and AONB Policy. Although members had not seen any, she will keep an eye on the situation.

RH

### 7 b) Planning

Ref: 18/0764442/FUL Bramble Cottage in Bryants Bottom has been **refused** because the application greatly exceeded the 50% rule as set out in Green Belt Policy GB2.

Ref: 18/07489/FUL Trystene, Valley Road has been **withdrawn**. Several neighbours had submitted objections to the proposed extensions and the double garage being sited along the front garden boundary.

Ref: 18/07330/FUL Lynwood, Valley Road has been **permitted** despite objections from numerous nearby residents that it was overbearing and not in keeping with the neighbouring semis.

WDC's new housing supply has increased so that the 5 year prediction now stretches to at least 8½ years.

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- 7 c) **HVRA Calendar 2019**
- i) **Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> March – The Potter Quiz**  
A & C B are organising and running the event, and in the absence of a Help List please get in touch with CB if you wish to help on the day. **Help needed**
- ii) **Saturday, 22 June – Senior Citizens Treat**  
Carole Palmer passed on details of an excellent singer/entertainer that she had just seen at the Care Home where her husband is residing. RH will contact A & CB about this. **RH/  
C & AB**
- iii) **An Event for Young People on the Field**  
In an attempt to keep a promise to the young people who responded to JI's questionnaire about what they would like to see in the village, she would like to put on an event, perhaps at the end of April. MS suggested that she liaises with the Football Club first and also offered the Village Hall free of charge if required. (Check availability) **JI**
- 7 d) **Hughenden Parish Council**
- i) **HPC 125 Years Anniversary History Project**  
A project initiated by Simon Kearey is on a Ward by Ward basis, and JI has been asked to help. The Co-Chairs have attended a meeting and another is planned for tomorrow. The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is an opportunity for HPC to raise/improve its profile in the Parish and numerous events will be held throughout the year. **Co-Chairs**
- ii) **Site for HPC Notice Board**  
JI has replied to a letter from the Deputy Clerk about where to locate the HPC Notice Board. She explained that the existing one, located outside the former village shop and close to the telephone box, is old and the glass mists-up. It stands in an awkward elevated position above a raised wall/plinth making access for placing notices inside very difficult indeed. It should be replaced because the location is convenient for the majority of residents who walk and motorists too, who can park in the layby, to use the letterbox.
- iii) **HPC Grant Feedback**  
JI had received a letter from the Clerk regarding the £500 grant it has given to the HVRA and the caveat that the magazine is distributed to every household. (It is understood that two Councillors proposed this). JI replied that the magazine is distributed to all members who pay the £5 annual HVRA membership fee, not just in Hughenden Valley but also in Bryants Bottom, Hampden Road, Cryers Hill Road and Church Farm. The Committee discussed this issue at length and it was noted that some residents do not wish, for a variety of reasons, to be members nor do they wish to receive the magazine. Please email the Co-Chairs with any further questions or comments. **Cttee**  
**UPDATE:** On the suggestion of Cllr Peter Gieler some spare copies of the magazine to be left with The Harrow & The Gate pubs as well as the Church. **NOTE**
8. **OTHER HVRA REPORTS**
- a) **Website**  
AC is keeping it up-to-date as and when he receives copy. He has up-dated and created a new version of the document relating to keeping information about residents and has provided the opportunity for feedback. As JD is withdrawing from the magazine production, AC welcomes the receipt of press releases from Bucks CC, Thames Valley Police Alerts and anything else that may be of interest. Please pass these on to him and/or the Co-Chairs. JH is to submit a few words about the residents' recent meeting with David Lidington. **Cttee  
JH-AC**  
PC queried why the February 2018 Minutes were the last to be up-loaded to the website. AI and JP to sort out. **AI & JP**  
JI thanked AC and JM for their fantastic help and support regarding their various recent computer & phone problems.
- b) **Speedwatch and HNAG**  
RH reported that no Speedwatch sessions have taken place in the village over the past few months because the SID equipment is faulty, the new Sentinel video camera is not working properly and training needs to be given. She will be up-dated at the HNAG meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> February. **RH**
- c) **Fraud and Scams**  
Because of recent aggressive scam telephone calls that the Co-Chairs have received, the police were involved and helpfully passed on **The Little Book of Big Scams**. JI will précis the topic for the magazine and provide a link to download the booklet. Everyone, at whatever age, must be vigilant and take care not to get caught. JM warned that we must be wary of "Nottingham Knockers" who migrate from the north and run by gang masters in Reading. He suggested that we visit [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk) for further information as well as [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) (search for Princes Risborough). JI will add "Neighbourhood Watch" to the Agenda of the next meeting. **JI**

**d) Bryants Bottom News Update**

JH reported the incident that occurred early on Saturday morning, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, when a white Ford Connect van careered down Bryants Bottom Road, and at 3.54am crashed into a vehicle. Then at 3.57am deliberately drove into JH's wooden garden gates, smashing one and damaging the other. The van went on to hit three other vehicles further down the road and when it arrived at *The Gate* the driver smashed the windscreen of the Manager's car with a wheel brace. JH has since learned that some damage had been done to several vehicles in Warrendene Road, e.g. wing mirrors etc. The Police were notified and a crime reference number given. A little piece of plastic that covered the van's tow is now held. All the residents that were affected have reported this reckless incident to the Police for further investigation.

**9. OTHER REPORTS**

**a) Village Hall**

The Village Hall's AGM took place at the beginning of January, and their February meeting was held last night when Officers were nominated. Michael Sole remains as Chairman. Clive Webb replaces Dillon Jones as Secretary and Jonathan Hilder takes over from Bob Hawkins as Treasurer. Roger Bryan is the Assistant Treasurer. Christine Powell remains as Booking Secretary which she has ably carried out for the past 35 years. The proposed HPC Notice Board was discussed at their meeting, but as the Village Hall had contributed to the Notice Board located on the village shop it was felt that the Parish Council could share some of the space. In response, HVRA Committee members commented that there could be insufficient space to accommodate news/events from the Shop, the HVRA as well as residents' posts/adverts etc. (More discussion of this issue appears at item 7 d) ii above.)

The Winter Walk at the beginning of the year attracted about 35 people who greatly enjoyed the experience and MS encouraged everyone to join them on their next walk. He praised the conservation team for their hard work throughout the year.

**ALL OF US**

As HPC are holding events throughout the year to celebrate their 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, they are looking at having a *Field Day* on the King George V playing field, perhaps involving Fields in Trust, sometime in, say, July. If the HVRA wishes to get involved, a Sub-Committee needs to be set up. Please forward your ideas to the Co-Chairs. **UPDATE:** 6<sup>th</sup> July has been booked.

**ALL OF US**

Bev (John Beveridge) is no longer linked to the Village Hall and his replacement is being sought. Presently no caretaking or maintenance jobs are being carried out. Please get in touch with MS if anyone knows someone who could help.

**ALL OF US**

**b) Village Shop**

No report although NP said the shop is very busy. She queried why the recent heavy snow had not been cleared from the carpark. MS said that if they cleared the snow then they would be responsible for any accidents

**c) Chiltern Conservation Board - 2019/20**

Jl has written to the CCB about a scheme entitled "*Chalk, Cherries and Chairs*" but has not received a response .only an advert for CCB.

**Jl**

**10. AOB**

GT reported limited success in getting several potholes in Valley Road filled and failed to get the missing blocks in the Coombe Lane mini-roundabout replaced.

**GT**

Jl thanked everyone for their valued comments and contributions this evening.

The meeting closed at 9.37pm

**The date of the next meeting is 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 in the Small Village Hall.**

Signed.....

Date.....