

**MINUTES OF THE HVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022 VIA ZOOM**

**CONFIRMED MINUTES**

**WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, via Zoom, because the Small Hall had been rendered unavailable following the damage caused by storm Eunice that ripped off the Village Hall roof on 18<sup>th</sup> February.

**1. PRESENT**

Peter Cannon (Chairman)	Paul Woodford (Treasurer)	Rosemary Hewitt (Secretary)
Janet Howe	Angus and Janet Idle	Elaine Merrilees
Jerry Morley	Becky Rycroft	Kerry Franklin
Louise Jones	Cllr David Carroll	

- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Jill Armshaw, Andrew Capey (Vice Chairman), Julia Grant, Lyn Hawkins, Catherine (Cacs) Hinds, Nancy Pomfret and Michael Sole.

**Road Reps who do not attend meetings:** Sam Booth and Paul Jenner.

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

- 3. THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2022** had been circulated, read, approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

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**Item 7b) iv) Removal of Moss on Pavement, failure of the tarmac in Whitfield Road and Blocked Drain** - Al complained that James Tunnard did not contact him. RH to get in touch with Cllr Carroll again to chase-up. RH/DC

Other items will be covered in line with the Agenda.

**5. COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

**a) Buckinghamshire Councillor**

Cllr David Carroll thanked everyone for what they did during the pandemic as well as the huge effort to bring the community together that resulted in 265+ letters of objection to the Country Supplies' application for a new access road and HGV lorry park at the Oakleaf Farm site. He had also been in contact with the Case Officer, Jenny Ion, regarding Orchard Caravans under Ref: 21/06498/CLE and had informed Peter and Rosemary that a Certificate of Lawfulness had been granted for the use of the land as a caravan site for three caravans only, and that the owner would have to submit a planning application to increase that number. He had also phoned Charles Power, a Senior Planning Officer, to confirm the position.

Al asked if he was required to carry out a botanical analysis of the site? PC thought he could but should get in touch with the tenants who live in the three caravans for authority. Al/  
Tenants

**b) Hughenden Parish Council**

Due to a significant number of resignations, including the Chairman and Clerk, Cllrs Carroll, Broadbent and Harriss have been asked to stand in, as Parish Councillors, at a meeting convened for 8<sup>th</sup> March when 7 candidates will be co-opted to join the two remaining Councillors, Simon Kearey and Linda Derrick, for meetings to be quorate. The three Bucks Councillors will then step down and he hoped that the Parish Council will then be able to function and conduct their business in the proper way.

**i) Storm Eunice – Damage to the Village Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> February.**

Cllr Carroll joined Cllr Broadbent to see the aftermath of Storm Eunice when the Village Hall roof was ripped off and fell on to the Shop's marquee, crushing it. He was very relieved that no-one was injured and hoped the shop will commence trading as soon as possible.

ii) **DIG in Hughenden Valley**

He praised the good work that has gone into keeping the DIG going and its plans for the future. He is very proud of the team and thanked all those involved, especially Paul Woodford. The Chairman thanked Cllr Carroll for his report and help regarding recent planning applications.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT – Attached**

PW reported that not much had happened during February, although £50 had been received in subs bringing the total income to date to £7,410.78.

Looking at outgoings, there had been additional expenses of £5.49 for postage & stationery bringing the total to just under £100. There was an additional £5 in bank charges bringing the total to £12.80, plus printing costs for the Country Supplies leaflet of £230 and £10 for some litter equipment. Total expenditure came to £9218.62, and the closing balance stands at £1424.66 which is £200 less than the previous month-end.

With the addition of 74p interest, the Deposit Account now stands at £8379.63.

PC thanked PW for his Report.

RH asked if 75% of households who paid their subs reached expectations. PW replied that out of 680 households 511 had paid up which is about average, but that a target of 80 – 85% would be something to aim for.

7. **HVRA REPORTS**

a) **Magazine – Hughenden News**

The first draft had been circulated for review and proof-reading, with feedback given to AC so that the final version can go to the printers by Friday or Monday. Hopefully the magazine will be available for Road Reps to distribute over the weekend of 19 -20<sup>th</sup> March. Photos of the MP's visit to see the Village Hall roof and the repair to the Tower of St. Michael & All Angels' Church to be included.

b) **Chairman – Increase Subs from £5 - £10 – Discuss**

PC had received feedback from RH and RR, and RH had heard from LH and NP, all suggesting a modest increase. He explained the reasons why the subs should be increased – to increase the bank balance in advance of having to fund professional advice for planning issues, e.g., Country Supplies and Orchard Caravans; and that £10 is easy to collect. Several Committee members were concerned that a 100% increase to £10 would put residents off and that we would lose many of them. EM agreed and believed the HVRA should be inclusive of everyone and that a “mopping-up” exercise should take place, e.g., on Cryers Hill where only 12 households out of 62 have paid. PW had previously offered to cover Cryers Hill and DH, the former Road Rep, has emailed as many of her residents as possible informing them that the subs will be collected by PW who welcomes others to join him a little later in the month. EM offered to help. RH will chase-up her residents who have not paid.

HELP/PW  
RH

A lengthy discussion ensued, and PW forecast that additional revenue will be down £700 on last year and that if the subs remain @ £5 then nothing will be added to the Deposit Account. JM was against raising the subs this year particularly because of the rising cost of food, fuel, energy and inflation as well as the financial impacts of the continuing Covid pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Having listened to all the various views expressed and the fear of losing members if the subs were increased, LJ suggested a minimum sub of £5 and allowing residents/households, if they wish, to increase their payment in a similar way as those buying shares in the Village Shop. KF added that, along with many of her friends, when she first paid her subs, she did not know what the HVRA did and believed there is a need to promote all the areas that the RA is involved with, especially as she had witnessed its effectiveness regarding the recent contentious planning issues.

There were 2 proposals to vote upon:-

- 1.) **Leaving the sub @ £5, or**
- 2.) **Making a small increase to £8.**

## 8. HVRADIG

**Affinity** – Despite regular follow-ups, PW has not received a response as to when Affinity plan to conduct the survey of the Pumping Station site but he will continue to chase-up the Estate Management team. JM stressed that Affinity is owned by numerous companies and answerable to its shareholders.

**Road Drainage** – DIG conducted a survey of the road drains between Church Farm and Trees Road earlier in January and reported all the blocked drains to FixMyStreet, but received the usual generic response that they aim to clear all the blocked drains on a scheduled basis.

**Dig 2022 Kick-start Meeting** has been re-scheduled to 16<sup>th</sup> March and some detailed plans need to be worked out for following up. **PW/DIG**

PC asked who was attending the Flood Resilience Meeting via Zoom on 8<sup>th</sup> March organized by Community Impact Bucks and it was thought that AC had signed up.

## 9. ROAD REP REPORTS

**Bryants Bottom Road** – JH expressed concern about speeding traffic through the hamlet.

## 10. OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Speed Watch** - RH advised that, going forward, CSW will be run through the Parish Council's Road Safety Working Group and is dismayed that the yellow CSW signs will be a long time coming.

During a CSW session held in Warrendene Road early last Monday morning out of 192 vehicles only one was exceeding the 40-mph limit because the camera captures those going 47+ mph. At last Friday's session, 30 vehicles caught on camera were going considerably over the 30mph limit with one approaching the Coombe Lane roundabout at 50mph. JH to pass on to RH an article about trying to make local villages 20 mph. **JH>RH**

A close eye is being kept on our speed devices near Deeters because the two in Widmer End have now been damaged. Last year a mobile speed device was stolen in North Dean.

**UPDATE:** Regrettably, the MVAS located opposite Deeters was vandalized on 4.3.22 as was the device in Gt Kingshill. All the lithium batteries have been stolen.

- b) **Village Hall** – In the absence of MS, Kerry Franklin gave the report. The Hall Committee brought forward its meeting to yesterday evening to discuss the damaged roof and the impact upon the Shop, Hall and Football Club. A nearby conifer was completely uprooted, and it was a huge relief that no one was injured. Cllrs Carroll and Broadbent, Rob Butler, MP, and the Insurance Company's Loss Adjusters came down. Deluxe Roofing very quickly made the roof waterproof, and as the Hall floor had suffered ingress of rainwater it was *all buckets to the deck* for a massive clean-up. A risk assessment has been carried out, but a professional Survey of the nearby trees will have to be undertaken to ensure they are safe. Insurers have agreed to go ahead with a replacement roof. Metal fence panels will be erected to enable secure routes to the shop and the field. The Hall is working with the Hughenden Climate Group to plan a new hedgerow. The NHS has advised that all the QR posters in the Hall be removed.

As LJ was concerned to know when the tree surveys would take place, RH will pass on details of Bucks Council's Arboriculture Officer, Alistair Cunningham. JI added that, in the past, many people had expressed concern about the safety of the trees and would get in touch with her contact. **RH>LJ**  
**JI>LJ**

- c) **Village Store & Coffee Shop** – LJ reported that the shop is still closed and cannot open until a specialist tree survey is carried out. 8 packs of food have been taken to the Wycombe Food Bank and more food is going out of date. All losses will be claimed back from the Insurance Company although it is not certain if they will pay out any losses that arise due to the safety of the other nearby trees as they are not part of the storm damage. She asked us all to keep the shop in mind and that it is vital people return asap. She hoped shopping habits will not change or that residents forget about the shop and is looking forward to welcoming everyone back very soon.

**11. PLANNING ISSUES**

**a) Orchard Caravans – Ref: 21/06498/ CLE – Update**

Cllr Carroll phoned RH and PC on 25<sup>th</sup> February to say a decision had been made to grant a Certificate of Lawfulness for the Existing Use of Land as a caravan site for three caravans. The Case Officer’s Decision Notes run to 19 pages in which she explains the background to her Decision including numerous Cases in Law, and signed off by Charles Power, a Senior Planning Officer. PC stated that two caravan owners will be moving away, and the site owner will buy them out and, perhaps, replace them with something more modern, or large mobile homes, or even live on the site. If the owner wants to increase the three he now has permission for, he will have to submit a full planning application.

**b) Country Supplies – Ref: 22/05000/FUL for a New Access Road and Lorry Parking – Update**

A very successful campaign was conducted that garnered approximately 200 objections from residents in Hughenden Valley, Bryants Bottom and Cryers Hill, and about 65 from residents in Perks Lane, Naphill and Walters Ash. Objections cited the loss of Green Belt and AONB land - a sacrilege to lose it for HGV parking, intensification of the business activities and more HGVs on our village roads. The closing date for submissions was 25<sup>th</sup> February.

**12. FUTURE EVENTS**

**i) The Big Picnic in the Field – Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> June**

- Some Picnics will take place in several quiet roads in and around the village, and LJ and KF will organize theirs in Trees Avenue on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June.
- KF hoped The Big Picnic will be a community event which is in the early stages of being organized, and all ideas are welcome. LJ said the shop will be providing a traditional *Cream Tea* in a box, quiches, scotch eggs and sausage rolls, all to be pre-ordered in advance, and then taken to the picnic. During the afternoon, trays of Beechdean ice-cream will be taken around the field, and the Shop will stay open all day.

**13. AOB**

- i) RR had received correspondence from Edna Parker whose husband, Harry, was Chairman of the HVRA many years ago and who also lived in the house that RR now lives in. She wished to receive a copy of *Hughenden News* to maintain her link with the village.
- ii) JI expressed concern that there are some very bright lights in Valley Road between the two roundabouts that cause unnecessary glare during the hours of darkness.
- iii) **Venue for next HVRA Meeting** – In case the Hall’s roof is not completed by 5<sup>th</sup> April, JH suggested that the back room of *The Gate* in Bryants Bottom or North Dean Village Hall could be a venue.

PC

The Date of the next meeting is 5th April 2022 – The venue is to be confirmed.

Signed.....

Date.....