

**MINUTES OF THE HVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

**WELCOME**

Past Chairman, Peter Cannon, thanked the Committee for their support over the past two years and was happy to hand over to his successor, Peter Spence, wishing him well in this new role. Peter S responded by thanking Peter for guiding everyone through COVID, being a tower of strength and keeping the HVRA going through those difficult times. Having only moved to Hughenden Valley about a year ago, he was pleased that Peter C had faith in him and hoped that over the coming weeks and months that would be justified.

**1. PRESENT**

Peter Spence (Chairman)	Andrew Capey (Vice Chairman)	Rosemary Hewitt (Secretary)
Jill Armshaw (HVRA & HPC)	Peter Cannon	Julia Grant
Angus & Janet Idle	Elaine Merrilees	Jerry Morley
Brenda Morris	Nancy Pomfret	Michael Sole

and Louise Cannon who ran the : *Wine & Nibbles* table

**ACTION**

- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Paul Woodford, Treasurer, Jane Boughton, Cacs Hinds, Janet Howe, Rebecca Rycroft and Louise Jones

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

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

- 3. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022** had been circulated and read. It was proposed by Peter Spence, seconded by Elaine Merrilees that they be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

**Item 8, page 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> para – Stolen Post-box – Update**

Despite failed attempts to contact the Post Office during the summer, PC is hoping that a new post-box will be installed next week which will be 7 weeks after their planned utility search on 26<sup>th</sup> July, but don't hold your breath! **UPDATE:** As of 25.9.22 the post-box is in place but remains sealed.

**5. COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

- a) **Buckinghamshire Councillor** – None  
b) **Hughenden Parish Councillor**

On behalf of HPC, JA expressed thanks to Peter Cannon for providing a wise head for the past two years and to Peter Spence for stepping up and taking on the role of Chair. As both she and Peter are new to their roles, for the past two months they have been working together and getting informed about local matters which she hopes will continue.

There will be a Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm next Tuesday in North Dean Village Hall when members of the public are welcome to attend. [**UPDATE:** The meeting has been cancelled as a mark of respect to the late Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The next scheduled meeting is 11 October.] Work continues to get the Council back on track. The long-serving and very knowledgeable Clerk of Hazlemere PC, Ali Banham, has been offering help and support to HPC's Clerk, Emily Ranahan. There are lots of projects bubbling away which it is hoped will come to fruition, including contact with MS about the nearby playground.

As there is a budget underspend for this year and in previous years, JA recommended making use of the grant scheme for local projects. BM had previously asked the Council for a bench to be located on the grass verge adjacent to Deeters, at the entrance to Friars Gardens but without success and JA suggested she submits her request to the HVRA who could then take it forward to HPC.

**JA / MS**

As several other ideas were highlighted, eg: replacing the rusty gate opposite The Harrow and locating a dog bin nearby, JA suggested the Committee brings a package of ideas forward to the November HVRA meeting for further discussion.

Ideas>  
PS/  
Cttee

AI asked what progress has been made regarding the automated real-time solar bus timetables because he believed the last email on the subject looked enthusiastic. When PC approached the NW Chilterns Community Board (NWCCB) he was advised that if the cost is £7,500 then matched-funding of £3,750 from the Parish Council would be required. As Arriva, the bus company, have an App that provides real time information, especially when cancellations occur, AI was asked to forward his request with associated benefits to the Chairman.

AI / PS

## 6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Due to the absence of PW, his Treasurer's Report and a Summary of all the subs paid in by Road Reps had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that the HPC grant of £500 and subs of £2,035 had been received. JI asked if the Summary showed who had paid by bank transfer and was advised that when PW sends a summary to individual Road Reps this is shown to enable them to chase up only those residents who have not paid.

JI / PW

## 7. HVRA REPORTS

### a) Chairman

#### Planning for the Future

During the summer recess PS produced 4 papers for the Officers to consider, stressing they were not proposals, just discussion papers. Please see the Appendix attached to the Minutes.

JG said the Church's Friendship Group for people on their own have over 45 members and due to its popularity expansion and a larger meeting venue for talks and afternoon tea was sought.

BM' expressed concern that those without computers will miss out and was reassured that hard-copies of the re-drafted discussion papers will be available.

- ai) **Traffic** – As PS was very involved with traffic issues in his previous village such as rat-runs, speeding traffic, behaviour of traffic in country lanes as well as using the Sentinel video camera for CSW, he is interested in ways to supplement and enforce getting people to slow down. He is aware that HPC did carry out a Survey, but its information has not been distilled. He has joined the HPC's Road Safety Working Group (to be re-named: the Transport Group) that will also cover Active Transport, including walking and cycling. PS has also joined the NWCCB's Transport Road Issues and Action Group (TRIAG) which is similar but on a wider scale, although there is a lack of funding at the moment. JA has now joined the Environment Group which also links in with Transport issues.

PS became involved with the HVRA over the NW CCB's "parking solution" for Country Supplies. Whilst acknowledging that CS is a successful business, he believed that it is located and expanding in the wrong location, both at Warrendene Road and the Shana site in Walters Ash.

Although contact has been made at senior level of the Economic & Development Team, Regeneration Team and its Property Assets Department to look at this holistically the process is slow. A Regeneration Officer is looking into the matter and will keep PS updated.

### aii) **Hughenden Surgery and Pharmacy Update.**

PC and PS met Elizabeth Carless and Anne Smart who related the history of the Patient Participation Group (PPG). After the death of Dr Carless in 2011 the PPG was set up in a voluntary way, and in 2015 all practices were obliged to have one to try and improve the service and outcomes for everyone. 35p was received per patient and there were 12,000. Meetings were held in the Village Hall in Prestwood and Hughenden Valley when HVRA members helped with the distribution of leaflets for speaker meetings.

EC has been involved with the surgery for 57 years and moved to Hughenden Valley in 1964. She is passionate about the surgery but in recent weeks Malcolm Stockdale, who is a Director of Prestwood Sport & Leisure Association Ltd and lives in Prestwood, was appointed Chairman in her place. PC and PS queried if there was a way for the HVRA to pass on the concerns that patients have back to the surgery. The PPG Committee tries to cover a wide area, eg: Prestwood, Gt Kingshill, Cryers Hill, Naphill and Walters Ash and it is impractical to include patient representatives from every RA involved.

Jl reminded the Committee that the HVRA always had a representative on the PPG, e.g. Heather Dempsey before she moved away. Anne Smart will remain on the PPG and will raise any concerns we may have on our behalf. JA asked if AS could attend our meetings and **PC confirmed that he will contact AS asap**. It was agreed that the HVRA needs to be supportive and not too negative and praised the Prescription Dispensing Machine that works quite well. A text is sent to a patient to collect their prescription. It only takes 90 seconds rather than a lengthy wait. Numerous complaints were made about the time it takes for the telephone to be answered and JA asked how many people had written to complain? One Committee member had written but received no response from the surgery.

PC / AS

**b) Fire Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Detectors – Talk**

As A & J I had had a good experience when the Fire Brigade serviced their fire alarm and carbon Monoxide detector recently, they believed a talk would be useful and AI will pass on all the relevant correspondence to PS.

AI / PS

**c) Magazine -** AC confirmed that *Hughenden News* will be published towards the end of November, and he looked forward to receiving articles of interest about events and future plans toward the end of September. He was pleased to have a helpful Editorial team that has lightened his load. He had not received much feedback about the Magazine, as to whether it was liked or not, and RH said her residents looked forward to reading it. It was queried whether the magazine should go on-line but the consensus was that most people preferred a hard-copy and the adverts for local businesses & trades people were useful.

**8. HVRADIG -** The report had been circulated prior to the meeting, and there were no questions arising.

**9. ROAD REP REPORTS**

**Valley Road/Coombe Lane roundabout** RH passed on the concerns of two residents who regularly sit on the bench outside the Village Hall about the well-worn slow-down lines on each approach road and how unsafe the round-about is because drivers do not stop or slow down, plus they have seen lots of near-misses. RH to contact TfB.

RH > TfB

**10. OTHER REPORTS**

**a) Community Speed Watch** sessions will be held during the week and more volunteers are needed.

**b) Village Hall**

**A huge investment** of £40,000 includes fantastic lighting with every single lamp being replaced with LEDs along with some that can be switched to a myriad of colours. Also, a fire detection system with alarms has been installed in both halls, and the wooden floor has been beautifully restored. Quotations for the pot-hole-riddled car-park that could amount to £30 – £35,000 will be considered, and because the Hall is never in surplus and relies on fund-raising, a tariff review will be undertaken in time for the annual increase in January.

**On Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> August** MS went down to the field following numerous complaints about fireworks at 11.30 pm that had woken up the whole valley in contravention of the Village Hall's T & Cs that state fireworks are forbidden. A review of them, as well as enforcing noise nuisance rules, will be undertaken. Hirers are penalised for not leaving the hall tidy.

**Working with the Climate Group** to create 3 wild-flower circles on the grass verge by the bench along with a plaque but will trial a scheme opposite *The Harrow* first, and under the Queen's Canopy initiative to work with the Group to replace the sparse boundary hedgerow with new.

**Christmas Barn Dance, 26<sup>th</sup> November**

**Annual Dinner Dance, 17<sup>th</sup> December**

**Village Day, next July** - As these events need volunteers, please get in touch with MS if you wish to help. More details to follow on Facebook.

VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED /  
MS

**c) Village Store & Coffee Shop – No Report.**

PC highlighted a very easy way for people to swell the shop's funds by utilising **Easyfundraising** whereby when you buy something from the 6000 outlets in the scheme the Village Store gets a small percentage. So far, 50 people have used it with the shop receiving £700 from this source. It costs the purchaser nothing at all, just a few clicks on your computer.

**d) The Climate Group's Report** was circulated prior to the meeting in which Angie Kraft highlighted the **Great Big Green Week** from 23 September – 3 October when, along with other climate groups, a walking relay will take place ending at the Council Offices in Aylesbury.

PS confirmed the HVRA's support of the Climate Group with JA, PC, AC, JG and himself being members. JG told us about the **Bat walk/ talk** to be held in the vicinity of the Church on 24<sup>th</sup> September between 6 – 8pm.

## 11. PLANNING ISSUES

**a) Country Supplies – Application 22/05000/FUL – A Decision is still awaited**

**b) Orchard Caravans** - Although RH believed there was nothing to report, PC had just received an email from a resident who lives on the site that a planning application had just been submitted.

[UPDATE: Ref: 22/07158/CLP. This Certificate for the Lawful Proposed Development of an additional 9 caravans/mobile homes on the Orchard site was received on 4<sup>th</sup> August. Initial advice has been sought from a Planning Consultant (a former WDC Enforcement Officer) confirming this is a legal mechanism that complies with planning law only and not planning policies. Advice is also sought from the Environmental Health Officer at Bucks Council regarding the existing Licence that would require amending to cover 12 caravans.]

**c) Front Boundary Fence – Valley Road/Friars Gardens.** As the 6' fence has a trellis above, a complaint had been sent to the Enforcement Officer who has now requested that the trellis be removed as it is contrary to AONB policy. The owner is aggrieved and to prevent the Enforcement action going ahead cites numerous fences nearby and others that overlook the highway. JA explained that when she was Deputy Clerk the owner was co-operative in removing a tall leylandii hedge that was encroaching the passage for pedestrians and replaced it with the fence. Whilst the Committee were sympathetic it did not wish to comment but suggested engagement with the Planning Officer.

**d) Cycle Path** - The NWCCB has produced a draft Transport Plan that complements Bucks' own plan, initialising it for our area. A map showing cycle and walkways includes a cycle path from the Village Hall to the town, and PS is a member of the Transport Action Group (TRIAG) that will be reviewing the draft proposals on Thursday of this week. Former WDC Planning Officer, Charles Brocklehurst, who lives in Gt Hampden is the proposer of the local scheme. Discussions with Steven Broadbent have taken place, and some routes will need to be agreed, as well as how will it happen with accompanying benefits for the community. JA noted that some of the 8 satellite villages in the Parish cannot be reached on foot.

## 12. FUTURE EVENTS

**a) Potter Cup Quiz** - PC confirmed that AB is happy to hold the quiz in the Spring of next year.

**b) Christmas for our Seniors** – As the cost of living and fuel crisis will hit hard, RH queried whether the Christmas Gift Bag initiative will take place, and everyone agreed it should as it was much appreciated. EM queried if we should consider changing the items and RH would like everyone to think of alternatives.

**13. AONB**

- a) Concern that cars “For Sale” are being parked on the grass verge outside Chiltern Cars as well as other commercial advertisements which are contrary to AONB Policy and should be reported to Enforcement at Bucks Council.

Jl wished to say “Thank you” to PC for chairing the HVRA for the past two years, and at this point he handed, with relief, the key to the Small Hall to PS.

The meeting closed at 9.37pm.

Wine & Nibbles followed to allow members to chat with the new Chairman.

**The date of the next meeting is 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.30pm.**

**Signed**.....

**Date**.....