

**MINUTES OF THE HVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 5 MARCH 2024 IN THE SMALL HALL**

CONFIRMED MINUTES

WELCOME

Peter welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

PRESENT

Peter Spence (Chairman)	Andrew Capey (Vice-Chairman)	Paul Woodford (Treasurer)
Rosemary Hewitt (Secretary)	Peter Cannon	Angus & Janet Idle
Elaine Merrilees	Jerry Morley	Brenda Morris
Nancy Pomfret	Cllr David Carroll	

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Jill Armshaw, Sue Grace, Cacs Hinds and Janet Howe. **ACTION**

Road Reps who do not attend meetings: Dave Mynors, Lyn Hawkins and Mary Wright.
Reports, written or verbal, are welcome from all members whether or not they attend meetings.

2. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 2024** had been circulated and read. It was proposed by Elaine Merrilees, seconded by Brenda Morris and agreed that they be approved and signed as a true record of the meeting subject to the following amendment: Page 3, 1st paragraph, deletion of 2nd line and replaced with "From his recent email, JM suggested that the adjoining villages be consulted regarding the changes to both name and the other changes and if agreeable then that would be the best way forward."

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Page 3, item 9 ROAD REP REPORTS, 2nd bullet point.

With reference to CH's concern that we will be losing our landline phones in two years' time, **JM** stated that the land-line will remain but in a digitalised form.

4. **COUNCILLORS' UPDATES**

a) **Bucks Councillor:**

Cllr Carroll supported *The Harrow* during the recent flooding and praised Cllr Broadbent for getting Officers at Bucks Council to organise a massive clean-up of the premises and surrounding area. DC has opened a dialogue with the new Bucks Council Cabinet Member for the Environment, Thomas Broom, who is having discussions with Thames Water, and is now the contact. The HVDIG is still important.

DC attends North West Chilterns Community Board meetings and was pleased that the Village Hall has received some funding for the resurfacing of the car park as well as the Church to create a quiet space. He would recommend local organisations to get in touch with Jackie Binning, Board Manager, via northwestchilterns@buckinghamshire.gov.uk when seeking funding for community projects. She is happy to come and talk to the HVRA, and any resident can join and sit on the Board which meets once a month.

James Tunnard, the Local Area Technician, has hurt his back and is out of action at the moment.

As a result of the Parliamentary Constituency boundary changes our area has moved from Aylesbury to Mid Bucks and Gregg Smith will be our new MP if elected. He came to visit Hughenden Valley in mid-February and chatted with residents in the Village Store & Coffee Shop.

- b) **HPC Cllr Kearey – No Report**

**BC contact:
Thomas
Broom**

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT (Reports attached)**

PW reported a very quiet month with the receipt of £5 subs bringing the total received to £2,695 to date which covers 76% of households. The closing balance in the Current A/C is £2,075.98. He has looked at savings' interest rates but with a fixed term and a minimum investment of £10,000 he did not pursue this further. On the recommendation of his financial reviewer and with the agreement of the Officers, he has changed the financial year to run from 1st April to 31st March instead of from 6th April to 5th April, to make things a bit simpler.

Advertising revenue has been much lower this year because several advertisers have not renewed their contracts, reducing the amount received to about £3,700 instead of circa £5,000 but PW hopes we will acquire some more advertisers during the year to improve the situation.

6. **HVRA REPORTS/UPDATES**

Chairman

a) **Planning for the Future Document – Discussion**

Following a good discussion that took place when the Officers met after the last HVRA meeting, PS is now proposing changes to the Constitution that will be presented to the Executive Committee at the April meeting for approval to encompass the following:

1. Change the name of the Residents Association to Hughenden Valley Villages Association.
2. Change the Committee structure to have 4 Officers and 4 members elected from the membership.
3. Leave the Liaison Committee on the table for the new Committee to implement and consider how Road Reps as a body can continue to have a big involvement and not be bound by the Constitution. Explain to the village that meetings will be quarterly and open to Councillors and other organisations, e.g. HAGA, Village Hall, Football Club etc to attend.
4. Adopt a suggested timetable.

The Agenda for the April Executive Committee Meeting will outline the proposals so that Road Reps know what is going to be discussed and invite them to attend and have their say. That meeting will be able to amend the Constitution and, if approved, then ratified at the AGM in May.

EM queried the omission of the Liaison Committee and PS re-affirmed that it will be up to the Committee of 4 Officers and 4 elected members to decide how it will evolve.

AI queried the process, believing the Executive Committee did not have the power to amend the Constitution, and that the change of the name of the Association would entail winding-up the HVRA. He was assured that this would not be the case.

JI did not believe the name should be changed because people know who we are and what we do.

PS asked for a straw poll, not a vote, of those in favour of a change, and the response was a 50/50 split.

JM believed a gap will arise between Road Reps and the 4 Officers and 4 elected members, and as a result we may lose some Road Reps along the way.

PW suggested RH sends a round-robin to all Road Reps to explain what will be happening at the next HVRA meeting and invite them to attend.

RH/round-robin

Cllr D Carroll stressed for the past 30 years that he has been a District and County Councillor the HVRA has always been there to support him, and he has always tried to resolve issues for the local community.

6b) **AGM – to be held on 29 May 2024.**

**AGM
29 May 2024**

7. **MAGAZINE**

AC thanked all those who had contributed to the magazine which went to the printers that morning and hoped to get it back by the middle of next week. He was pleased that PC will oversee its distribution once again.

PC/Distribution

8. HVRADIG (Report attached for further information.)

PW reported that February had been a very busy month when overnight on 17/18th prolonged heavy rain resulted in some serious flooding in and around *The Harrow*, opposite the school, as well as the southern end of the village, The fire brigade were called to pump out *The Harrow* as well as gardens that suffered sewage spillage in the vicinity of the Village Hall.

A number of drains are a problem, particularly the one near *The Harrow*. When that area suffered flooding last October, **PW** asked for the drain to be cleared but as he believes it was not, he has now asked Cllr Carroll for the whole area that was flooded to get checked out and what may have caused the problem. **EM** added that the top half of Warrendene Road also experienced a huge amount of surface water flooding that ran down the road from one side to the other. As she had never seen anything like it before she examined the drains that were full to brimming and appeared to be blocked as no water was draining away. A fire engine arrived to pump the water away, but the drains have not been cleared.

JM believes this February's flooding occurred because nothing has been done since the last serious flooding in 2014 and that the HVRA should complain to OFFWAT.

JM raised the subject of the Affinity pumping station. He considered that Affinity had not carried out CCTV and unblocking work of the culverts that they had originally promised to do. He wanted to see HVRA raise a Freedom of Information request on the matter. **PW** did not agree with this approach and after discussion it was agreed that **JM** would raise this himself. **PW** would supply documentation relating to the timeline of events.

9. ROAD REP REPORTS

Valley Road – On 26 February **NP** observed 2 police cars and 4 policemen carrying out speed watch with a camera for vehicles approaching the village from Speen. **RH** responded that the Police look at the Community Speed Watch statistics that she submits after each session and if they are bad, they will return with a camera.

Whitfield Road – **JI** informed the Committee that her near neighbour has gone into a care home.

AI was pleased to report that 2 Council workers cleared the moss from the pavement and gutter between Whitfield and Burnham Road, and it is now looking good.

Boss Lane - **RH** has been contacted by a resident about a Deliveroo vehicle speeding up and down the lane, the details of which have been passed to the Police.

10. FUTURE EVENTS

a) Potter Cup Quiz – Saturday, 6 April 2024

EM confirmed everything is in hand and that she has lots of help that will cover two shifts - the afternoon and evening. Posters are out and a notice has been put on Hughenden Facebook twice but, to date, no tickets have been sold. The cost is £15 for a Ploughman's & Dessert.

b) Village Day Barn Dance on 29 June 2024 will go ahead despite the Summer Fete being cancelled due to a lack of volunteers.

- Jayne Birkenhead has returned from a long trip abroad and was unaware that the Fete had been cancelled but is very happy to organize the raffle. **PS** will contact her about it.

**Barn Dance
29 June**

PS/JB/Raffle

11. OTHER REPORTS

a) Village Hall

- **AI** reported that Peter Gieler chaired the February meeting but in future members will take it in turn until a permanent Chair, who is a Trustee, is found.
- The car park will soon be re-surfaced.
- Natalie is now the Booking Secretary.
- A secretary is being sought to fill the vacancy.
- As dog fouling is becoming a problem on the playing field and surrounding areas, having a dog-free area was discussed.
- Talking about how to plan Little Burnham Meadow and Spinney.
- Hughenden Players' Murder Mystery Evening – **Sugar & Vice** by Patricia Grey on Saturday, 16 March.

- Hughenden Valley Football Club will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary on 8 June when a variety of events will take place on the playing field. Their AGM is on 22 June when Dave Hilling will end his chairmanship of the club.

As the Covenants relating to the Village Hall are very poor to read on the website, **PC** asked **AI** if he knew where the original copy is held. **Jl** suggested getting in touch with Matt Hopkins.

b) Village Store & Coffee Shop – No report.

12. AOB

- **The issue of dogs not on a lead** was raised. **JM** had circulated a notice widely on Facebook, which received a very positive response, asking dog owners to be responsible for their unleashed dogs that bound up to other dogs and members of the public of all ages and cause distress and harm to them. As this is a serious issue that can result in injury or even death, it was agreed to elevate it to the Parish Council as this may be an issue experienced on the green spaces within the Parish, as well as to the National Trust and the Council (was Wycombe District Council) who own that part of Hughenden Park nearest to the town.
- **JM** expressed concern that around 11pm “doughnutting” was taking place on the Cryers Hill roundabout when boy racers continually circle the roundabout at speed with vehicles that have very noisy exhausts.
- **BM** asked if there is any news from the Parish Council about the planters because she does not want to plant springs flowers in her tubs/planters if it is a waste of time and money. **PS** confirmed that he had not.
- **AI** wished to have sight of the Parish Council’s plans for Little Burnham Meadow and Spinney. **RH** advised him to go the HPC website and click on **News** where the full report can be found.
- **Jl** has accumulated a number of maps and lots of information about Hughenden Valley and its environs including Pipers Corner Farm back to 1656, Pipers Corner Green Farm to the same date and some Hughenden facts going back to 200AD.
 - She needs help with the typing-up of the information. Please contact her if you can help on 01494 563673.

HPC/NT/WDC

**PS/HPC/
Planters**

**Jl needs
HELP with
typing**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

The date of the next meeting is 2 April 2024.

Signed.....

Date.....