

**MINUTES OF THE HVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, 7 MAY 2024 IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL**

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

WELCOME

Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PRESENT

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

ACTION

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Sue Grace and Cacs Hinds
2. **THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 2 APRIL 2024** had been circulated and read. It was proposed by Elaine Merrilees, seconded by Jerry Morley and agreed that the Minutes be approved. Al did not approve the Minutes at item **5 MATTERS ARISING, 2nd paragraph (a) Planning for the Future 1, 2, 3 and 4** because he did not agree that the straw poll revealed a 50/50 split.
3. **MATTERS ARISING**
 4. **COUNCILLORS UPDATES**

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RH did write to Cllr Broadbent about the issue of ponding on Bryants Bottom Road and received a reply stating *Works were carried out during the patching recently on Bryants Bottom Road to re-dig and clear grips which are within the soil section on the road edge to allow water to soak off the carriageway in the natural verges. Planned clearance of the existing drainage system will take place on 20 May within the lower part of Bryants Bottom Road to fully clear the system.*
 4. **Councillors updates**
 - a) **Bucks Cllr Carroll** – No Report
 - b) **HPC Cllr Kearey** – No Report
5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

PW reported that the first month of the new financial year showed a closing balance of £4,056.74, primarily up due to advertising revenue and income from the Potter Cup Quiz of £240. The total income arising from the Quiz evening was £1,050, less expenses of £426.08 making a surplus of £623.16 which will be held over for the next senior citizens event later in the year. Other expenses included £10.20 for magazine distribution, £25.74 for HVRA room hire and £33.72 on IT. Subs of £5 for the year 2024/25 fall due on 1st July.
6. **HVRA REPORTS/UPDATES**

Chairman

 - a) **PS** reminded everyone that the **AGM and Cheese and Wine** will be held in the large Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29 May. As AC will not be standing as Vice-Chair we are looking for someone to fill this role. All nominations with proposers and seconders to be passed to RH, Secretary. Al asked if something sweet could be on offer for those who do not like/eat cheese.
7. **MAGAZINE – Hughenden News**

AC will send out a notice next week seeking contributions for the summer edition.
8. **HVRADIG**

PW ran through his latest DIG Report that covered a very busy period. In response to writing to the CEO of Bucks Council he received two replies from Rosie Tunnard, the first saying the well-maintained drainage system had been overwhelmed by the sheer volume of rain and detritus swept along the road, but the second carried some notes from the Flood Management Team who are carrying out work on analysing how the problems occurred. PW is working with Matt Hopkins, and they will be replying to Rosie Tunnard. Below are some good points to be noted:

 - Clearance of gully systems have been ordered.

AC

- Looking into possible solutions to direct water into the Warrendene Road ditch.
- Over-grown ditch in Hampden Road to be cleared.

Sewage system - For just over a month Thames Water have introduced large tankers to over-pump at Boss Lane and outside the Surgery, 24 hours a day. This is helping to reduce the levels that creep up after heavy rain. PW is pleased that Mark Dolby, a senior Engineer, has been visiting the affected areas and will be meeting him at his home later in the month to find a solution.

**Wye Group/
Volunteer
needed**

He was invited by the Chiltern Society to meet the Friends of Chalk Streams, a new event, when he was asked to give a presentation on what has been going on in the Valley. PW will maintain contact with the Revive the Wye Group who regard the Hughenden stream as part of their remit, and he is seeking any person or group to volunteer to join them.

JM asked PW if he will raise the issue of the manhole in the field outside the Pumping Station that is surrounded by foul water. PW confirmed that he will because it needs an engineering solution. JM also added that the Hughenden Park Group successfully contacted the CEO of Thames Water about the problems experienced at the lower end of the park.

9. ROAD REP REPORTS

- a) **PC** raised the issue of the **Hatches Field** that Simon Kearey spoke about at the last HVRA meeting. The Parish Council had commissioned Mike Deegan Consultancy to look at a management plan for the field which has not been taken forward.

- As PC believes this issue will reoccur, he has met with two local residents and they will compose a letter for residents about the possibility that the land has an uncertain future without a proper management plan.

PC

Bucks Council are seeking pieces of land for assessment as potential housing developments for their Emerging New Local Plan, and PC has become aware that a large piece of land in a 15 acre field on the western side of Warrendene Road that has been cultivated for well over 50 years is being considered, as is the field adjacent to the recently developed Clappins Lane site in Naphill. To date, there are 1,100 sites or pieces of land on a list that Bucks Planners will consider as potential sites.

- PC will draw up a letter to notify the residents in Warrendene Road of this issue.

PC

- b) **JM**: Zug Jones, a Naphill resident, had alerted readers on the Hughenden WhatsApp by showing a map of the sites, and JM stressed that there are many more sites in the locality. JM mentioned the site lying at the **top of Coombe Lane**, on the northern side, which is overgrown and owned by travellers.
- c) **NP** expressed her immensely grateful thanks for the wonderful help she received from members of the HVRA, the Shop Choir and other people whilst her husband was in hospital for 6 weeks after suffering a nasty fall.
- d) **Coombe Lane and Whitfield Road**. **Jl** reported six properties displaying "Sold" or "For Sale" notice boards. Residents had sadly died, gone into Care Homes or to be nearer their children. "Door knockers" have very active in this area that involve many people and companies that are being investigated. She stressed that we must take great care not to become a victim, always check their authentication and it is recommended to have a door camera. Bucks & Surrey Trading Standards give useful information on all types of fraud.

Jl referred to her Farm Histories Study that go back to 1660 focussing on two farms, namely Pipers Corner Farm (200 acres) and Pipers Corner Green Farm (100 acres), growing mainly wheat and barley. These two farms supported a considerable working population, much more than the small number of dwellings shown on a map would suggest. In 1650 there was a major famine and since then changes have been governed by markets and national need. Her study will be passed on to Cllr Kearey.

It was with sadness that Jl spoke about Daphne Hicks whose funeral was held a week ago and how she was a HVRA Road Rep for Cryers Hill for 23 years and involved with HAGA and Hughenden Players, and for many years part of the questions setting team for the Potter Cup Quiz. She will be greatly missed.

- e) **BM** was pleased the tree she had planted several years ago on the grass triangle at the entrance to Friars Gardens is doing very well with an abundance of buds that are about to burst into pink blossom.
- f) **Al** recalled his efforts to get the potholes repaired on the access road/ramp into Sainsbury's carpark that are breaking up again.
- g) **PW** had received enquiries from a resident in Cryers Hill about having an electronic timetable at our bus stops, but as that has not been forthcoming, it was suggested that the ARRIVA App is excellent and very helpful indeed.

- h) **Valley Road Power Cut** – Only 25 houses in Valley Road (every 3rd or 4th) experienced a 12-hour **power cut**, commencing 12.20am on Friday 19 April that lasted 12 hours, but Scottish & Southern were only alerted at 6.20am when residents awoke. This delayed efforts to resume the power until approx. 1pm. Overhead branches caused the power cables to break and cutting them back delayed engineers from rectifying the problem.
- Telephone **105 for prompt action** when you first experience a **power cut**.

**Power cut/
Phone 105**

Also on the 19th, a **house fire** occurred in a Valley Road property at about 4.30 – 5am when an elderly lady suffered inhalation of smoke and remained in Intensive Care for several days. Later in the day, several firemen called on householders to check if they had fire alarms and, if not, they fitted and supplied them free of charge.

10. FUTURE EVENTS

Village Day Barn Dance – 29 June – PS reported a big question mark about it taking place, along with the raffle. No decision was taken at the Village Hall’s April meeting and yesterday’s could not be held because it was Bank Holiday Monday.

EM queried whether the HVRA could run the event, and believed attendees brought along their own food and drinks. She will contact Lisa Thyer-Jones, the sole remaining member on the organising committee.

EM/LT-J

Proceeds of the Potter Cup Quiz – As the Autumn Afternoon Tea was a great success, PC queried if it will be held again. EM also mentioned the Christmas Gift Bag initiative and perhaps running a Santa’s Grotto at the Christmas Craft Fair. **PS** suggested that a list of ideas should go on the June agenda for discussion.

RH/Agenda

11. PLANNING

Housing sites in Naphill and Warrendene Road – With reference to pieces of land mentioned in **9 a) 2nd para above**, RH added that when Bucks Planners have undertaken their technical assessment of each parcel of land for suitability, availability and achievability including viability, their assessments will be published in a document entitled “Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment” perhaps later in the year or early next year. It is important to scrutinise their findings carefully and to respond accordingly.

12. OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Village Hall** – Jasper, Acting Secretary, will be publishing the Minutes of recent meetings on their website.
- b) **Village Store & Coffee Shop** – PC is delighted with the new Coffee machine that follows a similar process to Costa Coffee and produces excellent coffee, so much so, that if anyone cares to join him when he opens up at 7.30am he will buy them one! Also, the shop will celebrate its **15th anniversary on Thursday, 16 May**.

All of us

13. AOB

- a) Further to **Item 9c) 3rd para above**, AC has asked PC to organise a tribute for Daphne Hicks and he is contacting close friends to progress this.
- b) Al now has a Blue Badge, He is very pleased that it applies to any car, whether he is driving or not, to park in a designated less-abled parking space.
- c) **RH** was approached by Anne Smart of the **Hughenden Street Association** who asked if **HVRA Road Reps** could create a WhatsApp for their road, using residents’ mobile phone numbers, so that if there is a trading standards problem or a scam issue etc, Anne can direct the resident to the appropriate person/organization for help. She does not want to step on the HVRA toes because the Street Association’s remit is different from the HVRA’s. After discussing this proposal at length there was little enthusiasm among those Road Reps present to create this WhatsApp although several roads in the village and Bryants Bottom do have such an App. RH to report back to AS.

PC

RH/AS

The Meeting closed at 8.46pm.

The date of the AGM is Wednesday, 29 May.

The date of the next meeting is 4 June.

Signed.....

Date.....