

# HOLYBOURNE VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1974)

## Minutes of 34<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

*held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at Holybourne Village Hall*

### **1. Opening of Meeting**

The meeting opened at 20:00 with 32 members signed in. A full list of these attendees (names only) is available from the secretary.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from: David O'Donnell; Jerry Janes; John Bound; June MacDonald; Sam Cox and Bob Yelland.

### **3. Minutes of 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2006**

#### **3.1 Agree Minutes**

The minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting were agreed.

#### **3.2 Matters Arising**

John Honnor suggested that the recent circular from Linden Homes concerning the development of "The Depot" site has finally revealed the answer to Margaret Heppenstall's query in AOB 6.5 about traffic surveyors outside Garwoods. There were no further matters arising.

#### **3.3 Signing of Minute Book**

The minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting were signed and dated by the Chairman.

### **4. Planning, Development and SHIFT update**

- It would appear that the development at Bonhams has been refused.
- No information was available on the status of the planning application to the rear of 33-39 Church Lane.
- A letter from Linden Homes was read out. This had been delivered to some homes in the past week concerning a public meeting at Holybourne Theatre, on 16<sup>th</sup> October between 18:00 and 21:00, to display plans for development of the former Allison and Garwood site and to canvass public opinion. Phil Croucher asked whether allotments would be included. Janet Cane asked if anyone knew by what criteria the houses for the letter to be delivered to had been selected as it seemed odd. Nick Cane (SHIFT Chairman) stated the need to develop a coherent, consistent and agreed village position and encouraged all to attend to allow this to be properly established. Chris Everett asked if SHIFT had a view on this, Nick said that this would be decided later. David Willoughby emphasised that it is a reserved site for development and as such any scheme would be required to support the existing brief. He also said that Linden Homes will invite feedback, but whether it is taken on board could be another matter. Andy Maddock spoke in support of Nick Cane's suggestion. John Halliday suggested that the HVA approach the developer. Lynn Kelly proposed that a survey should be conducted at the public meeting to gauge feeling, and that the meeting should be publicised on the village noticeboard. A formal letter will be sent from the HVA.

### **5. HVA Annual Reports**

- Karen Bennett presented her chairman's report. She felt that a good rapport had been established with Persimmon (the developer at Chandos Lodge), despite the failure to influence the plans. She then summarised the HVA's local activities including the bulb planting, Remembrance Service, Christmas Carol singing at The White Hart and collection for the Girl Guides and the Church Wall restoration fund, the village Christmas Tree (with thanks to John Honnor), the village Spring Clean, the PCC flower festival, the Charity Cricket match, and the Village Picnic at the third attempt (with thanks to Lynn Kelly) which seemed to be enjoyed by all. She expressed disappointment that the farm tour didn't happen this year due to the inclement weather. Karen finished by recommending all should try attending the Cricket Field on Friday evenings during the summer – the "finest beer garden in Southern England".
- Vickie Kemp presented the treasurer's report. It has been a relatively quiet year with not too much going on at all. The accounts are about £100 better off than 2006; the fun day contribution arrived after the end of the financial year so in real terms the accounts are around £400 up. The Village Magazine more or less paid for itself with about only a £100 shortfall – thanks to James Bull for chasing the advertising. Nick Cane will present the Friends of Pond and SHIFT accounts as part of his reports. The treasurer was thanked for all her hard work during the year. Rebecca Hare proposed and Vickie Kemp seconded that the accounts should be accepted – voting unanimous. Vickie Kemp proposed and Chris Everett seconded that David Matthews should be adopted as auditor for 2008, if he is willing.

- Nick Cane reported on the work of the Friends of the Pond. Over £10000 was raised for the work from the village, Alton Town Council., EHDC and the National Lottery Awards for All. The work had been very delayed because of the high level of water throughout the year. During the delays the two eco-islands were built and planted with indigenous plants; hopefully they will green up over the next few months. After approval from all concerned parties, the fence by the churchyard was constructed by volunteers (particular thanks to Alan Cartwright and Andy Hankin). The contractors would complete the work on the main island during the week of the AGM – this involved moving over 30 tonnes of gabion stone and 12 tonnes of topsoil out to the island and putting coir rolls as a surround, except for two shingle beaches for the birds to come out of the water. Next tasks are to pollard the willow, tidy the banks, and plant the island up - probably in the spring. The water quality will also be tested, and if it is safe then the pond will be stocked with fish. Jeremy Wood expressed thanks on behalf of the Church for all the work performed.
- Nick Cane reported that SHIFT had been severely delayed because of problems with the development and distribution of the questionnaires. However, these had now all been distributed (totalling around 475) and 249 responses received which is over a 50% response rate and therefore statistically significant. The questionnaires will be analysed by John and Helen Bound, and hopefully some initial conclusions will be drawn by year end. This will be followed by a further period of consultation. John Halliday pointed out that the questionnaire is not the only input since a number of interviews had also been conducted and other views from villagers had been canvassed. At this point a general meeting will be convened, and SHIFT will deliver a prioritised village plan. In parallel, SHIFT (particularly Jeremy Wood) has been working with the Alton Town Partners Design Statement Team to provide Holybourne input. The design statement complements the Village Plan by providing guidelines for how development should be done. The draft design statement will be reviewed by Alton Town Council and EHDC in the next couple of weeks and then, after further consultation processes will become non-Statutory Planning Guidance. NC closed by thanking SHIFT members past and present for all their efforts.
- Andy Maddock reported on The Village Magazine. A big challenge when the editorial team took over was getting the information out of Chris Everett's head. Processes have been identified and documented which has involved many unseen and unsung individuals, to whom he expressed thanks. Dave Budd and Janet Cane are standing down from the magazine sub-committee, and as it is felt that a Chairman of the subcommittee is now unnecessary, Andy himself is standing down too. All documents have been placed online to simplify matters, all that is needed is someone to lead the team. Barrie Lawrence said that he would be happy to get involved.

## **6. HVA Members' Forum**

### **6.1 Andrew's Endowed School**

Jill Robinson reported as Chairman of Holybourne School. The use of the house has now been handed over to the school, although the trustees retain ownership. A meeting room has been situated upstairs along with the Archive Room. They are hoping to reduce the use of temporary classroom "huts". A new head teacher is to take over in January but the deputy head is leaving. Jill is standing down as chairman, but Derek Bailey will be taking over, thus leaving the 190 pupils in his safe hands.

### **6.2 Archive**

Chris Everett said that there is a tendency for people to move etc and items to be thrown out. Sometimes these are of historical or local interest. The Holybourne Archive is situated in a 6 x 4 room at Andrews' Endowed with the shelving around 30% full. The items are being catalogued using a card index system by Lynn Croucher and Sarah Cross. He appealed for anything of potential interest to be loaned or donated. To do so, please contact Chris by telephone or ask the school. Connections have been established with both Alton and Winchester Museums.

### **6.3 Remembrance Day Commemoration**

Chris Everett reported that this will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November to avoid "clashing" with Alton's ceremony. The laying of six to eight wreaths will take place. London Road will be closed for thirty minutes from 10:45 at Holybourne War Memorial.

### **6.4 Veerindar Weston**

Veerindar Weston introduced herself. After joining Treloars at the start of 2007, she has been asked to assist the Treloar Action Group (TAG) with Rebecca Hare. She has lived in Holybourne since 1994, and prior to working at Treloars owned Crystal's Jewellers in Alton with her husband Andrew.

### **6.5 Church**

James Croft said that Holybourne Church would be featured on television the week following the AGM on Alan Titchmarsh's program 'The Nature of Britain'. The plan is for one or two of the church walls to be addressed in 2008, by rendering the walls but leaving the tower "as is" (whilst re-pointing it).

**6.6 Village Hall**

John Honnor spoke on behalf of the Village Hall and explained the maintenance requirement and the need to raise funds for the upkeep. To this end, a quiz night has been organised for 20<sup>th</sup> October (although it was pointed out that this clashes with the Rugby World Cup Final).

**6.7 Website and What's On E-News**

Dave Budd spoke on the Holybourne.com website. This has generated £350 in advertising revenue for a £35 outlay, and is still evolving. What's On E-News runs under the websites auspices. Dave will be unable to devote as much time to these projects going forward and is looking for someone to take these on – much of the process is now automated. This needs to be looked at "afresh" this coming year.

**7. Election of Committee**

Lynn Kelly, James Bull, Vickie Kemp and Ben Kemp were due to stand down. All were willing to be re-elected. Nick Cane proposed and John Honnor seconded that all "re-standing" committee members be re-elected en bloc. Voting unanimous.

Pat Lerew, Vernon Burford, Barry Lawrence and Jill Robinson stood and introduced themselves. All were elected to the HVA committee. Rebecca Hare will act as Treloar Action Group Liaison along with nominated students from the college.

There were no junior representatives proposed or elected.

**8. Election of Chairman**

Karen Bennett was proposed by Ben Kemp, seconded by many and stood unopposed. Voting unanimous.

**9. Any Other Business**

A date of 10<sup>th</sup> December was suggested for this year's carol singing at The White Hart, subject to agreement with the management.

**10. Date of Next Committee Meeting**

The next HVA Committee Meeting will take place at 20:00 on November 13<sup>th</sup> at Holybourne Village Hall.

**11. Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 21:32 for tea/coffee and biscuits.

Ben Kemp  
Secretary  
Holybourne Village Association