



Holybourne Village Association

Annual General Meeting –

Holybourne Village Hall – 12 October 2005

Minutes

1. 39 members attended the meeting. The list of attendees is available on request from secretary.HVA@holybourne.com or in hard copy from Nick Cane – 01420-86282
2. The Chairman, John Bound, opened the meeting with apologies for absence from Ben Kemp, Vickie Kemp and Lynn Kelly of the HVA Committee and Chris Everett, Editor of the Holybourne Village Magazine. Apologies were also received from Mr and Mrs Lawrence
3. **HVA:** John then reviewed the purpose, membership and scope of the HVA and reminded the meeting that all residents of Holybourne are members and that the HVA represents them as a consultee on planning matters. HVA meetings are held in the Village Hall at 8 pm on the second Tuesday of each month and all are welcome to attend.
4. **Planning Review:** John then reviewed planning activity for the year and explained that there had been no major applications in the past twelve months. There had been a number of infill applications and the HVA had commented on these where appropriate. In general the HVA only commented where there is an impact to the village as a whole.
5. **Chandos Lodge and the Theatre proposal:** John explained the area behind Chandos Lodge is being designated as a baseline housing allocation with the possibility of around 150 houses being built there. The Holybourne Theatre have proposed that the development includes an area for a new theatre to be built on the space known as the Holybourne Strategic gap. This gave rise to a lengthy and energetic discussion. David Willoughby explained the issue of access to the development and the suggestion of a roundabout at the London Road T-Junction. Around a dozen attendees rejected the idea of a roundabout by a show of hands. Other access approaches that do not start in London Road are perceived as too expensive. Alton Town Council are looking at whether 1 or 2 access points are desirable. David O'Donnell explained that there must be open space and that the current plan preserves this. The theatre and parking would eat open space but might still be acceptable. A number of people raised concerns over the effect to the development on the village – for example what impact would it have on the village school. In summary, the key issue is access and preservation of the Holybourne Gap – the theatre proposal is separate from this. Tom Yendell proposed that a special public village meeting should be held to address this matter further and the Chairman agreed to act on this.
6. **Treloar College:** John then welcomed Mandy Wright with six students from Treloar College. Mandy told us that a group has been set up within Treloars to drive for improvements in the area to make it easier and safer for the students. This group is known as the Treloars Action Group (TAG). It has met with David O'Donnell and as a result the pavement by Anstey Park is

already being improved. The group requested HVA support for other changes and offered their assistance on matters such as speed limits.

John Bound expressed HVA delight at a closer relationship with Treloars, and it was agreed that the TAG should be represented on the HVA.

David O'Donnell said that the whole North West Area committee would meet with the TAG. It was suggested that an article by the TAG be included in the magazine.

7. **Break:** The meeting then broke for refreshments and £83.58 was raised from voluntary contributions to the cost of these.
8. **Village Hall:** John Bound praised the Village Hall as a great asset to the village. He explained that John Day, with stalwart help from Margaret Heppenstall and others, had raised £120,000 from the Lottery, Onyx, EHDC and Alton Town Council. John and Audrey Day have now moved to Winchester and John Bound therefore presented him with a certificate giving him Honorary Life Membership of the HVA. John Day made a short acceptance speech and expressed his pleasure at the award.
9. **Social Events:** The Chairman reviewed social events for the year. The Village Picnic run by the Cricket Club with HVA support was considered a great success and the profits were shared between the Cricket Club, the Sports Field Trust and the HVA. The plan is that there will be another next year.
The first Christmas Tree and Carol Singing event was run in early December. There will be another event this year round the Village Christmas Tree on December 12.
10. **Village Shop:** John Bound reported that the village shop is doing well and is a great asset. Tony Lock suggested that the HVA write to Olwyn and David congratulating them. John agreed to do this.
11. **Village Pond:** Nick Cane reported on the establishment last November of the 'Friends of the Pond' and their subsequent activities. A large amount of clearing has been done and trees cut back.
Andrew Lyndon-Skeggs has offered to fund the removal of the fallen ash tree and this offer was gratefully accepted
Alton Town council have agreed a grant of £500 to help fund the renovation of the island and alternative plans are being considered.
Water level remains a concern, as does silting caused by run off from Brockham Hill.
Ownership of the pond is unclear, as is insurance – these issues are being addressed.
Volunteers are always welcome to help - contact Nick Cane.
12. **Village Magazine:** The meeting gave a very positive endorsement to the content and quality of the magazine, now in its second great year.
John Bound encouraged people to use the services of the advertisers.
Janet Cane encouraged people to write articles and to submit them in any form; David Tomlinson asked for input to the Around Holybourne column.
Increased input from the younger villagers should be encouraged.
13. **Village Website:** John Bound reported that the Village Website has now had 4,500 visits. It is an excellent resource with opportunities to have your say, to see the village diary, to discover What's On and to link to planning applications. Dave Budd is the webmaster.
Villagers may request a 'holybourne.com' e-mail address for a small fee.
14. **Village Noticeboard:** The HVA paid for the Village Notice Board to be moved to outside the shop during 2005. A new clock will be installed shortly.
15. **Auditor:** David Matthews was appointed auditor by unanimous vote
16. **Treasurer's report:** In the absence of the Treasurer Vickie Kemp, John Bound presented her report. The magazine account is kept separate from the rest of the association and both accounts

are healthy. Income exceeded expenditure on both accounts in 2004-5. Copies of the accounts are available from the Treasurer.

Diana Mockridge reminded the committee of the need to obtain three estimates for future works funded by the HVA

17. 'Have your say' A brief open forum was held:

- Steve Downes thanked Tom Yendell for his efforts on the Music festival and John Honnor for his contribution to the picnic.
- Tom Yendell announced a plan to run an Arts festival in the village at the same time as similar events at Treloars and Andrews. The dates are March 20 – 27 2006. Helpers are needed for this.
- Jean Honnor and others expressed dissatisfaction with the quality of the recent pavement dressing by HCC. Richard Cutts argued that it was a significant improvement on the state of the pavements before the work.

18. Committee Elections:

- Karen Bennett and Steve Downes were re-elected to the committee.
 - David Tomlinson has resigned. Phil Croucher, Jerry Janes and Tony Lock were proposed and seconded. All were voted on to the committee.
 - This means that, with the addition of a representative from Treloars there are now 14 members of the committee. The constitution restricts the number to 12. Nick Cane therefore proposed a Temporary Constitutional Amendment, subject to formal review at the next AGM, which would allow up to 15 members of the committee. This was passed unanimously by a show of hands.
19. **Chairman:** Nick Cane proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring chairman, John Bound. A new chairman will be elected at the next HVA Committee meeting
20. **Alton 2020:** David Willoughby presented a brief overview of the Alton 2020 plan. He pointed out that it is necessary to think ahead, otherwise plans will be imposed by higher levels of government. The Alton Society have been very active on Alton 2020, and some villages have developed a 'Village Design Statement' which is non-statutory planning advice, but is really listened to. Holybourne should consider developing one.
21. **Close:** John Bound thanked David Willoughby and David O'Donnell for their support of the village in their councillor roles and declared the meeting closed at around 11 p.m.

Minuted by Nick Cane – Acting Secretary.