

HOLYBOURNE VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1974)



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 14th August 2007 at Holybourne Village Hall

Present: Karen Bennett (KB) – Chairman Ben Kemp (BK) – Secretary Phil Croucher (PC)
Vickie Kemp (VK) – Treasurer Lynn Kelly (LK)
David Willoughby (DW) Frank Collett (FC) Nick Cane (NC)
David O'Donnell (DD) John Honnor (JH)

Chris Campbell Gillian Muller John Sharp
David Levene Andrea Levene Jeremy Wood
Pat Lerew Vernon Burford

Tony Whitty (EHDC)

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting opened at 20:05.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from James Bull (JB); Andy Maddock (AM); Jerry Janes (JJ) and Chris Everett. Tom Yendell (TY); Sam Cox (SC) and Stuart Sharky (SS) were also not present.

3. Minutes of July 2007 Meeting

3.1 Agree Minutes

The minutes of the July 2007 meeting were agreed.

3.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3.3 Signing of Minute Book

The committee accepting them as correct, the Chairman signed and dated the minutes of the July 2007 meeting.

4. Planning and Development

4.1 Chandos Lodge

An open discussion took place to gauge public reaction to the inclusion or exclusion of a 16-space car park on the "open space" portion of the Chandos Lodge Development. Points both for and against were raised. The Complins Residents' Association and The Grange Hotel were in favour of a car park to help ameliorate problems with school drop-offs and pick ups. An opposing view was that sixteen extra car park spaces will make virtually no difference, and that drop offs will continue in either London Road or on the Development Access Road. The car park spaces may be used by many people, not only from the new development.

The Complins Residents' Association are in favour of both the car park and part-time traffic lights. The Grange Hotel feels that their car park is being used as a car park for the school, the Queens Head and Anstey Park - all of which have their own parking facilities.

NC expressed a non-concurrence with an idea from the Alton Society, as future pressures to expand the car park will increase overwhelmingly. Eggars will have more children attending; the expansion of Alton will by necessity "generate" more children.

Alton Town Council support the limited social use of an "environmentally friendly" car park sited further back towards the LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play).

It was felt strongly that without the school the problems would not exist, and that therefore the school should at least consider modifying its previous intransigent stance.

4.2 SHIFT Update

KB announced Steve Downes' resignation as chairman of the SHIFT sub-committee. NC volunteered to take the position on. BK seconded. Voting unanimous.

NC reported that some parts are going well, especially the links with Alton Town Partners and Alton Town Design Statement including Holybourne). The canvassing of village opinion has not gone as well as hoped and Complins and the stretch of London Road from Oak Cottage to Mapey's have not yet had their surveys delivered. NC has them and will pass them to the Complins Residents Association for distribution. There has been no article updating SHIFT progress for the forthcoming issue of the Village Magazine. NC will write a letter that he hopes will go in as an insert. He will then convene a SHIFT committee meeting and drive forward progress.

4.3 New Planning Applications

The Kinfauns development in Howards Lane is adding dormer windows at the back overlooking the school. In the current climate of child protection, does this then become "sensitive"? There is no HVA objection to this, but as the school is affected it will go forward to Hampshire County Council.

As SD has resigned from the HVA, a new planning officer is needed. NC proposed JB; he will approach to see if he would like to do it.

Action: NC

5. HVA Members' Forum

5.1 Noise outside The White Hart

As a direct result of the smoking ban and the extended licensing hours, the noise outside The White Hart late at night has increased – i.e. those customers carrying on conversations at the front of the pub whilst smoking. KB offered to mention this to the management on behalf of the resident(s) affected.

Action: KB

5.2 Vandalism

It was observed that incidents of vandalism appear to be on the increase again.

5.3 Village Picnic

LK reminded those present that the Village Picnic and Fun Day is scheduled for Sunday 19th August.

6. Pavement Widening in London Road

It was mentioned that there has been no feedback from JJ's conversation with Tony Ludlow.

Action: JJ

6.1 Actions from Previous Meeting

6.1.1 Consult CPRE on Road Markings

It appears that the stretch of the A32 from West Meon to Wickham will be addressed first. The changes in Selborne are not without issues, the materials used have weathered very poorly and faded badly. This needs to be reconsidered. Jeremy Wood agreed that to look at part of the road in isolation would be wrong, it needs to be considered in its entirety. The whole issue of the parking restriction is being driven by the Police and not by Hampshire County Council. It was suggested that the HVA work in conjunction with Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Constabulary, CPRE, and East Hampshire District Council to ensure that something is done, but it may need to wait until the end of the year. NC will hand out speeding stickers at some point.

6.1.2 Determine if NC and TAG wrote letters to HCC

Pending the outcome of JJ's conversation (above)

7. Friends of the Pond Update

The second eco-island has been built and launched. It is bigger than and a different shape to the first island and the netting has been sewn on to deter the birds, which has worked so far. The plants used are the same as on the first island.

The netting has been removed from the first island and the plants have established well. However, the ducks and geese are now enjoying eating the Iris in particular. The survival of the planting will be monitored over the next few weeks. A model hawk may be put up to deter the birds, but there is not much that can be done to stop them. The netting will be left on the second island for longer.

It is proposed to leave the new island on the south side of the pond (around where it is now) and move the smaller one to between the island and the church. Views would be welcomed, although it can always be changed later if necessary.

On Saturday 11th August a group of volunteers dug the holes for the new fence. It is now in place but will not be concreted in until the EHDC heritage people have given their approval. The gate post is being replaced as well and delivery is awaited. The fence will fade to the same colour as the fence on Church Lane, and should look good in time.

The major works on the island will be done at the end of August or the beginning of September. Permission has been granted to pollard the willow on the island, and this will be done over the winter.

8. Remembrance Day 2007

CE has learnt that Police coverage in Holybourne is unavailable on 11th November which will make traffic control etc. difficult. Fortunately, last year the 11th was a Saturday, but the Alton Ceremony will continue to be a complication for us from this year onwards. The only viable alternative is to have the ceremony a day earlier than Alton. It is proposed that the Ceremony is now to be held at 11 am on Saturday 10th November. CE will ring those involved about the changes necessary - it may be possible to have a band. Traffic was felt to be a nuisance last year and CE has spoken to Steve Downes about whether London Road could be closed during the ceremony. If the HVA would formally support closure, then on CE's return from holiday he and KB could approach the HCC, ATC etc.

9. Holybourne Archive

A drop-in morning is being held between 10am and 12pm on 20th September. It has to be held during school hours which is the only problem with the School's very kind offer to house the Archive. Other details will be clarified by CE with the Governors and HVA, as Stuart Adlam has left.

10. Any Other Business

Roger Dobson's memorial service will be held on 6th September. As a former and very active member of the HVA committee, LK proposed a donation to the nominated charities, which are the Children's Liver Disease Foundation and St Michael's Hospice, Basingstoke. A sum of £30 was agreed.

The SHIFT Questionnaire has not been distributed to anywhere "beyond" the London Road/Montecchio Way junction. Is this correct?

Vernon Burford conveyed belated apologies for not having attended the July meeting.

Dave Budd is standing down as magazine editor at the end of the year and a successor needs to be sought urgently. In addition to this he is also relinquishing the post of Holybourne.com webmaster and "What's On" e-newsletter publisher. This could lead to the cessation of a valuable and interesting resource if not addressed.

Crime Warnings have been issued by EHDC concerning Rogue Tarmac layers and "Cold Callers" requesting the divulgence of bank details over the phone. Advice is to contact the police using their 101 number.

11. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 21:49

12. Date of next meeting

The next HVA Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 11th September 2007 at 8.00pm in Holybourne Village Hall. It would be much appreciated if agenda items could be forwarded to the secretary by Sunday 9th September. Anything after this will be held over until the next meeting. A final agenda will be issued the day prior to the meeting. Please forward apologies for absence, if necessary, to the secretary. E-mail secretary.hva@holybourne.com

Ben Kemp
Secretary,
Holybourne Village Association