

Holybourne Village Association

(Founded 1974)



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 9th February 2010 at Holybourne Village Hall

Present: Vernon Burford (VB) Phil Croucher (PC) Ben Kemp (BK)
Glynis Watts (GW) Barrie Lawrence (BL) James Bull (JB)
Vickie Kemp (VK) Treasurer David Willoughby (DW) Steve Downes (SD)

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting opened at 20.02 hrs with BK in the chair.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: - Karen Bennett, Tom Yendell, David Godfrey and Nick Cane.

David Tomlinson, Andy Maddock, Jerry Janes and Pat Lerew were unable to attend.

3. Minutes of August 2009 Meeting

- 3.1 Agree minutes of January 2010 Meeting.
The minutes of the meeting were approved
- 3.2 Matters arising from the minutes.
None.
- 3.3 Signing of the minutes.
The minutes remain to be signed by (KB) Chairman.

4. Coors/Anstey Park

- 4.1 Overall it was agreed that there is huge resistance in Holybourne to the Coors/Anstey Park proposal and JB agreed to email Alton Town Council to this effect on behalf of the HVA. Jill Jackson and Les Jackson kindly attended the meeting to ably present some of the local views on this issue.
- 4.2 The Jacksons have lived in the village for 13 years and the whole family has been able to enjoy what they refer to as Alton's 'jewel in the crown'. The children learnt to ride their bikes, play rounders, fly kites, and kick a ball around. Their son joined in with scouting activities, but because he was less physically able than most he was unable to join organised football clubs. More recently (with permission) they have been able to join up with friends for barbecues. Jill feels safe enough to walk the dog on her own as there are always many other people doing likewise. If they have to resort to walking along dark, narrow paths, with overhanging trees, the ethos of the area will be lost forever. The Jacksons and their neighbours in Complins will feel the worst of the impact of noise and light pollution from the floodlit pitch which, coupled with potential amplified music from the clubhouse could continue until very late at night and all weekend.
- 4.3 SD did not see why we should be pressured into accepting the Coors/Anstey Park plan. JB believes that there is no need for three pitches, and that the space should remain open and not fenced in. Also there is concern that fire engines and ambulances would have trouble in getting through at the top of Diggers. Parking will become a real problem and there are no plans to provide additional parking facilities. It is understood that Alton has to change and grow but, especially with the Chandos development on the horizon, the area needs more hectares of open space not less. Seven hectares of open space will be lost if the Coors/Anstey Park plan is allowed to go ahead.
- 4.4 Alton Youth Football Club needs some space but this is the wrong location and it should be located elsewhere. It was agreed that probably 99% of the people in the village oppose the plan and, as JB pointed out, once again the 'strategic gap' is under threat. GW stated that the plan would still need EHDC approval. However, it was felt that this did not alter the fact that, if Alton Town Council goes the first step of granting the licence, it would likely be the thin edge of a very big wedge. If Coors wish to raise money by selling their land (it is understood that this land is not used for their core business) then maybe Alton Town Council could buy the space from them.

5. Planning and Development

- 5.1 Nick Cane is having a new front gate erected.
- 5.2 The Treloar lodge will be demolished. Detailed planning for Treloars goes for approval in March.
- 5.3 The Tesco application has been rejected. Tesco will appeal against this.

6. HVA Members Open Forum (note, items for the Open Forum may be time-limited by the Chairman)

- 6.1 Vicky Coomer reported that for the last three to four weeks the back gates at Treloars have only been open on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons. It is hoped that this practice will continue as pedestrians in Howards Lane have been feeling much safer as a result of the much-reduced levels of traffic.
- 6.2 BL wished to know whether the Shift report should form part of the next magazine. It was agreed that the Shift report should be issued separately.
- 6.3 Vicky Coomer expressed an interest in becoming a member of the HVA committee. On a show of hands it was agreed that she should be co-opted on to the committee until the next AGM when she can be formally voted on for a further three years.
- 6.4 DW raised the matter of the potential placement of a bench by a Holybourne footpath. It was finally agreed that it should be placed at a gap on Brockham Hill below the copse. It was accepted that this is a location in Froyle, so ATC will liaise with Froyle concerning this possibility. DW reminded the meeting this was only a suggestion by the footpath working party and funding was usually provided by donation, often as a memoriam.

7. A31 Traffic Noise

- 7.1 GW said this is a HCC matter. The fact remains that the road was there before the houses and therefore not much could be done about it. GW agreed to ask whether it is practical to have a quieter road surface.

8. Remembrance Day Funding

- 8.1 GW has passed a form for the music license to KB. This license will cost £30.
- 8.2 VK reported that there has been a generous anonymous donation of £150 to pay for the music.

9. Treasurers Report

- 9.1 VK reported that the current account will soon be increased by advertising revenue from the web site. It appears that there is sufficient in the magazine fund. BL said that this was enough for him to be able to produce two magazines of 32 pages and one magazine of 36 pages.

10. Any Other Business

- 10.1 JB stated that there would be a meeting at the Village Hall on 10 February for a presentation from Linden Homes by the PR Company Remarkable Marketing. JB urged as many people as possible to attend and object to the proposed change of plan in that they now propose to build a further 11 houses instead of the low-level industrial units originally proposed and agreed to.
- 10.2 VK reported that there will be the usual litter pick again this year but no date has yet been set for this.

11. Date of next meeting

- 11.1 Date of the next HVA meeting, Tuesday 9th March 2010.

12. Close of Meeting

- 12.1 The meeting closed at 21.30 hrs.