

HOLYBOURNE VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1974)



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 8th May 2007 at Holybourne Village Hall

Present: Ben Kemp (BK) – Secretary Phil Croucher (PC) Vickie Kemp (VK) – Treasurer
James Bull (JB) John Honnor (JH) Lynn Kelly (LK)
Frank Collett (FC) Sam Cox (TAG) Nick Cane (NC)

Chris Everett Rebecca Hare Mandy Wallis
Vernon Burford

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting opened at 20:03. In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, NC was asked to take the chair.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Andy Maddock (AM); Steve Downes (SD); Karen Bennett (KB); David O'Donnell (DD); Tom Yendell (TY); David Willoughby (DW); and Stuart Sharky (SS). Jerry Janes (JJ) was unable to be present.

3. Minutes of April 2007 Meeting

3.1 Agree Minutes

The minutes of the April 2007 meeting were agreed.

3.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising, apart from a query as to whether KB has sent a letter of thanks to the Burfords.

3.3 Signing of Minute Book

The signing of the minutes of the April 2007 meeting were deferred until either the Chairman has recovered from her illness or the vice-chairman returns from holiday.

4. Planning and Development

4.1 Proposed Parking Restriction in London Road

NC reported that a number of objections had been raised to this proposal. DD spoke to the police who agreed to drop the proposal on condition that Holybourne residents agree to a complete review of traffic and speeding on London Road. It was suggested that the HVA should consult DD as to what happens now, as the next steps are undefined.

Action: DD

4.2 Chandos Lodge Development Update

NC reported that there have been two meetings held in the last ten days. The first was attended by EHDC, HCC Traffic, Persimmon and Wolf Planning. SD and NC also attended on behalf of the HVA. Persimmon state that the access has been proposed across the balloon field because EHDC and HCC directed them to do so. EHDC and HCC state that the resident planners told them to do this. However, this has been denied. The EHDC Traffic Representative seemed uncomfortable that the public were present at the meeting, however all parties remained polite and courteous and all made their positions clear. In two or three weeks the EHDC Planning Committee will review the entire planning application. It is uncertain how traffic lights will be implemented in London Road (the Eggar's Slip Road and Complins were ignored in the simulation as it was insufficiently sophisticated). HCC went away to look again at the traffic and to determine the reasons for the rejection of the Claines exit proposal. EHDC also went away to do this, and it was felt that DD presented the local views very well.

The second meeting featured no Alton Town Council participants, but there were several people from EHDC, Persimmon, the HVA, the CPRE and the Complins Residents Committee, and focussed entirely on the access issue. EHDC stated that their job was to review the planning application solely as presented. It was emphasised that there is a possible alternative access via Claines, that the proposed traffic solution ignores Complins and the Eggars Slip Road; that the traffic survey carried out was inadequate; that this will be the first set of traffic lights (as opposed to pedestrian crossings) in Alton; and that it will damage Alton contrary to established guidelines. It appeared that EHDC have received this message very clearly. At this stage in the process it is felt that we have done all we can do to get our voices heard.

Persimmon are under pressure as their ten-year option on the land expires this year. Pressure has been brought to bear for them to resurvey the traffic properly and redesign the junction. There are, however, no guarantees that this will affect the ultimate outcome. The next meeting

will be the EHDC planning meeting in June. If this is a public meeting this will need to be publicised as it is very important.
NC stressed that we have behaved rationally and objectively rather than emotionally and as a result of this we are in a good light with the planning authorities.

4.3 SHIFT Update

The questionnaire has now been printed and is in the process of actually being distributed by volunteers. Some have been returned completed already. A query was raised as the date on the cover letter mentions March. This should be amended to June. Relief was expressed that this is at last moving forward.

4.4 New Planning Applications

There were no significant planning applications brought before the HVA Committee.
Mention was made of the wall by The Priory, it appears that the replacement flintwork has to match the existing flintwork and therefore has to appear "imperfect".
It was also mentioned that work has commenced on the Kinfauns site in Howards Lane.

5. HVA Members Forum

5.1 Action from Previous Meeting: Alton Live Music Festival

The Music festival is not happening this year but will be back in 2008. It appears it was left too late to organise it. Scott Wright will be the chief organiser in 2008.

5.2 Members' Forum

No items were submitted for discussion at the Members' Forum.

6. CPRE

NC reminded those present that the HVA is a member of the CPRE and that he acts as our representative. He sought committee approval for both to continue and this was agreed. NC said that he would in future forward correspondence from the CPRE to the HVA Committee.

7. Litter and Fly Tipping

7.1 Action from Previous Meeting: Fly Tipping in field next to The Haw Bridge

JJ not present; carried forward.

Action: JJ

7.2 Annual Litter Pick

JH reported that the litter pick was successful and that year on year the amount of debris seems to be decreasing as this year there was "only" half a trailer full to be taken to the dump. There will be another session immediately prior to the Flower Festival. The worst place in the village is the bus shelter, containing broken glass and cigarette ends. Moves are afoot by certain Eggars students to raise awareness of the problems caused by litter.

8. Community First

Community First is an organisation in Hampshire which connects voluntary organisations and gives advice on fundraising etc. They have asked NC if the HVA would like to register with them. NC obtained agreement to do this.

Action: NC

9. Pavement Widening in London Road

The meeting was informed that DD was to bring up this subject at an EHDC meeting last Monday. DD had sent apologies so there was no update. BK will write to DD and JJ checking on the status of this.

Action: BK

10. Speed Stickers

NC has secured a limited supply of yellow "Slow Down" stickers that he will distribute to strategic places along London Road. These are suitable for fixing to bins etc.

Action: NC

11. Speeding Article in Magazine

NC has written an article for the recent issue of the village magazine concerning speeding. The suggestion is of gaining the use of a speed indicating device, cars going too fast will make it flash, their registrations can then be noted down and the police contact them. The article is to gauge opinion on this idea. However caution must be exercised in case this provokes confrontation with road rage sufferers. There was also concern that the article could miss its target audience who are the "motorised jobs" speeding through the village – whether they be the salesman using Holybourne as a short cut or the 4x4 running late on the school run.

12. Friends of the Pond Update

It was reported that the island cannot be rebuilt at present as there is simply too much water. There is a goose nest on the island but as both geese are female the eggs will be thrown away. The moorhens are breeding; but there only seem to be male ducks (drakes?)
The plan to put in the eco-islands is being progressed and this will happen in the next six weeks. Everything is ready to go and the contractor keen! The oak fence planned for the north side of the pond now requires a full diocesan decision with public notice and a 28-day appeal process. This will run along the side to the bench. FC asked about the trees around the banks but these have tree protection orders on them. However the ivy on these trees needs further investigation as it could be severely damaging the trees, rendering them potentially unsafe. This could then become a Health and Safety issue. NC will follow up.

Action: NC

13. Any Other Business

13.1 Treasurer's Report

The treasurer was asked for an update on the HVA funds. VK reported that these are in a good state at the moment, however a number of bills are due in and projects for which funding secured about to kick in so these will start to decrease quite dramatically in the near future.

13.2 Holybourne Archives

Chris Everett said that he thought that the HVA logo is good and the Magazine brilliant. The Archives are being established in a room at Andrew's Endowed School, if anyone has anything that they think should be considered for archival please let Chris know.

13.3 Remembrance Day 2007

Chris Everett said that this would be the last year he would organise the Remembrance Day commemoration. It will be on the Sunday itself this year, and may therefore clash with the "main event" being held in Alton. He has a couple of offers of help and of people to provide a "presence". It is uncertain as to whether the vicar would be able to attend in light of his other commitments. Nonetheless it was felt that it should be planned for the Sunday and that progress should be reviewed later on.

13.4 Land adjoining Rakemakers/Mapey's

The weeds in this "amenity land" have now reached almost a metre in height. LK has contacted the council again to draw this to their attention. PC suggested asking EHDC if the HVA can take it on. LK will ask if the HVA can become responsible for tending it.

Action: LK

13.5 Village Picnic

This is scheduled for 12:00 on 27th May. Meetings are being held to go through various ideas and issues. Tickets should be on sale in the Village Shop imminently. Gazebo plots are for sale, but admission fees will also be per head this year.

13.6 Open Gardens

This will take place on 23rd/24th June, mainly driven by the Church as it is on behalf of the Church Wall Funds. There will be a charity cricket match on the Sunday afternoon. Refreshments in the form of a bar and barbecue will be available, some of the money will go to the church wall fund and some to other causes. There is no car boot sale planned this time.

13.7 Vandalism

NC reported that BK had written an article on vandalism (for some reason published as a letter) for the last issue of the Village Magazine. On the day of the litter picking a terracotta flowerpot had been transported a considerable distance and thrown through a car windscreen. These senseless random acts appear to be on the increase and we should remain vigilant.

13.8 Alton Town Design Statement

No-one has created a town design statement before but those responsible for Alton's have really made sound progress. NC wrote some design guidelines which were circulated to SHIFT and will circulate these to the wider HVA committee, to obtain any input, observations or disagreement. NC stated that in the last few months the ATDS team have really got on with it and whereas the Holybourne Village Design Statement was previously ahead in development terms, it is now behind.

14. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 21:22.

15. Date of next meeting

The next HVA Committee meeting is on Tuesday 12th June 2007 at 8.00pm in Holybourne Village Hall. It would be much appreciated if agenda items could be forwarded to the secretary by Saturday 9th May. Anything after this will be held over until the next meeting. A final agenda will be issued the day before the meeting. Please forward apologies for absence, if necessary, to the secretary. E-mail secretary.hva@holybourne.com

Ben Kemp
Secretary,
Holybourne Village Association