

Holybourne Village Association

Minutes of meeting of HVA held by Zoom 13th April 2021

Present: David Houghton (Chair), Jerry Janes (minute taker), Vickie Kemp, Pat Lerew, Rob Law, Julia Wood, Nick Wood, John Rapley.

Ex-officio: Cllrs, Andrew Joy HCC & Graham Hill EHDC +ATC

Apologies: Kate Carmichael, Peter Packham, Kellie-Jayne Cox, Carey Robertson, Ruth and Gordon Randall.

2.1 Minutes of last meeting agreed and to be signed by Secretary

4.1 Parking and Traffic in the village. GH has put together a small group to consider the issue and they would be meeting for the first time on 14.4.21. Mr David Allan had agreed to assist and had already considered Huw Ross's report.

Final comments on the proposed parking restrictions in Holybourne had been received and processed and local councillors had been asked for their responses. Councillors were looking for a response from the HVA and the Chair read out our agreed original statement in response to the proposals. JJ reiterated that the position of the committee had not changed and councillors could take their steer from that. Both Councillors welcomed that statement as to follow any other course of action would they felt, be to condone something that was unsafe, contrary to the Highway Code and potentially illegal. GH reported that the complete process was likely to take another five months or so.

4.2 Assets of community value

The process was continuing with the pub though current reopening was resulting in Lorne Carey being too busy to progress things at the moment. It is something they will return to. The issue of the shop has been dropped and the committee welcomed the new owners and wished them a successful time in Holybourne.

David Houghton reported on his negotiations with the new owners and agent of Froyle Estates. The owners Red Brown Ltd had described themselves as "Legacy Land Owners" who were interested in long term benefits rather than short term gains. They were keen to continue the lease of the sports field and the committee felt that this should be negotiated by a new Trust, under the auspices of the HVA committee rather than by the outgoing current board of trustees. It would be the new Trust after all, that would have to deal with the ongoing management and Pat Lerew urged caution when negotiating so as not to take on unforeseen problems. David Houghton is going to approach the current trustees to make our position known to them.

5.1 Planning matters

Several applications has been made for household extensions but nothing with which the committee might wish to get involved. Pat Lerew drew attention to the need for vigilance regarding the recently cleared area adjacent to the Jehovah Witness's site.

GH reported that there was nothing new to report on the Local Plan or with the Veolia application.

5.4 Pat Lerew reported on ADRA's raison d'être and requested that we try to find someone to help her represent the village on their committee. DH undertook to continue the search. She reported that the last meeting was on March 23rd and the next one is on 20th April; that it is not getting a lot

of support from other RAs at present but it was thought by those which did that it was important to have such a group which was non-political. This comment was endorsed by the local councillors present.

6 Holybourne Events

6.1 SummerFest – Sally Lloyd had contacted DH and JJ to express her surprise about plans for a SummerFest as the Sports Field Trust knew nothing about it. JJ explained that he had been in touch with Sally to point out that until central government advice was clarified nothing would be planned. He recognised the Cricket Club's prior claim to the Sports Field and if the SummerFest goes ahead it might be necessary to find an alternative venue if the Sports Field was already in use.

7 Village Communications

7.1 DH congratulated JJ on the latest issue of the magazine. JJ pointed out he had now been editor for almost three years and while he enjoyed the role very much, it might be time, in the interests of editorial freshness, to look for a successor in the not too distant future.

8.1 Treasurer's report: Current balance in bank is £4, 409.23. In addition, once advertising receipts has been received from the magazine, an additional £4K would be deposited. Outgoings would reduce our balance to about £7.5K.

Discussion took place about whether to pursue payment from the White Hart and the village shop for their current advertisements. Given the current situation regarding pub and the fact that the shop was now under new ownership it was suggested that the Magazine Editor might like to think about waiving the fee for this issue. If this was to be the case, then Julia Wood suggested the same ought to apply to the Queen's Head who should be offered a free advertisement. DH suggested this should be an editorial decision.

8.2 Friends of the Pond – John Rapley has produced a draft document suggesting a way forward for the management of the pond and those with whom it had been shared were both complimentary and welcoming. He has requested feedback on the draft document within two weeks so that he can update the document and HVA could endorse it at the next meeting before taking it to a wider consultation. He felt the pond does not achieve its potential as a central focal point of the village and GH offered to involve professional agencies with experience in the relevant pond management and fund raising areas to assist. GH was asked when ATC would take over management of the pond and he would investigate this with the relevant council committee. It was pointed out that local residents to Kings Pond are not required to fund its maintenance. PL asked for some financial information to go with John's report and made very strong representation that it was not for an RA as we are to be expected to fund the major work needed to dredge the pond; that ATC should take on the responsibility for the pond before, not after the work was done.

8.4 Rob Law reported on Flood issues in the village and it was noted that drain clearance had taken place in several areas. HCC has been made aware of the flooding issue of Church Lane and AJ commented that it had been logged but many issues were to be considered, such as the new land owners, the new farmer etc.

8.5 Church. Though strictly not a church matter, Ruth Randall had again asked the HVA to publicise the need for people to follow the advice of the Highway Code when walking through the village, particularly at night. It was noted that there was an article in the latest magazine on this very issue. She also drew attention to the dangerous state of the wall bordering the Priory which appeared close to collapse. AJ suggested that it was reported to HCC Highways.

Church services have now resumed but without any singing.

AOB. Michael Hall had done a super job of trimming foliage at the top of Cranford Drive and negotiations are taking place to see if HCC or EHDC would remove the offcuts. He had begun to clear up the area adjacent to the sports field before recognising the fact it was more than he could manage. He wondered if HVA might like to combine a clear up effort with a community litter pick? Vickie Kemp would coordinate.

Complins Trees: HCC tree cutting team had visited Complins that morning, had only attended to a few bramble bushes and not touched the trees which were the reason PL had brought the problem to a previous HVA meeting. AJ agreed to take note.

Date of next meeting: May 11th