

Holybourne Village Association

Founded 1974

12th October 2021 AGM MINUTES

Committee Members	David Houghton (Chair); Vickie Kemp (Treasurer); Kate Carmichael (Secretary); Jerry Janes (Magazine); Julia Wood; Rob Law; Pat Lerew; Carey Robertson; Kellie-Jayne Cox; John Rapley
Ex Officio	Graham Hill (EHDC and ATC),
Village Members	Caroline Wallis, Andy Muir, Julia Muir, Marcus Pilleau, Chris Sawyer, Mary Hill, Richard Hill, Andrew Gisl, Vanessa Girl, John Dayer, Mick Lavery, Marianne Lavery, Ben Kemp, Jane Davies, Jane Brown, Lynn Kelley, Richard Kelly, Tom Main, Alan Armstrong, Corinne Armstrong, Brian Gostelow, Noreen Gostelow.

No	Item
1	Opening of Meeting and Apologies for Absence Apologies from Andrew Joy, David Tomlinson, Sally Turner
2	Minutes of Last Meeting Agree Minutes of 47th AGM held on 13th October 2020 Minutes were agreed and signed and approved.
3	<p>Talk from Alistair Emery from Belport (the Estate Management company for Redbrown, what was Froyle Estate) alistair@belport.uk</p> <p>Alistair gave a little bit of background. He and his partner, Charles Buckley, set up Belport in 2016. They are both from farming backgrounds. They manage about 30,000 acres of farmland and buy farms and estates as a portfolio operation across the country. The purpose of their investment in Froyle is long term. They will be looking to where they can improve farming systems and where they can invest in better infrastructure. They will also be looking for opportunities where they can add value through residential or industrial development or through renewables. They want to work with the community to understand local needs and to see how this can be delivered whilst also adding value to the property they manage. Questions were invited from the floor.</p> <p>Q. Is the shoot going to continue? A. Yes, this has been taken back and Paul now works for them. There have been 3 successful days and there are another 30 to come.</p> <p>Q. John Rapley advised that the village are looking to improve the ecological status of the pond. One of the things needed to do is to dredge it. If we can find somewhere local to put the risings, this would make it cheaper. Would Belport be able to help with this? There will be about 8000 cubic metres of silt? This is silt that comes off the land and highway and into the pond and which chokes the wildlife in the pond. The spoils last time were spread on Manor Farm. A. In principle, Alastair said he wouldn't have an issue but would need to look at how and where it could go. He is happy to look at this further. John Rapley to send the report through to him and to discuss further.</p> <p>Q. Graham Hill thanked Alastair on behalf of the Town Council for renewing the lease on the play area. This is particularly important because new play equipment is being installed. However, could the Town Council be given permission to plant trees in the playground to provide shade and add to the landscaping? Furthermore, the County Council have a target to plant 1 tree per person in Hampshire, so 120,000 trees. Looking at (what was) Froyle Estate in its entirety, is there anywhere that the Council could plant trees as part of this plan? A. With regards to the playground area, Alistair is happy to receive a proposal for the playground. Graham Hill will send him this. In terms of the wider tree planting, Belport will be looking at their own forestry, they have 600+ acres of woodland, and looking to see where they can plant additional trees, so this may work with the Council's plans.</p>

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	<p>Q . What is the overall environmental improvement system for the site? A. Belport will map all the farms and areas that are not productive will be put into countryside stewardship schemes so that there will be breaks in the field to bring wildlife back. The machinery now used is designed not to cultivate deeply in the ground and respects the soil structure. They are in the process of analysing how successful that is at the moment.</p> <p>Q. What are the plans for Manor Farm? A. Belport want to centralise the operation and Manor Farm is too small for the new machinery used. Development is an option but it won't be used for farming.</p> <p>Q. With regards to the sports field, would there be a potential for a longer term lease as applying for grants for it is difficult when the lease is short term. A. The lease is coming up for renewal at the end of the year. In principle this will be renewed. The term hasn't been agreed yet, Belport just need to make sure they cover costs.</p> <p>Q. Bonhams has been sold. What is going to happen to the barn? A. The barn at the moment is being used for the shoot and the grain store next to it is also redundant so it is maybe something to look at for development. The barn would stay.</p> <p>Q. Tom Main has grazed land on the estate, is that an arrangement that can continue? A. Alistair needs to know the specifics but if it is not something that impacts on the operation, they will be happy to consider it. Alistair asked Tom to send the details to him with a proposal.</p> <p>Q. The tenant farmer used to supply a bale of straw for the bonfire. Could we have one of the bales? A. Alistair invited Rob to help himself to a bale. Tom Main offered to help as well.</p> <p>Q. What is Belport's attitude to maintaining footpaths and will any footpaths taken over be reinstated? A. Alistair will impress upon his team that footpaths need to be marked. Footpaths are a sensitive thing. There are permissive paths that have been inherited and representations are being made on those footpaths, so a tougher stance will have to be taken on those. Those coming to end of the countryside stewardship scheme may not be kept on. Statutory footpaths however are there to be used and Alistair will make sure they are marked out.</p> <p>Looking forward, Alistair reiterated that community is key. He asked that any proposals or requests be put forward to him via e mail. He would like to work with the community rather than against it.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Annual audited accounts The closing balance is £5735.23. A loss was made last year as the fireworks were paid for but bonfire night not held so the money was not reimbursed. However, the fireworks are there for this year now, so no money has had to be paid out and we should therefore get some money back in from bonfire night ticket sales. The accounts were proposed, accepted and seconded.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Annual committee report The minutes of the last year's meetings are available to read on the village website.</p> <p>David Houghton thanked Julia for her help and support as vice chair, Kate as secretary and Vicki as treasurer. He also thanked the Councillors who are very good attenders of the HVA meetings and the HVA are very appreciative of their efforts. David also thanked Rob for organising the fireworks and Adrian for organising the remembrance. Carols will be on Wednesday 22nd December. Alistair has agreed to donate a Christmas tree.</p>

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6	<p>Election of Committee Members - roles to be agreed at next HVA meeting in November Three committee members who have finished current 3 year term - Peter Lowe, Jerry Janes and Rob Law. Jerry and Rob are happy to continue for another term. David Houghton proposed that Andy Muir becomes a committee member. This was accepted and seconded. David is standing down as chair. Julia Wood proposed Kellie-Jayne for chair and Vickie seconded. Kellie-Jayne will take over at the next meeting.</p>
7	<p>Auditor Angie Moulton was proposed by David and seconded.</p>
8	<p>Holybourne Cup This was awarded to Rob Law</p> <p>AGM part of the meeting closed.</p>
9	<p>Other issues raised</p> <p>- Drainage problems Rob Law explained that the regular routine of clearing drains hasn't been happening regularly. There is a new contract out and we are in the system to have the drains dredged. However, at this time of year, leaf fall is a big problem so if anyone sees a drain blocked, please try and clear it. Graham Hill explained that there is a website on the Hampshire County Council site where these problems can be reported. If there are still issues having used this site, please e mail Graham or Andrew Joy. Graham Hill also gave an update on the London Road drainage issues. Some work was carried out 2 or 3 weeks ago but the workers came across new problems. Some parts of the drainage system were broken and some silted up. The situation has been made worse temporarily but the worker should be back by the end of October to solve the problem. Graham is keeping an eye on this. Tom Main asked where the overflow will run after the work as it runs down Upper Neatham Lane at the moment. Graham doesn't know but he asked Tom to e mail him and he will pass it on to the contractors.</p> <p>- Village Magazine David Houghton thanked Jerry for editing magazine. Jerry will be standing down at the end of the year, so someone needs to take over the editorship of the magazine. Kay Tomlinson will also be standing down from the advertising role on the magazine, so David asked for volunteers for that role as well.</p> <p>- Lidl Development Pat Lerew explained the problem with the proposed Lidl development (which was the proposed 'Tesco' development before this. Planning permission has gone through for this development but there is concern about the pavement. Tesco were going to put a pavement on both sides. However, the proposal in the planning that has been accepted, is to put the footpath on just one side - the Holybourne side. This would mean that people would end up walking along the road and crossing at an unregulated crossing, so no traffic lights. Graham Hill advised that this is very contentious and he believes it to be highly dangerous as it stands. He and Andrew Joy are working with Highways and the developers to ensure this does not happen. He explained that the other footpath in the planning permission, to Mill Lane and up Anstey Mill Lane, already exists and that will be improved at the developer's expense. He also added that traffic lights are also planned on the industrial estate on the junction to Montecchio Way.</p> <p>- Local Plan The focus is now on getting evidence to justify the sites on the list. Neatham Down is not on the list. If sites do not meet the relevant criteria, they will not go on the list.</p> <p>- Alton Neighbourhood Plan The Alton Neighbourhood plan, which includes Holybourne, was produced about 6 years ago. It was recently updated and will be going in front of the council for ratification in a month. It can be found on the Town Council website.</p>

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	<p>- Traffic Lights There was a discussion on the number of traffic lights between the A31 and Anstey Road, with more proposed. It was noted that they were intelligent not synchronised traffic lights.</p> <p>- Bonfire Night The posters will go up this weekend. Tickets will be on sale from this weekend from the shop and the pub. It is to be advertised on the website and on facebook.</p> <p>- Remembrance Remembrance is going ahead. Posters have gone up already. There will be a parade.</p>
10	Closure of meeting – Date of next AGM 11th October 2022