

# Holybourne Village Association

Founded 1974

13<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## Minutes

Committee Members	Jerry Janes, Vanessa Gist, Andy Muir*, Sam Dalton, Rob Law, Stuart Hunt, Megan-Beth Millar, Pat Lerew.
Ex Officio	Don Hammond (ATC); Cllr Graham Hill (EHDC and ATC); Cllr Andrew Joy (HCC)*
Holybourne Members	(* = from item 3)

No	Item	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Opening of Meeting and Apologies for Absence</b>	
1.1	Jerry opened the meeting Apologies were received from Vanessa Gist, Jan Morgan (who has resigned)	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b>	
2.1	The July Minutes were not marked as final so no available for approval. Some discussion was had concerning items in the minutes which could be pertinent to developers and as such should be redacted from publically available minutes. Many of the WhatsApp ideas may also be attached to minutes so that there is a permanent record of these too. JJ speak to AM	JJ/AM
2.2	Matters Arising none.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Members Open Forum</b>	
	No issues were raised	
<b>4</b>	<b>Current Issues Events and Projects (re-ordered from agenda)</b>	
4.1	Village Picnic/Fête: Congratulations were given to MBM for organising this event which was liked by all. Feedback from one of the small stall holders was that it was the best event for them this year. It was agreed that we should contact both the Sports Field Trust and the Cricket Club to agree the date of next year's event now (as soon as possible) so that we have greater confidence in planning. . It was noted that the stall holders donated 10% of their income to help the organisational costs and should the cricket club have done the same for the bar? JJ noted that the cricket club struggled to find bar staff and actually only took ~£70 so was not good for them. Maybe with a firm date known well in advance this would not be an issue. Summing up we had £200 donated to the bank account, £145 from the WI (ear-marked for the defibrillator) and £110 in cash with MBM waiting to be deposited. (See item 7.2)	MBM /RL/JJ
4.2	Fireworks:- these are now ordered and paid for as is the deposit for the loos. The invoice from St John's has been received. The date of the display is Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November with the usual publicity to be arranged nearer the time. A bucket will be circulated to get donations for the renewal of the defibrillator battery	
4.3	Treasurer:- Our recent treasurer has resigned and has also left the village (see item 7.2 for fuller details.)	
<b>5</b>	<b>Planning and Development Issues in and around Holybourne / Alton</b>	
5.1	New application 130 London Road demolish and rebuild outbuilding. (Building is just before the field gate on the path by the old Wesley Chapel). No issues raised.	
5.2	Application 60102/001 – 3 detached houses with garages on land adjacent to Westbrook House, 17 Howards Lane, Holybourne, Alton This is a revised application from the original 4 houses, however it still does not meet the ANP and	

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5.3	<p>local plan criteria for development within the Holybourne Church Lane conservation area. Comments have been noted. (Currently undecided.) ANP. In parallel to this the applicant has raised an appeal against the decision of the first application (60102) which is now under consideration. A copy of the applicant's appeal comments are attached with the minutes. (Sec – if this appeal succeeds then the planning rules of the existing ANP will be broken and there will be implications.)</p> <p><b>Local Plan and ANP</b> The ATC decided to progress the ANP to Regulation 14 but defer the delivery date until such time as the town can provide feedback on alternative plans and ideas. In the meantime however the change on government has brought a shake-up of the house-building objectives meaning the housing requirement for East Hampshire is to rise from 574 to 1074 per annum. The renders the entire ANP and Local Plan objectives out of date. The ATC and the ANP group will meet on 29<sup>th</sup> August in order to draft a reply to central govt. Cllr Richard Millard,(Leader, East Hampshire District Council) has already sent a letter to Ms A Rayner (Govt) stating EHDC objections/position with regard to these proposed policy rules (also attached). Meanwhile EHDC planning are desperately trying to progress a valid local plan.</p>	
6	<p><b>Village Communications</b></p> <p>6.1 The website: Nothing new to report. As noted before, as the website is in the public domain it is open to perusal by local developers. It may be prudent therefore to restrict some of the planning sensitive issues. AM to action</p> <p>6.2 Magazine: The magazine editorial is behind schedule and the summer edition will be printed later than expected. Publication date hasn't been confirmed yet.</p> <p>6.3 FB Holybourne Community Group keeping abreast of things. WhatsApp- a much more proactive group for local activities.</p> <p>6.4 The village noticeboard is back in place. Sam Dalton is key-holder and will clear out old notices and should be contacted to have new notices displayed.</p> <p>6.5 As usual this time of year there is a reduction in services in August. A lunch and chat event was held on 14<sup>th</sup> August.</p>	AM
7	<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <p>7.1 Chair: - I have held numerous meetings with various bodies and individuals. The group set up to offer alternative allocations to those proposed in the Draft ANP has met weekly and submitted our proposals towards the end of July. That document went to all Town Councillors with the following two proposals:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alton Town Council should pause the Alton Neighbourhood Plan process immediately pending further information regarding the Local Plan from EHDC and should not proceed to Regulation 14 consultation in September 2024.</li> <li>2. Alton Town Council should instruct the Alton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to work only within the remit set by the draft Local Plan. This means allocating sites for 130 dwellings in brownfield town centre space and for an additional 245 dwellings (unless these additional 245 dwellings are added to the Neatham Down development within the Local Plan).</li> </ol> <p>This contrasts with the 1,348 dwellings proposed by the draft ANP. What we argued was that given the preference expressed by EHDC in their response in the September consultation to see Neatham Down developed and reiterated to us in a private meeting with the Planning Policy Manager at EHDC in the last month, we would suggest that only those sites identified in the draft Local Plan need be acted on. I am meeting with the Town Council again on the 29th of this month to outline our reaction to the letter sent to all Planning Authorities by the Minister of State for Housing and Communities in which she raises the number required in East Hampshire by almost 100%. This not only rejects our own recommendation but that of the draft ANP and the Local Plan too. It's back to the drawing board for us all and we await the reaction of the Planning Authority. What it makes clear however is that the ANP work should be paused until the draft Local Plan is published, which is likely we are told, to be before the end of the year. There is no rush to produce an ANP as Alton remains protected until December 2026 from</p>	

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	<p>speculative development by the current ANP. I very much hope that we are able to persuade the Town Council to support us in this view.</p> <p>I also now represent the village on the A31 Alliance which has representatives from all communities along the A31 and whose principal aims are to reduce the number of dwellings forced on East Hampshire and to oppose ribbon development which could stretch from Ropley to Holybourne. Personally I am not optimistic about the first of these aims but it does allow me to network with other local community representatives. I also work with the leader of the Windmill Hill group.</p> <p>Additionally, I have had a meeting with Adam Harvie at EHDC to discuss planning issues, with the Alton Town Clerk to investigate effective ways of working with the Town Council and with local land owners and developers. I have a meeting on Thursday to explore ideas about development adjacent to the A31 in the village. I authorised a payment of £30 to purchase rat poison for use around the Pond and have advertised for a new Treasurer without response. I shall speak to that separately.</p> <p>I have begun working with Adrian Stratta on arrangements for the November Remembrance service and have liaised with the magazine editor John Bound on a number of points.</p> <p>Members will know that we held a most enjoyable unveiling ceremony in the village hall and I welcome the close working that I and the Chairman of the Trustees have now developed.</p>	
7.2	<p>Treasurer: - Our recent treasurer has now resigned primarily because she is leaving the village. She will endeavour to complete the change in bank signatories so that we can regain control and access to our accounts. In the meantime we are actively seeking a new person to take over this small but important role on the committee. Cllr GH said that in the interim if we needed some guidance on progressing things that a colleague, Wendy Simpson, in ATC may be able to provide it. He will contact her.</p>	GH
7.3	<p>Friends of the Pond: - Rat poison at a cost of £30 has been put down around the pond in secure bait traps to control the vermin.</p>	
7.4	<p>Cllr DH said that the outlet weir will be inspected.</p>	
7.4	<p>Flood Action: - no real problems so far this year floodwater appears to be getting away in a timely manner.</p>	
7.5	<p>Traffic It has been noted that there has been a car parked on the double yellow lines at the Howards Lane London Road junction for over a week. On inspection though it was noted that the double yellow lines were very indistinct and need to be repainted. Meanwhile it was suggested that a polite note should be placed on its screen to make them aware of the situation (in fact it goes against the highway code). Cllr AJ said that illegal parking should be reported to EHDC and this can be done through the 'Ourhants' app</p>	
8	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>The defibrillator battery needs to be replaced this year at a cost of around £450. The WI raised £145 at the picnic to put towards this and as stated a bucket will be circulated at the fireworks to gather more donations for this.</p> <p>The lease of the room at The Lawns for the Archive is in need of renewing MBM will progress.</p> <p>Cllr GH gave an update on the path from Lidl. The surface dressing has again been delayed due to the actions of SEB. It now appears to go ahead in October.</p> <p>Cllr AJ said that he is aware that the state of the footpaths and pavements in and around Alton are in a poor state of repair. He recommends that we should report them so that action can be taken.</p> <p>Cllr GH advised us that his annual grant budget has now been completely depleted with approx. £3000 having gone to various activities in Holybourne.</p>	MBM
9	<p><b>Close – DONM</b></p> <p>The next meeting is on 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm.</p>	