

# Holybourne Village Association

Founded 1974

10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Minutes

Committee Members	Jerry Janes, Andy Muir, Sam Dalton, Stuart Hunt, Megan-Beth Millar, Pat Lerew.
Ex Officio	Cllr Graham Hill (EHDC and ATC); Cllr Andrew Joy (HCC)*
Holybourne Members	Mark Boomer; Jane Brown; Alex Buckley; Anthony Carter; Li ZCarter; Jane Davies; Guy Duder; Hannah Duder; Michael Fidler; Paul Fitzgibbon; Brian Gortelow; Karen Halcrow; Matt Julius; Andy Kirby; Barry Lawrence; Julia Muir; Sam Panther; Alex Perry; Tina Rhodes; Chris Sawyer; Rod Steel; Sarah Steel; David Tomlinson; Celia Ward; Debbie Whitehead; Nick Whitehead.

No	Item	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Opening of Meeting and Apologies for Absence</b>	
1.1	Jerry opened the meeting and welcome all the guests from Holybourne Apologies were received from Vanessa Gist, Rob Law, Jan Morgan (who has resigned), Don Hammond (ATC);	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b>	
2.1	The minutes of the August meeting were agreed with no further amendments.	
2.2	Matters Arising none.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Members Open Forum</b>	
3.1	Traffic on London Road, speeding and aggressive driving were raised. Attention was also drawn to the near miss between a white car and the school crossing patrol man. This has been reported to the police. People shared the experience of aggressive driving and Cllr Andrew Joy said that this behaviour should be reported to HCC; the best way being through the on-line "OurHants" mobile app (downloadable from app stores. A discussion arose over whether we should buy a speed monitoring sign (smiley face/frowny face). Cllr G Hill said that ATC have a roving one which has been used in the village and will be again. It services many sites. This was recognised but it was pointed out that the sign was set at 20mph and thus gave false feedback to the drivers. It would therefore tend to be ignored. Cllr G Hill said that he would look at this when it was next proposed for Holybourne.	
3.2	Concern was raised over the continued parking on double yellow lines, especially near Andrew's Endowed School. The yellow lines which were painted some 2 years ago have now almost completely faded and will need to be renewed. Cllr A Joy said that parking enforcement is now back under Hampshire County Council control. There is no constant patrol system here as the department is spread very thinly across the county. It would also be practical to look for parking signage too. Cllr A Joy will raise the issue within HCC. With regard to the parking outside the school, the Head has been written to and has written to parents highlighting the issues that parking causes and to be mindful of the highway code. The situation has recently become aggravated by the change of finishing time of Eggar's School bringing both closer together and adding to parking pressure. Eggar's parents park in Barleyfields which causes problems there as well. Cllr G Hill said that the ATC set aside an area within Anstey Park to act as a "Park and Stride" for Eggar's but it is very much under used. A question was raised about the position of the school crossing patrol especially since the reported near miss with a badly driven car. Cllr A Joy said that the Council's statutory obligation is not specifically to provide crossing patrols but to deliver 'safe access' to schools. Whilst the manned patrols are highly visible, reassuring and appreciated, they are not only expensive to run but are increasingly	

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3.3	<p>difficult to recruit and retain. Reorganisation is therefore necessary as well as urgent. As far as he is aware no specific decisions have so far been made but he can assure us that all necessary measures will be taken to ensure student safety.</p> <p>A question was raised as to whether Holybourne should apply to become a Parish with a Parish Council. The main reason being that we would have a greater say in any decisions which would influence or impact on the Village. A discussion followed which highlighted that volunteers would be needed to be councillors; we would need to carefully define the parish Boundary as we would become financially responsible for it. Indeed we would probably need to commission and produce our own Neighbourhood Plan. It was noted that during the most recent ANP consultation, Holybourne was very well represented and had a significant influence on the process. Cllr G Hill said that the financial precept for Holybourne would transfer from the ATC to a Parish Council and this would go towards paying for a Parish Clerk which is a legal requirement. Cllr G Hill said that he would look into the implications of the idea.</p>	
4	<p><b>Planning and Development Issues in and around Holybourne / Alton</b></p> <p>.(Current planning applications can be accessed via links on the HVA website planning applications page.) .</p> <p>4.1 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 local plan criteria for development within the Holybourne Church Lane conservation area. Cllr G Hill said that the planning officer was “minded to refuse” this application as it did not meet the requirements. A member of the public pointed out that he was one of the three participants wanting to progress this build and that this was a way in which he and his family could remain living in Holybourne having be raised here. The plot in question would be a ‘self-build’. Outcome - Currently undecided.</p> <p>The plot between the Priory and London Road is still under examination and has been for a prolonged period.</p> <p>4.2 Local Plan and Alton Neighbourhood Plan (ANP): ANP Steering Group (ANPSG) Jerry first thanked everyone who attended the Alton Town Council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. where the vote on the ANP progression was held.</p> <p>The ANP was discussed with contributions from Cllr G Hill and Paul Fitzgibbon. It was explained that the council have decided to defer proceeding with the draft ANP, to allow some changes to the plan. This may take some time - the council and steering group will have to decide what happens next. Cllr G Hill said he had resigned from the steering group to allow him to focus on his role as a councillor for Holybourne. It was explained that increased housing targets from the new government will probably mean a rethink of the EHDC local plan and may result in an increased number of houses for Alton. Cllr G Hill committed to provide an update on ANP when the next steps were clearer. The HVA will also arrange a village meeting to provide more information when appropriate. Paul said, as agreed with HVA, he had maintained a dialogue with Redbrown to enable engagement with the community. Redbrown are still preparing their plans so it's too early to do this now. Paul said Redbrown have been professional, courteous and appear to listen - they are well aware of the concerns with this site. Ultimately it will be for all villagers to make their own minds up on any plans when more information is available. The report had a number of serious errors relating to Holybourne, including the omission of concerns over the impact on London Road relating to safety, flooding and congestion. EHDC appear to support the development of sites in Holybourne.</p> <p>Overall the targets from central government is a ‘numbers game’. The Government has proposed that East Hampshire’s housing figures be ramped up by 86 per cent, from 575 homes a year to 1,074. The ANP was based on the annual 757 figure and its impact here being the 220 houses proposed on the Redbrown site. Currently EHDC are in discussion with central govt. objecting to the massive increase. Their discussions are open to comment until 24<sup>th</sup> Sept. (see EHDC website – local plan). Our village contact for the ANP development is John Bound. He will appreciate any assistance. Also please feel free to contact Cllr G Hill. Paul</p>	MBM /RL/JJ

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	<p>will speak to Redbrown particularly with respect to flooding in and around the area. Redbrown are keen to work with the village to develop in the best way possible. Cllr A Joy said that it must be remembered that some aspects of planning are not considered until details planning is assessed. At this point, flooding, access, infrastructure are all taken into account and all these must be satisfied before the planning can proceed.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Current Issues Events and Projects (re-ordered from agenda)</b>	
5.1	<p>Andrew Kirby – the Belport Farm Manager spoke about the holes recently dug in local fields. He was very sorry to hear about the incidence that occurred as a result of the activity. An outside company was contracted to undertake percolation studies but even though the work was on private land, the safety aspect was clearly deficient. In future if holes are needed, Heras type fencing will be stipulated. The farm has now surveyed the Public Right of Way paths and is in the process of producing a map. This will be sent to the HVA and will then be available on the HVA website. He asked that when using the R.O.W. that you stay on the paths as the farmland is subject to a number of activities which could be hazardous to uncontrolled walking. A question was asked about the chalk spoil deposited in the Manor Farm yard. AK said that the farm was a conglomeration of several small holdings and we are continuing to upgrade the farm tracks to link them all to their common assets thereby keeping farm vehicles off the public roads.</p>	
5.2	<p>Jerry said that we currently have no treasurer which is causing considerable difficulties in running the association. He put out a general appeal to everyone to consider whether anyone could come forward to fill the position. It isn't really imposing, there being very few activities which require financial input, but they are essential.</p>	
5.3	<p>Fireworks. Megan-Beth said that things are progressing and she will update the committee by email.</p>	
5.4	<p>Archives – none</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Village Communications</b>	
6.1	<p>The website: Nothing new to report.</p>	
6.2	<p>Magazine: The magazine is published now and is currently being furnished with flyers and distributed. Apologies for the delays.</p>	
6.3	<p>FB Holybourne Community Group WhatsApp- groups - maintain themselves.</p>	
6.4	<p>The village noticeboard is back in place. Sam Dalton (Mapeys) is key-holder and please pass items to him for inclusion.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Committee Reports</b>	
7.1	<p>Chair: - apart from planning (above) J has attended many weekly meetings and has commented on the yellow lines concern on London Road.</p>	
7.2	<p>Treasurer: - As noted above no treasurer's report is available. Cllr G Hill said his colleague, Wendy Simpson, in ATC would be happy to provide assistance and HVA could contact her.</p>	
7.3	<p>Friends of the Pond: - Nothing new.</p>	
7.4	<p>Flood Action: - Nothing new.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
	<p>As noted above, there is a consultation window for everyone to comment on the proposals and implications of the planning targets from central government. The link to do this is on the EHDC website and is active till 24<sup>th</sup> Sept.</p> <p>The defibrillator battery status is low and thus it will need replaced soon.</p>	

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	<p>Cllr G Hill said that grants have been awarded to Andrew's Endowed School for a new playground hub (£2500) due to be installed at half term and £5000 for an inclusive learning environmental programme providing rooms for enhanced educational needs children.</p> <p>The Holybourne magazine has suffered a loss of much advertising and is thus very short of revenue. The aim is to keep it free to all Holybourne residents and so other income is being sort. It was suggested that we might consider organising a "Fun Run" to help with this.</p> <p>It was highlighted that, through the WhatsApp group there has been considerable interest in forming a Holybourne Gardening Group. This will hold an inaugural meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September in the Church. All are welcome.</p> <p>Cllr A Joy said that HCC have serious financial challenges due in part to the cut-back of central Govt. funds. They are trying to save £175m in 2025/26 which will put considerable pressure on adult social care and child services among others.</p> <p>It was noted that the grass verges and central reservations on the A31/Montecchio Way junction are in dire need of mowing as they are affecting visibility. This will be reported back to the relative service.</p> <p>The remembrance parade and service is set for 9<sup>th</sup> November and arrangements are in hand.</p>	
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Close – DONM</b></p> <p>The next meeting is at 7:30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> October and is also the HVA AGM All are welcome to attend this.</p>	