

Holybourne Village Association

Founded 1974

13th May 2025

Minutes

Committee Members	Rob Law (Chair), Andy Muir, Celia Wood (CW), Pat Lerew, Caroline Wallis (CWa), Stuart Hunt, Sam Dalton, Vanessa Gist
Ex Officio	Cllr Graham Hill (EHDC and ATC), Cllr Andrew Joy (HCC),
Holybourne Members	Andy Hankin, Barry Lawrence, Bob Page, Keith Halcrow, Paul Fitzgibbon

ATC = Alton Town Council: EHDC = East Hampshire District Council: HCC = Hampshire County Council

No	Item	Action
1	Opening of Meeting and Apologies for Absence	
1.1	RL opened the meeting welcoming all and asked for meeting apologies:- Jerry Janes (JJ), Cllr Don Hammond (ATC), Megan-Beth Millar.	
2	Minutes of Last Meeting	
2.1	The minutes of the April meeting were ratified and will be uploaded to the website.	AM
2.2	Matters Arising No specific items were brought up which would not be covered in later in the agenda.	
3	Members Open Forum RL invited Andy Hankin and Bob Page to given an update on their springs work. All the springs around Holybourne are still flowing and the field behind Stream Acres still has standing water on it and is actively absorbing the springs. The springs are beginning to slow up and culverts are clear. The flow from around the pond weir is a spring outlet and not causing bank erosion. The area around the weir in the pond could do with a good clean-up as vegetation is affecting the weir and some is actually passing into the small stream leading to the River Wey. The water level within the pond has dropped around 250mm and as a result, the depth of water at the church end of the pond is only 25mm to the silt. The recent article in the Village Magazine was commended and appreciated by all. Water flowing in Upper Neatham Mill Lane surfacing around a road repair is causing a safety hazard – a number of people have reported issues). Cllr Andrew Joy says that there was a debate as to the source of the water; be it a natural spring or a water leak. South East Water are actively pursuing it and we can expect some action soon. It is noted that both Bob Page and Andy Hankin believe it to be a spring. PL brought up a query relating to money donated in the 2012 jubilee celebrations for a new gate. As the gate is yet to be replaced is the money identified. (Post meeting note: following a Village Hall meeting, it is believed that the money rests within the Village Hall accounts not the HVA accounts)	
4	Current Issues Events and Projects	
4.1	Village Picnic. There has been no further progress reported for this event. MBM was not present to update us. It was noted that the date is fast approaching and publicity needs to be out soon,	MBM
4.2	VE Day: The 8 th May saw a gathering at the War memorial at 9:00 pm and many lanterns were placed. There was good participation by the village.	
4.3	Fireworks: We need to apply to Historic England for permission to hold the event and this will be on a rolling basis (apply each year). A grant from Cllr Graham Hill has been sought to procure the fireworks bases which will comply with HE regulations. As above, we should endeavour to get full early advertisement of the event.	FrWks team

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4.4	20MPH speed limit through village. Cllr GH met with Cllr AJ, Tony Souter and Hayley Carter (Deputy Town Clerk) and are actively promoting a wide 20mph scheme. ATC have submitted an application for London Road that included evidence from speed sensors which were on lamp posts near Andrew's Endowed School. If the application is successful then ATC will support the introduction. A lengthy discussion ensued on measures which could be taken to enforce the limit: speed sensing cameras linked to smiley/frowny face displays; the school type flashing light displays for peak times. This last one could be helped by sending a message to HCC.	
4.5	Proposal to form a Parish Council: this is an ongoing project but has been slightly delayed. It will continue to be investigated and reported to the committee at our September meeting.	PL/CW
5	Planning and Development Issues in and around Holybourne / Alton	
5.1	<p>New Planning Applications</p> <p>Several new applications have been received this month.. The significant one is an alteration to the application for two houses on the land to the south of The Priory (11 Howards Lane) with proposed access via demolishing a section of the old wall bordering Howards Land and requiring a small section of the land of No 5 Houses Lane. This is in the Holybourne conservation area. EHDC-25-0526-LBC. Consultation on this end 12th June.</p> <p>The planning application ref EHDC-25-0363-FUL: Westbrook House, 17 Howards Lane:- One self-build detached dwelling and garage with associated works is progressing with no ATC objections. This too is in the Holybourne conservation area.</p>	
5.2	<p>Redbrown development update.</p> <p>Paul Fitzgibbon liaises with the Redbrown team and information is shared on the Planning WhatsApp Group. It is noted that this application has reduced the number of houses to 160 and has made several changes to the impact on the borders. (EHDC-25-0522) The most recent document was the submission of an EIA screening opinion request. It is very likely that the site will not require a full EIA. It is also noted that an outline planning permission submission will be in June and the time for commenting will be open at that point. HVA will likely call a Village meeting to discuss how we should proceed.</p> <p>As the EIA document is published and a number of people have read it there followed a discussion over the validity of some of the data within it. These points will be shared at the village meeting in due course.</p>	
5.3	<p>Local Plan ANP</p> <p>No new development.</p>	
6	<p>Village Communications</p> <p>Website: no issues</p> <p>Magazine: Barry Lawrence request to have a meeting with the treasurer asap to firm up the standing of the advertisers as some have not paid yet and we need to keep track of the whole situation.</p> <p>Social Media no issues.</p> <p>The Church no issues</p>	RL/SD/ BL
7	Committee Reports	
7.1	Chair Nothing to report.	
7.2	<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Progress with the bank account signature changes is slow but positive.</p>	SD
7.3	<p>Friends of the Pond</p> <p>See also Andy Hankin's / Bob Page's update section 3</p> <p>The price that was received for toxicity testing has been reduced to £2,680 and we should look to see if we can get a grant to fund this. (post meeting note Stuart Hunt says that if we can get a sample of the silt to him, then it could be analysed for £70 which, although would not meet the EA criteria would actually give us a result which would let us know if the full testing is worth undertaking)</p>	

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7.4	Flood Action Group. No issues.	
8	Any Other Business	
8.1	<p>Cllr G Hill reminded us that he currently has the Nativity Crib Models and that Alton Mens' Shed at to make a Crib for us to display them. Cost £550.</p> <p>Cllr G Hill reminded us that he has a new grant for providing small project grants and we are encouraged to apply.</p> <p>RL said that he will need to replace the defibrillator pads and will need agreement to purchase them. – agreed.</p>	
9	<p>Close – DONM</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9:40 pm.</p> <p>The next meeting is at 7:30pm on 10th June 2025</p> <p>All are welcome to attend this.</p>	

Action Items

Upload previous minutes	AM
Village Picnic Date and Venue	MBM
Grant for fireworks supports	RL – FrWks Team
Magazine advertisers reconciliation	SD/BL/RL
Bank Account progress	SD