

# Holybourne Village Association

*Founded 1974*

9<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Minutes

Committee Members	Rob Law (Chair)(RL), Andy Muir(AM), Pat Lerew(PL), Caroline Wallis (CWa), Jerry Janes (JJ), Celia Wood (CW), Stuart Hunt, Vanessa Gist (VG).
Ex Officio	Cllr Graham Hill (EHDC and ATC), Cllr Andrew Joy (HCC),
Holybourne Members	Matt Julius, Barrie Lawrence, Andy Hankin, Bob Page, Debbie Whitehead, Andrew Lyndon-Skeggs

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

No	Item	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Opening of Meeting and Apologies for Absence</b> RL opened the meeting welcoming the committee, the councillors and representatives from the village. Apologies were received from:- Cllr Don Hammond (ATC), Sam Dalton (SD) Megan-Beth Millar (MBM).	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b>	AM
2.1	No meeting was held in August and therefore the minutes of the July meeting were acknowledged. PL wished to comment on these before they are uploaded to the website (- suitably edited).	
2.2	Matters Arising RL noted that there were no matters arising which would not be discussed under their appropriate items. (Post meeting note - )The water leak on Upper Neatham Mill Lane appears to have been stopped following action by Hampshire Highways (HH).	
<b>3</b>	<b>Members Open Forum</b>	
3.1	RL invited Andrew Lyndon-Skeggs to convey his proposition to the committee. ALS began by stating that he has been a resident of Holybourne for 50 years and has seen development over that time. He recognised that development is still necessary in this area but on a far smaller scale than the Redbrown proposal and that any development should not put any pressure on the already highly loaded London Road. There was a proposition many years ago to build a service area next to the A31 / Montecchio Way junction. Although this was refused, the concept of building here was not the issue. A plan has been drawn up and was presented to the HVA showing an area roughly 10 acres holding a development of 48 residential properties of various sizes - meeting planning requirements which assist EHDC meet its house building target. It is recognised that this land is not actually in Holybourne and indeed there would be no vehicular access to the village, however there would be cycle and pedestrian access and would therefore enjoy the facilities of the village. Holybourne is a tier 4 area and therefore is required to accept up to 7 additional houses and this development would not necessarily have any effect on this as it falls outside the ward boundary, although it is within the ANP envelope. These points were recognised by the HVA committee and ALS was extensively questioned about the impact on the village given the close proximity of the development. Overall, the committee would support this development and thanked ALS for his presentation.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Current Issues Events and Projects</b>	
4.1	The village picnic was adversely affected by the weather and had to be cancelled this year. This was a disappointment however it was thought that the poor weather	

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<p>4.2</p>	<p>would have severely affected attendance and the decision to cancel was the right one.</p> <p>Fireworks. Historic England have reviewed our application to hold the firework display on the sport field and given that we will no longer have a bonfire, are happy for the event to proceed now and in the future. Catering has been organised and the Cricket Club will be approached to see if they would provide a bar service. There are concerns over holding a lantern parade as this might require a road closure. Discussions led to the thought that having a gathering of lanterns and a lighting of them on the field would be a suitable way forward. This will be put to the fireworks subcommittee. RL said that there is room for more people to join the fireworks subcommittee and we take this as a call for help. Ad will be out soon.</p> <p>4.3 Preparation for the AGM Next month's meeting is the HVA AGM and preparation work is needed. VG has volunteered to draft a recruitment letter which will be uploaded to the HVA website and also put onto 'The Hub' for villagers to see. It is hoped that seeing the work the HVA has done with the planning issues, some people will be encouraged to join the committee. At this AGM Pat Lerew has come to the end of her role and may step down from the committee. The 3 office bearers are willing to stand for a further year but in 2026 many will be coming to the end of their appointments. It would be good to have more representation from younger members of the village too.</p>	<p>FrWks team</p> <p>VG AM</p>
<p><b>5</b></p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p>	<p><b>Planning and Development Issues in and around Holybourne / Alton</b></p> <p>New Planning Applications The only significant new application was for a garage replacement in Upper Neatham Mill Lane. Others were for tree work within the conservation area or with a TPO. None of these will impact the village in any adverse way. Tree growth on Montecchio Way was brought up, this area is controlled by Hampshire Highways and it has been noted and will be dealt with at the appropriate time. At this point AJ reminded us that if we see any hedging which is encroaching on the highway it can be reported via the Hampshire website. Doing so will record the incident and action will follow.</p> <p>Redbrown development update. Cllr G Hill gave an update. The window for comments has now officially closed - however during the review of comments there would still be time to add more. It is clear that EHDC find there are several fundamental issues with this development and also areas where the analysis of the impact has been deficient. Several key statutory consultees have expressed concern. HH have considerable concerns over the impact assessment data. Although the consultation from Thames Water is itemised on the planning portal, it cannot e accessed. This is probably an admin error and Cllr G Hill will report it back to the controller. Flood management data and the Travel Plan are also considered inadequate and will need further details. ATC has evaluated it against the ANP and will object strongly. These issues alone will delay any decision on the progress of this proposal.</p> <p>Local Plan / ANP Cllr G Hill said that the current ANP is still in force and will be until 2026 but thereafter will have a diminishing effect. Going forward there are 3 options. 1 Wait till the EHDC local plan is produced and act on the outcome 2 Formalise the existing draft new ANP with the land allocations identified 3 Formalise the existing draft new ANP without the land allocations identified ATC has commissioned the consultancy Aecom to undertake a review of all LAA sites within the area and its report is awaited. On receipt of this the ANP planning will progress. The HVA planning group will also review it.</p>	<p>Cllr GH</p>

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<p><b>8</b></p> <p>8.1</p>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>JJ said that the area along Montecchio Way by the Holybourne junction is inundated with estate agent signs; For Sale, Sold and Under Offer, on both sides of the road, one being near the Barleyfields entry These have been there for a very long time and are unsightly. Cllr A Joy said that signs on land near the road are HH responsibility but behind fences or road crash barriers were on private land and HH could not remove them. Trader signs have been removed but estate agent signs have a dispensation, however he said he would politely ask them to consider the duration of signage.</p> <p>PL gave an update on the progress of investigation Parish Council status for Holybourne. She has sent to the committee an instruction set on the process to follow and one of the main criteria is to get a petition going. If we were to be a Parish Council then there would be a paid member of staff to help control the activities. The issue is a suitable one to be raised at the AGM.</p>	<p>Cllr AJ</p> <p>PL</p>
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>Close – DONM</b></p> <p>The meeting closed at 9:20 pm.</p> <p>The next meeting is the AGM at 7:30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025</p> <p>All are welcome to attend this.</p>	

## Action Items

Upload previous minutes

## Fireworks publicity

## AGM Agenda and recruitment

## Planning Portal issue

## Website Maint

Progress Bank Account

## Annual accounts and Ad payment details

Grant applic for test kits (await Bob Page)

### Advertising signs on the road

AM

MBM, FrWks team

AM VG

Cllr GH

AM

SD

SD RL

Cllr GH

Cllr AJ