

Holybourne Village Association

Founded 1974

13th October 2026

AGM follow-on meeting minutes

Committee Members	Rob Law (Chair); (Vice Chair); Andy Muir (Secretary, Website); Pat Lerew; Stuart Hunt (Magazine); Vanessa Gist; Jerry Janes; Celia Wood; Megan-Beth Millar; Caroline Wallis
Ex Officio	Cllr Don Hammond (ATC), Cllr Emily Young (HCC), Cllr G Hill (ATC,EHDC)
Holybourne Members	Approx. 40

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

No	Item
1	Opening of Supplemental Meeting A number of issues were noted which needed to fall outside a formal AGM.
A	Fireworks Update The Holybourne Fireworks Display will take place on FRIDAY 6 th November on the Sports Field. Gates will open at 6:30; there will be a bonfire at 7:00 with the fireworks at 7:30. There will be hot food and drink and a bar. Tickets, on sale now, can be bought online this year – (posters have a QR code to take you to the sales site), as well as from the Holybourne Shop.
B	Redbrown Development Update The application has been refused by East Hants District Council on the basis that the risk of groundwater flooding on the site has not been properly assessed. This is not quite the good news that it seems, as all our other objections have been dismissed by the planners, who have given their reasons, none of which we agree with. The draft Refusal has also been sent to the secretary of state for housing communities and local government - Angela Rayner. If her department wishes to examine or overturn East Hants District Council's refusal, they have until October 26th to do this. If the Secretary of State does not intervene, the refusal will stand and this version of the planning application will be turned down. Redbrown then have a number of options, one of which is to address the uncertainty around the groundwater on that site by conducting more extensive monitoring over an extended period. It is worth pointing out that, due to your efforts, this application received a truly unprecedented number of objections. Normally, objections number around 10 to 20. Holybourne residents have lodged well over 1300! This level of objection is a powerful indicator of how controversial this proposal is. Clearly, we don't agree with their interpretation of our objections and are formulating a response and will update you all using our usual channels when we are ready. No issues (not covered later) were brought up. The HVA will share relevant details with the rest of the village as and when necessary using the usual methods.
C	Metis Proposal for potential development To introduce themselves, Metis have circulated a flyer to the village outlining their proposal for the development of the land accessed by Lower Neatham Lane. This is an initial consultation to gauge the feelings of the village. On this flyer is a link to their virtual exhibition. The HVA planning group are keen to hear your views on this proposal, please let us know by emailing planning@holybourne.com . The HVA would encourage you to make your feelings known by taking part in the Metis consultation (details are in their leaflet). The consultation closes on October 19 th . When the actual planning application arrives the HVA planning group will communicate with the village and formally respond following the views of villagers and applying the same principles that have shaped our response to the Redbrown application.

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D	Jules Heath-Rossiter renovation of pond bench. The HVA received a letter from J. Heath-Rossiter who would like to sponsor a bench in the name of her son Christian who they lost to suicide in 2021. The family was brought up in Holybourne and it remains close to their hearts. Their contact with the ATC suggested maybe a bench refurbishment would be an idea. The HVA suggested one of the benches near the pond would suit however the consensus from the meeting was that these benches are existing memorials and maybe a new bench near the school would be better, as Christian did attend Andrew's Endowed. The school will also be contacted to progress this and the HVA will contact J H-R in return.
E	Santa's Visit The HVA were contacted by Alton Lions who organise and sponsor Santa's visits and some streamlining of the programme is being investigated. Following a discussion at the meeting it was unanimously agreed that Holybourne wanted Santa's visit to continue even if this meant that entry to the cul-de-sacs would be reduced. A single point visit was not supported, however some advance notification of the visit timing would allow these areas to come forward to the route. The HVA will respond with these findings to the Alton Lions.
	Close This completes the extra items and RL thanked everyone who attended the meetings and closed the meeting at 9:20 pm.