

**MINUTES OF THE HVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 1st OCTOBER 2024 IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL**

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

**WELCOME**

Catherine Hinds took the Chair. She welcomed Brian McCollum and thanked him for joining the meeting as the new Road Rep for Cryers Hill and everyone for coming out on such a horrible evening.

**PRESENT**

Catherine Hinds (Acting-Chairman)	Paul Woodford – Treasurer	Rosemary Hewitt – Secretary
Andrew Capey	Peter Cannon	Janet Howe
Angus Idle	Elaine Merrilees	Nancy Pomfret

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Jill Armshaw, Sue Grace, Janet Idle, Cllrs David Carroll and Simon Kearey. A late apology was received from Jerry Morley. **ACTION**

**Road Reps who do not attend meetings: Lyn Hawkins and Mary Wright.**  
**Reports, written or verbal, are welcome from all members whether or not they attend meetings.**

2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was proposed by Paul Woodford, seconded by Elaine Merrilees and agreed that they be approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

**Item 5 MATTERS ARISING, b, Parking on Warrendene Road** – EM had nothing further to report other than the parking of lorries has reduced considerably as autumn approaches.

4. **COUNCILLORS' UPDATES**

- a) **Bucks Cllr Carroll** - In his absence RH read his update:

1. DC is pleased that the resurfacing of Manor Road, from the Valley Road entrance to Hughenden Park up to Hughenden Manor, has finally been carried out.
2. DC is extremely concerned with the new government's changes to Green Belt Policy and the possible repercussions in our area, and the requirement for Bucks Council to increase its housing numbers by 42%. This could mean an additional 100,000 homes throughout the county in the coming years, and the burden it will place on existing roads, schools, surgeries etc. unless accompanied by appropriate infrastructure.
3. DC to arrange a meeting with the Bucks Cabinet Member and his Deputy for the Environment and residents about the ongoing flooding issues in the Hughenden Valley area.

**DC**

- b) **HPC Cllr Kearey** – In his absence, PW read his update:

1. A grant of £500 for the magazine is on the Finance Committee's Agenda and should be approved when they meet next week.
2. The question of who will be buying and maintaining the planters for the village is being looked into.
3. The War Memorial plaque that was removed from the Chapel in Bryants Bottom several years ago is to be built into a permanent memorial on the grass verge opposite. It is hoped to be completed in time for Remembrance Day in November.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Financial Report for the month of September had been circulated prior to the meeting. It showed the closing balance in the Current Account of £2,735.77 after the transfer of £2,000 into the Savings Account that has accrued £70.59 of interest to date. £220 has been received in subs, bringing the total to £2,145. Expenses have included payment of £30 to the Chiltern Society and £171.85 for plants for the planters. The closing balance in the Deposit Account is £13,588.86.

6. **HVRA REPORTS/UPDATES** – None

7. **MAGAZINE – Hughenden News**

AC requested articles, items on future village events or anything inspirational, with accompanying photos for the next edition. The Chairman's Round-Up will be written by rotating Chairmen PW and PC, with CH assisting, along with a plea for a permanent Chairman. The deadline for submissions is 1<sup>st</sup> November.

PW/PC/CH  
Deadline  
1<sup>st</sup> Nov

8. **HVRADIG**

PW recalled the terrible flooding that occurred on 23 September with water ponding across the width of the lower stretch of Warrendene Road and *The Harrow* being flooded once again as well as at least the front gardens of 5 properties on Valley Road near the school crossing, and another near Deeters. The response from the Fire Service and Bucks Council for sandbags was not great. PW provided a Paper (also circulated to the HVRA Committee) to the Flooding Response Select Committee that evening held via Zoom because of flooding in the area in which he expressed disappointment that despite repeatedly pushing the Council for proper drainage improvement work to be carried out the response has been that the drains are properly maintained and an assurance that everything is alright as the flooding was a one-off event. Although there are government regulations relating to what is regarded as a significant flooding issue, PW believes we are entitled to an investigation and Cllr Carroll has been trying to arrange a meeting. (See 4a, 3 above).

PW and Sarah Mustapha attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> **Chalk Stream Project Workshop** on 15 July about the Hughenden Stream Restoration Plan that looked at prioritizing works so that decisions can be made as to what can be undertaken within their budget. It is hoped that by December a document will be produced for public dissemination.

Robert Morsley, a Consultant Hydrologist from the River Thames Conservancy Trust has been assigned to investigate Natural Flood Management possibilities for the upper reaches of the stream, from the pumping station up to the top of Warrendene Road and beyond. Although he will be looking at the run-off from the fields this will not help in the short term because it is a long-term initiative.

9. **FUTURE EVENTS**

On 12 September a small core group met and made decisions on what the HVRA could organize with sufficient human resources:-

1. **Film Night** – PC to lead. The Film School in Beaconsfield has a Film Society with a state-of-the-art cinema seating 150 and screens films twice a month. The idea is to take a small number of residents along to watch some excellent films. PC
2. **Potter Cup Quiz** – AC, PC, B McC and Al Bowyer have met to discuss. **Date: 1 March 2025**  
EM and RH to lead on the catering. The Quiz will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.
3. Decided to hold one event for our older residents – **Christmas Gift Bags**. RH and EM to lead.
  - Decided to alternate with an Afternoon Tea next year. EM will get in touch with the North West Chilterns Community Board, as she did last year, for a grant. EM
  - RH to contact Road Reps to compile a list of seniors and a Help List will be distributed. RH/List
  - The Village Hall will not be organizing the Christmas Fair or next year's Summer Fete. Instead, the HVRA to organize:-
4. **Summer Picnic** – To be free of charge. **The date is to be decided.**  
PW and EM to lead. Bring your own food. To have music, simple children's games, Punch and Judy, kicking at goal, throwing bean bags, a bouncy castle and perhaps a Dog Show. Date?  
CH is happy to organize some Scottish Dancing. To have icecream from the village shop and to engage the services of Bob Cook who is employed by the Village Hall. Meeting  
PW/EM/CH  
A meeting to be arranged with PW, EM and CH going forward.
  - Although last year's Summer Barn Dance was a success it was poorly attended and will not be held unless there is a call for it by residents.
  - Children's Tea Party has been put on the backburner because it is thought the Pre-School would not get involved.

10. **ROAD REP REPORTS**

- a) **Cryers Hill** – BMcC was pleased to join the meeting and to work with us although he did not think he could step into the shoes of Daphne Hicks. He has lived on Cryers Hill for 30 years and when collecting subs he has been able to meet residents, many of them new to the area who are shocked at not only the 50mph speed limit and the speed of traffic as they try to enter and exit their drives but also the appalling state of the grass verges, hedges, low hanging branches and narrowed footpaths.

They want action and something to be done about the situation. BMcC is happy to pursue their concerns and RH to get in touch with Cllrs Broadbent, Carroll and Kearey to expedite these issues.

RH>SB  
DC/SK

- b) **Valley Road (upper):** NP recalled the extent of the flooding on 23 September that reached the front porch steps of her home and surrounded several nearby properties. More sandbags were requested but only 11 were obtained from Bucks Council. Flood mitigation and planned resilience are needed going forward.
- c) **Valley Road (south):** After many months of unlit streetlights and failed attempts by residents via FixMyStreet in getting them switched back on after Giga Clear cut through cables, RH complained to Gregg Smith MP and the lights returned for 4 days, but PW said they have gone off again. RH to chase up.
- d) **Warrendene Road:** - EM had read on Facebook that more cooking oil drums had been stolen from *The Harrow*, drained of oil and then dumped in the ditch opposite. Hopefully, cctv will expose the thieves.
- e) **Bryants Bottom:** JH: Although properties were not flooded by the recent heavy rain fall, water did rush down the road like a river, and beyond the village the road was flooded across its width because of ineffective drainage. Overgrown hedges at the upper end of the village need to be cut back as they are causing danger to road users, and she is concerned that the whereabouts of the landowner are unknown.

Flood  
resilience

RH

## 11. OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Village Hall** – AI: No meeting was held the previous evening. Jasper Maguire is Secretary, and various members take the Chair. Minutes of meetings are online.
- b) **Village Store & Coffee Shop** – None

## 12. AOB

- a) **Easy Fund-Raising site** - PC asked if anyone used the site when making purchases online with any of the 7,500 retailers that take part in the scheme. As no-one did, he explained that when **buying goods/products online** the retailer will donate a percentage of the cost of your purchase/s to your designated cause, such as the Village Shop. Please go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). Register and then add **Hughenden Valley Village Shop** (their postcode is HP14 4NX) as the cause you wish to support. Then follow the instructions on screen - it should be an easy procedure. Click to accept a Reminder and don't forget to take note of it when you pay for your purchases.
- b) **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan** – RH reminded everyone that the deadline for responding to Bucks Council's consultation is 13 October.
- c) **AI:** Janet has amassed several full sets of *Hughenden News* going back 25 years and AC's set will be scanned and available online.
- d) **Flooding** – Whilst walking past *The Harrow* on the morning of the recent flooding, it occurred to PC that a brick wall in place of the picket fence and sandbags would help to mitigate against any future flooding of the premises. As properties in Valley Road are also prone to flooding, he believed a large scaffolding board, perhaps hinged in the middle for ease of movement. straddled across residents' driveways could also help to stop the flow into their gardens etc.

Please  
sign up

Deadline  
13 October

PC has noted that surface rainwater flows down Hatches Lane unhindered because there are no drains and suggested the flow could be directed into the lower field that belongs to the Parish Council where it could filtrate into the ground.

➤ PW believed the Bucks Flood Management team should be looking at this suggestion.

- e) **HVRA AGM 2025** - AI asked for the date. As it will be in May a Notice will be placed in the Spring issue of *Hughenden News*, along with a Nominations Form.

CH thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

**The date of the next meeting is on 5 November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Small Hall**

Signed.....

Date.....