

**MINUTES OF THE HVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2024 IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL**

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

WELCOME

Paul Woodford, as Acting Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. PRESENT

Paul Woodford – Acting Chair & Treasurer	Rosemary Hewitt – Secretary	Jill Armshaw
Peter Cannon	Andrew Capey	Janet Howe
Angus Idle	Elaine Merrilees	Jerry Morley
Nancy Pomfret	Cllr David Carroll	Cllr Simon Kearey

ACTION

- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Sue Grace, Cacs Hinds, Janet Idle and Louise Jones.

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

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 1st OCTOBER 2024

The Minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was proposed by Brian McCollum, seconded by Angus Idle, and agreed that they be approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4a) Bucks Cllr Carroll

3. A Teams meeting took place with Jilly Jordan, Deputy Cabinet Member Environment & Climate Change at Bucks Council. HVRA to accept her offer to meet residents and DIG members in the New Year. RH to arrange a meeting to be held in January.

RH/JJ

9. FUTURE EVENTS, 1. Film Night – PC has joined the Film Society at the Film School in Beaconsfield and saw a good film, “*Wicked Little Letters*”, and is happy to take others with him next time as his guests.

PC

10. ROAD REP REPORTS

c) Valley Road (south) - The cable that Giga Clear cut through many months ago has now been identified and James Tunnard, the Local Area Technician (LAT) is looking into the matter.

James Tunnard

All other items to be dealt with via progression through the Agenda.

5. COUNCILLORS’ UPDATES

a) Bucks Cllr Carroll

- i) In view of the new government’s planned changes to Planning Policy to increase the Local Authority’s housing target to 42% or 100,000 houses over the next 20 years, DC confirmed his commitment to protect this area of AONB and Green Belt, hoping the homes will be built on brownfield sites.
- ii) He had a fruitful meeting with the new Road Rep for Cryers Hill, Brian McCollum, and supports the Petition to reduce the speed limit from 50 – 40 mph. DC attended a meeting with Stan Jones, Chair of HPC, the LAT and the new Head of Gt Kingshill School regarding the school’s request for Traffic Calming measures to include a 20 mph limit at the beginning and end of the school day.
- iii) He is pleased that by working with the National Trust and Bucks Council the road leading up to the Manor has been re-surfaced.
- iv) As a follow-up from his meeting with Jilly Jordan, at DC’s request RH circulated her response and the Strategic Flood Management team’s update to residents and DIG members.
 - DIG co-ordinator, PW, noted that they had not received any reports of significant internal property flooding to progress with further investigation and, along with numerous queries and some inaccuracies, he will respond accordingly.

- JA asked how Bryants Bottom could be encompassed into the overall Hughenden Natural Flood Management Scheme bearing in mind the terrible flooding that numerous residents experienced three years ago and the engineering works that were carried out to remedy the problems and the remedial action that took place in Bryants Bottom.
- JA invited PW for a cup of tea when she will show him the structural works that were carried out to mitigate against future flooding.
- PW will compile a response to Jilly Jordan and copy-in Cllr Carroll.

JA/PW

PW/DC>JJ

b) HPC Cllr Kearey

- i. SK confirmed that the Memorial Plaque, previously sited on the front facade of the former Chapel in Bryants Bottom, has been installed on a concrete base on the grass verge opposite. The Remembrance Day service will take place there at 11am officiated by Major Glen Ridgeley whose 4 relatives died in the 1st World War.
 - Disappointment was expressed that after 7 years of working with the Parish Council, Major Ridgeley has paid for the installation of the memorial plaque because of the time it takes the Parish Council to make decisions.
- ii. Recruitment of a Clerk has commenced; references are being checked and hopefully he/she will be in place in the next few weeks.
- iii. The Council has struggled to get on with things in the last few months because of lack of permanent staff in the office, necessitating the need for extra agency staff. A permanent Deputy Clerk and a Responsible Finance Officer are also needed.
 - JA complained that the grass verges in Bryants Bottom have not been cut for a year and JH stressed that the hedges at the upper end of the village are very overgrown and restrict the width of the road.
 - JA will pass on the emails of complaint to SK that residents have been writing to HPC for weeks.
- iv. There are plans to rejuvenate the playground at Gt Kingshill and money has been set aside for Templewood's run-down playground.
- v. A Christmas get-together with community leaders and residents, similar to the one held at Church House last year, is being considered.
- vi. Cockpit Hole has recently been regenerated but there some H & S issues relating to the pond area.
- vii. SK referred to the HVRA seeking a £500 grant for the purchase of planters. Permission is required from Highways to put planters on Bucks Council land but it is for the Parish Council to buy them and for volunteers to maintain them, and if this is no longer possible then HPC to take over. SK will take this proposal forward as it is similar to the proposal from the Widmer End RA.
 - It was queried whether the Parish will supply lots of daffodil bulbs as they did some years ago.
 - As the £500 grant for the magazine has not been paid, SK to chase up and copy PW.

**10 Nov
Service**

JA/SK

**SK>bulbs
SK/HPC>
PW**

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Financial Report for the month of October had been circulated prior to the meeting. It showed the closing balance in the Current Account of £2,969.03, increased by the receipt of £150 of subs. Total subs received amounts to £2,295 and comes from 67% of households. The target is £2,500. Expenses of £25.74 paid to HV Village Hall for room hire. PW is pleased that the finances remain in good shape.

7. HVRA REPORTS/UPDATES – None

8. MAGAZINE – *Hughenden News*

The magazine is being compiled and the new presentation by Ken Chu is more colourful than usual and will be ready for the printers in a week's time.

9. HVRADIG – Please see Item 5a) iv above.

As the residents in Bryants Bottom experienced flooding of their homes three years ago, JA queried why Drainage Engineers etc are not involved because their problems were fully investigated and all the issues dealt with.

PW noted **the online flood questionnaire** which is monitored by a survey response team, and as residents need to be made aware of it, RH will pass on the link so that they can complete it when the interior of their homes become flooded in future.

Link/RH

10. FUTURE EVENTS

a) Christmas Gift Bags – 15 December – Packing Bags in the Small Hall

- The Small Hall will be open from 8.30 – 11.30am on Sunday, 15 December
- To date there will be 122 recipients made up of 39 couples and 44 singles. Several Road Reps still need to confirm who their 80+year-olds are, and the **Deadline is 20 November**.
- A Help List was circulated at the meeting.
- Another core group meeting is to be arranged for next week.

**Deadline
20 November**

RH/EM/NP/JH

b) Potter Cup Quiz – 1st March 2025

- Core Group meeting to be held next Tuesday
- As a projector is needed, EM suggested putting a request to borrow one on the *Hughenden Valley WhatsOn Facebook* page.

**AC/EM/
Facebook**

c) Summer Picnic – Sunday, 10 August 2024

EM and PW have met. The Village Hall has been booked in case the weather is inclement.

- Bring your own picnic and beverages.
- Children's activities to include a bouncy castle, Scottish Dancing and Punch & Judy.
- To approach HV Primary School for equipment etc for children's outdoor games.
- Hire a person to run a disco for a couple of hours to entertain the children.
- To provide ice cream *** from Booker Cash & Carry.
- The Village Store is happy to provide cream teas and the HVRA would give out vouchers for the children to get an ice cream *** from the shop.
- The Shop Choir to sing.
 - A proposal detailing the activities and costs is to be brought to the December HVRA meeting for discussion because the event may require circa £1,000. A detailed plan is to be in place by January, ready to begin organising the event.
 - AI raised the issue of funding the Summer Picnic with the Village Hall Committee at last night's meeting in the hope that, as they are no longer organising the Summer Fete, they may wish to go halves with the cost, but it received little enthusiasm. Also, the VH Treasurer believes there will be a drop in their finances and the rates may have to be increased for regular and non-regular hirers of the Halls.

JW/EM

11. ROAD REP REPORTS

a) PC: Please see 4. MATTERS ARISING, 9 Future Events above.

b) Coombe Lane: PW advised AI that he had collected subs from the residents who live in this road.

c) AI: It was with sadness that he informed the Committee that a long-standing member of the Conservation Group had died.

d) CRYERS HILL – PETITION

After the last HVRA meeting, BMcC met RH in the Coffee Shop to discuss the best way to proceed with the **Petition to reduce the speed from 50 – 40mph along the A4128 from Church Farm to the 30mph limit at the top of the hill.**

- As Jackie Binning of the NWCCB recommended an online Petition, he has acquired all the email addresses of his residents in the road and at Church Farm.
- He has had meetings with Simon Kearey, David Carroll and Stan Jones, Chair of the Parish Council. Paul Nicholls, a former Chair of HPC, wishes to meet BMcC as he is involved with several road safety issues in Gt Kingshill.
- BMcC has met Suzanne Best, Head of Gt Kingshill School, and as the HVRA Petition aligns with theirs, she will be looking at the parents to sign.

- He will give a presentation about the Petition to members of the NWCCB's Transport and Road Issues Group next week and inform them of the issues associated with the speed of traffic on Cryers Hill and along Valley Road (A4128) in preparation for the Full Board Meeting on 6 March 2025 when the Petition will be presented.
- The **PETITION will be going live on Monday, 18 November.**

**PETITION
Going live
18 November**

12. OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Village Hall** – None
- b) **Village Store & Coffee Shop**

13. AOB

- a) **Power Cuts** – In view of the number of power cuts caused by branches falling across power lines and as this affects so many people, including the elderly and those families with medical needs etc, RH asked if she could get in touch with Road Reps to pass on Scottish & Southern's details so that people can register for their free Priority Service (www.SSEN.co.uk), giving their mobile number if possible, in order to receive extra support during a power cut.
- b) JA had seen a tv programme about the degradation of out-of-date hot water bottles that can suddenly perish when being filled with very hot water, causing severe burns or scalding. It is recommended that a water bottle is not filled with boiling hot water and to check the date that is imprinted in the area surrounding the screw top because it should be replaced every three years.

RH

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 3rd December 2024

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed.....

Date.....