

HENGISTBURY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING & XMAS SOCIAL WEDNESDAY 4th DECEMBER 2019

Venue: St.Nicholas Church Hall, Broadway, Southbourne, BH6 4EP, 7.30pm

Members Present at Meeting 76 (See note at end)

The following is a transcript of the evening, prepared by Avril Ogden from the voice recording made on the evening.

Committee:

Chairman	Avril Ogden
Vice Chair	Clifford Lux
Treasurer	Brian Miller
Secretary	Vacant (Temporarily by Avril)
Membership Secretary	Avril Ogden
Henra IT and Website	External
Meet & Greet	Jennifer Ruckley
Socials - In House	Miriam Monaghan
Socials - External	Avril Ogden
Annual Programme & Publishing	Avril Ogden
General Committee	Lester Ruckley

Hon President	Tony Yates (Absent)
Hon Vice President	Tony Bayliss (Absent)

Apologies have been received from :

Miriam Monaghan (Ill), Our IT Manager

** Unfortunately John Lambon has had to resign from the committee last month due to health reasons. We wish him a speedy recovery.

1a) Welcome to you all for the last business meeting for this year. Please make sure that you all signed in when you arrived. If any of you haven't yet got yourself a drink, please feel free to get one now whilst I'm talking but keep an ear out for the rest of the notices.

1b) I will just give out a few notices now - I'll be as quick as I can. Then our PCSO, Annette, will talk to us, then the Councillors after that. There will be time for questions & answers.

Tonight is mainly our Social so we want to keep the business part as brief as possible.

We changed the format for our social evenings back in June and decided to ask members to get themselves some liquid refreshment before the entertainment starts so we can all enjoy the entertainment without interruptions. Our entertainment will last for about half an hour to start with and then we will take a break for about half an hour for food and more liquid refreshment, then another half hour of entertainment. We will also hold a **raffle** and this will be drawn just before the end of the evening. Henra have provided most of the prizes but thank you to all those who have donated additional items to raffle.

2) After our last meeting in November, **I received a complaint** from the Church Warden. Apparently **someone had turned the heaters off** and when the Pre-school group arrived the following morning the hall was cold. Feel free to turn the heaters down if you need to but please make sure they remain switched on before you leave. They are on a timer so are off during the night but come on again first thing in the morning for the under-fives.

3) I'm still looking for people to help out as part of the committee.

As most of you already know, there had been virtually no committee for a couple of years prior to last season of 2018-2019 so there had been a tremendous amount of work to do but we are now running a bit like a well-oiled machine without the need for holding lots of committee meetings. You don't need to offer to take on a specific role but join us on the committee and help us to make decisions about how we can improve.

Having said that, organizing tonight has been a logistical nightmare for me as with one exception, all of the people who usually come and help have been unable to attend and it has been really difficult finding replacements. So to those of you who have come along and helped at the last minute, my sincere thanks.

I managed to get into the hall an hour early tonight so I could get all the tables and chairs in place but I will need some help in putting everything away at the end please. All the chairs and tables have to go back in specific places, otherwise I get complaints the next day from the Pre-school group and the Church Warden. We will also need some help making sure everything is cleared away and the hall is clean at the end of this evening.

Unfortunately, **Miriam** who normally organizes the drinks etc, had to back out yesterday due to a health issue but fortunately, she had managed to get all the “shopping” done and get it delivered to me to bring along tonight.

I could do with someone coming onto the committee to take charge of making sure all the seating is put out before each meeting and put away at the end.

We are still looking for someone to take on the role of **Secretary** and also we need at **least three others** to be on the general committee. In the meantime, I am continuing to record all the meetings with my voice recorder.

We do **urgently** need an offer from **someone to audit our accounts** at the end of the year. **Is there an auditor amongst the membership** who could spare a couple of hours in exchange for a bottle of wine, that would be good?

4) Thank you to everyone who purchased some of the **BH Coastal Lottery tickets** and registered these to support Henra. This is much appreciated and we have already started receiving 50% of the ticket sales into the Henra bank account. Next season we hope to be able to offer some financial support to some of the ongoing projects based within the Henra- designated area.

I also noticed that there are quite a number of you who registered on the Henra site but haven't yet bought any tickets.

Can I also remind members that **some** of you who bought tickets when this first started in March, that your **tickets have expired and need renewing**, either with the same numbers or different ones. Unless you bought your tickets on continuous direct debit, these are **not** renewed automatically.

The good news is that in the majority of the draws so far, Henra members have had winning numbers. In fact one of our members won £250 in last Saturday's draw. Nobody has actually won the £25,000 weekly prize yet so it's definitely worth a go. According to the information I have from the Lottery Office, the lottery has so far raised around £80,000 for local causes.

5) Regarding the **Henra Website**, some of you will already be aware that we are having to work with a website that was set up several years ago by a previous committee. When we took over in 2018, we found that it had been several years since anything had been updated.

Those of you that have visited the Henra **website** recently will see that we are starting to make some changes. It's down to me that since October 2018 not all the Minutes are on the site yet - I just haven't had the time but they will go up eventually. So my apologies.

As I have a voice recording from all the meetings, I can produce an accurate record, albeit belatedly.

I emailed everyone recently with the **new password** for the members' area. This password will now be changed every year. Also, a few weeks ago, we put a **membership application form** on the website so this should make things easier next year and we've already had several new members as a result. Also, it is now possible to pay your membership subs by direct bank transfer.

6) Since our last meeting, I have received several emails from members, mostly relating to speeding vehicles in the area, all of which have been reported by me to both our Councillors & the Police. No doubt, both our PCSO and Councillors will comment about this in a minute. I am also aware that the Land Train has been discontinued and I think Eddie is going to update us on this.

So that's all from me for the moment, so I'll hand over to Annette, our PCSO.

7) POLICE - Update from our PCSO Annette Long

I've been asked to keep it brief tonight so you can get on with your food and drink!

I've been having a look at what's happened in the past month and I noticed that we'd talked about a couple of sheds that had been broken into. Please make sure you keep them locked. Another thing is to ask you not to keep any valuables in your cars, especially overnight.

There have been several rogue traders in the area Irish accents, some driving vehicles with Irish registration plates.

One member asked if anyone had a contact number for Beryl Bikes as several bikes appear to have been abandoned. There's no contact number on the website. Eddie Coope mentioned that all the bikes are fitted with GPS systems so easy to trace where they are.

Eddie Coope mentioned that in addition to the car break-ins mentioned, there have also been several break-ins into vans. It's that time of year. The other thing, reported last month, is the Inland Revenue Scam – just remember that the HMRC would never telephone you. The latest scam is about National Insurance. The scammers are getting hold of your insurance number and getting money out of you.

Annette just reminded us to all be vigilant. She gave us details about someone who had been scammed out of a lot of money.

Thanks as always to Annette.

8) COUNCILLORS Eddie Coope and Malcolm Davies

Eddie Coope –

A quick update about the Land Train. It will be re-vamped. The one we had this summer will be taken away in January or February to be overhauled and will be back for the summer season next year. Then hopefully, in the year after, we will get a new Eco-friendly, either all-electric or a hybrid train which will comply with the new regulations.

We're looking into the problem of the boy racers. Even though the closure of the gate barrier up to the Head is closed at 10pm, you're now telling me that this isn't stopping them and sometimes the gate hasn't even been closed. I'll get this reported as whoever is the keyholder obviously isn't always closing that gate.

Someone asked about putting traffic calming measures in but Eddie pointed out that there needs to be over 50% of residents agreeable to this. We'll take this back to the people in authority on this point.

General discussion re this ongoing problem.

The only other thing I've got is just to inform you that there is now a Planning Application at Wick Farm for River House, the house next to Wick Farm, the one on stilts. There haven't been any objections and the closing date was last week. I suspect he will probably go to appeal.

There was then more talk about traffic calming measures to stop the racing along the Broadway and the Coast Road and some of the side roads like Brightlands and Broadlands.

Annette our PCSO stated that what the Police would like to do is to catch some of these boy racers and find out what clubs they're affiliated to, if any, but what they have found so far is that they are just enthusiasts who meet for social reasons. We're trying all sorts of things and we will be down here later on. We were down here yesterday and we know they were racing yesterday but our guys didn't catch them as they weren't here at the right time. Eddie – The best thing is if you have CCTV, try and make a log with the registration numbers, what time they are there. It seems to be around the same time night after night, mostly between 9 and 10pm. We know it's certainly happened three times this week already.

There being no more questions, Avril thanked the Councillors for their input.

9) ENTERTAINMENT

Back by popular demand after our very successful summer social in June, I would now like to welcome **Paul**, otherwise known as **Curly The Busker**, who is going to entertain us for about half an hour, then we'll take a break for our food & more liquid refreshments. Then he'll entertain us again for about another half an hour. After this we will have our raffle and any final notices.

Over to you Paul. Applause from the audience.

Paul again told us a little bit about his charity raising efforts for some of our local charities. At the present time, he's just a couple of hundred pounds short of £30,000. Applause from audience. He joked and told us that probably a lot of the money is from people who just wanted him to stop playing! So, we'll just start off with some 50s and 60s music, so do sing along

Paul started with some good old rock 'n roll, the first couple of songs were very much rock 'n roll but I (Avril) couldn't remember the titles, then Paul did more very up beat songs including Put on Your Dancing Shoes. Then some general banter with Paul mentioning that Cliff Richard would soon be 80, and still has more hair than Paul !!

He made a few jokes including trying to persuade the audience that as Cliff is coming to Bournemouth next year, Avril will be getting a coach load together ! Lots of laughter.

Paul then told us some funny stories about Cliff Richard including one about a You Tube video of Cliff singing Move It, where he splits his trousers.

Paul then gives us a selection of Cliff Richard songs including Living Doll, Travellin' Light, Summer Holiday, most of the audience joining in.

More banter and funny stories. Next some one-hit wonders which included Why Must I be A Teenager in Love, Runaround Lover, The Night Has a Thousand Eyes, Blue Suede Shoes. Continued with Bye Bye Love More banter, funny stories and laughter.

Continued with some songs that maybe our parents would have known including Don't dilly dally on the way, the Lambeth Walk, Any Old Iron, Nice Cup of Tea, When You're Smiling, Knees Up Mother Brown,

Then to go on to when the country needed pulling back together after the war. Someone said "don't lets bring politics into it tonight". Let's talk about Brexit instead!!!

Songs continued including Here we are again, happy as can be, We've got a lovely bunch of coconuts, Let's all go down the Strand, Hello Hello Who's Your Lady Friend, I Do Like to be Beside the Sea, All the Nice Girls Love a Sailor,

The old ones are the best – sadly, most of us know them all !!!

So now to move on to the 60s – we watched Little Weed in the 50s and went on to a little weed in the 60s. Songs, mostly a Beatles medley, included Your Mother Should Know, Yellow Submarine, When I'm 64, I get by with a little help from my friends,

Enthusiastic Applause. We then broke for food and drink for about half an hour. Paul played his mandolin as background.

Paul continued with some Christmas songs including Let it Snow, then some of the worst Christmas jokes, then more songs (the first one I recognized but don't know the name)

Another 50s one – It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, then Merry Christmas Everyone,

Lots more Christmassy jokes include some "knock knock" jokes.

Music continued including I Wish it could be Christmas Every Day, Last Christmas,

We then held the raffle, helped by Paul and Eddie. I'm pleased to say that one of the prizes was won by our PCSO (I selected a prize and met up with her before Christmas to hand it over)

Final Songs – Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Jingle Bells,
Loud Applause & Cheering

Avril - Thanks to Paul for such an enthusiastic and enjoyable evening

10) A few Final Notices

I'm starting to book **speakers for our 2020-2021** season so if any member has anyone they can recommend, please let me know.

Just a reminder that there is **no meeting in January**.

Our **next business meeting** will be on **Wed 5th February** when Brian Heppenstall, the Senior Ranger at the Hengistbury Head Centre, will talk to us about his life as a Ranger.

Also in February, **Wed. 28th February**, will be our **Annual Dinner** which as always, will be at Gilbeys Restaurant at The Liston Hotel in Woolstonecraft Road, Boscombe Manor. I already have the Menu and I will send out the Menu and Booking Forms in January to everyone whom I have an email address for.

If there's anyone here tonight who hasn't given me an email address, please let me know well in advance if you will be interested in the Dinner so I can arrange to get a booking form to you.

Don't forget to vote next Thursday in the General Election.

So, thank you all for your support.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Get home safely and see you all in 2020.

Meeting closed at.....10.00pm

Members Present.....76 Chairs put out & occupied but only 54 people signed in !!!

Final Note From Avril Added to these Minutes:

I would like to express my thanks for the members who helped out this evening as follows:

Chris A. who came down at 5.30pm to help me put out all the tables and chairs, and Ray N. who helped with tables and chairs after, Dee M. and Sue G. who helped with the signing-in sheets and Pat B. for any new members, Ross C. for Sale of Raffle Tickets, and Frances S. for supervising the buffet table and anyone else who "chipped in" on the night, especially clearing away at the end and helping to leave the hall clean and tidy.