

HENGISTBURY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2020
Venue: St.Nicholas Church Hall, Broadway, Southbourne, BH6 4EP, 7.30pm

Members Present at Meeting 85

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 (Absent)
Socials - External	Avril Ogden
Programme & Newsletters	Avril Ogden
General Committee	Lester Ruckley (Apologies received)

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

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

1a) Happy New Year to you all and welcome to our first meeting of 2020. As it's the start of a New Year, there are quite a few notices but I'll be as quick as I can.

1b) Firstly, please make sure that everyone here tonight has signed in - the forms were at the back of the hall. My apologies for my handwritten notice about signing in but I was still trying to find some helpers at 5pm this evening so it was rather a rushed job. May I also take this opportunity of thanking the people who came early to help with putting out the chairs.

2) Especially for any new members here tonight, I just want to let you know the usual format for our meetings is a general introduction, then the Police, then our Speaker, then the Councillors, then Any Other business & any final notices. Questions & Answers after each item.

3) In the absence of a Secretary to take minutes, I have a Voice Activated Recorder and I will produce Minutes from this. These will eventually be put up on the Members area of the website.

4) We have now **uploaded our Membership Application form to our Website**. I've already received quite a number of new members through the website. There is now also the option to pay your subscription by direct bank transfer.

Membership Application Forms are also available in both St.Katharine's Church and Church Hall, and also here at St.Nicholas Church, also at the Post Office in the Broadway, and Tuckton Library. The General Store in the Broadway is also going to give us some Front Window space soon. I am looking into other locations so as to make people aware that we are here.

5) Within the **Members area of the website**, there is now a list of meeting dates and the booked speakers so if you mislay your programme, you can check these by going to the website.

6a) The **membership list** for this year is now up to date and with the help of our IT Manager the email list is also now up to date for this season. All unpaid past members have now been deleted from the mailing list. The password for Members on the Henra website has now been changed and all members who have provided an email address have already been notified. In future, the password will be changed every year.

6b) We are still trying to update the general areas of the website but this all takes time so please bear with us. We are aware that some parts of it are out of date. We have been working with a website set up by a previous committee several years ago.

6c) I'm still working on getting **past Minutes** typed up and in the past few days have managed to upload a couple more, these ones from March & April 2019. I'm currently working on the Minutes from the AGM last May. So only two more to go from last season, then on to the Minutes starting in October just gone for this season. I'll catch up eventually, no doubt.

7) I know that some people don't like to speak out at meetings, or maybe don't get the opportunity to, so last year I introduced a **Comments/Question Box**. There are some forms here that you can write your question/comment on. Or you can Email/Write to me with any questions. If you are writing in with questions or comments, and haven't previously given us an email address, please ensure you let us have a stamped addressed envelope. Everything will be dealt with. All questions will receive a response, either direct from me or will be raised at the next meeting. Also, when you write in or send your membership forms by post, **please** put a stamp on the envelope. I've had several unstamped letters this year and it costs me personally £2 each time. Even though I've let the "culprits" know, so far I've haven't been reimbursed for these.

8) We do still need **more people to join the committee** and would welcome new people to join us, not necessarily for any specific roles, although we do still need a Secretary. If there is anyone here who would like to be considered, please indicate this by using one of the Comments Leaflets and putting in the box. If you have any particular skills, do let us know.

9) At the end of last year I reported that I'd received a complaint from the Church Wardens that 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 but please don't switch them off. Having said that, when I came in tonight, all the lights were on out the back there and the heaters in here were switched off so I shall be putting my own complaint in!

10) Thanks again to all of you who have bought some of the **BH Coastal Lottery** tickets and registered these to support Henra. This is much appreciated and we are already receiving 50% of the ticket sales into the Henra bank account. Next season, we hope to be able to start offering some financial support to some of the ongoing projects based within the Henra-designated area.

I have noticed that there are quite a number of you who registered on the Henra site but haven't yet bought any tickets. Also there are a number of you who bought tickets when it first started but these tickets have expired and need renewing.

Henra members have had winning tickets in the majority of the draws so far and in one of the draws before Xmas, one of our members won quite a large financial amount.

To date, nobody has won the weekly prize of £25,000, so why shouldn't it be a Henra member?

11) A reminder that our **Annual Dinner** is 3 weeks today on 26th Feb at Gilbey's Restaurant. I am still taking bookings for this. I've brought along some booking forms tonight in case anyone needs them.

12) There will be an email coming out to everyone in the next few days as there will be a slight change to our programme for next month's meeting. Our booked speaker is from the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance. This is unchanged. That's still going ahead.

I have, however, also received a request from BCP Council to allow someone to come and talk to us about the plans for the new **Beach House Café** on Mudford Sandbank. The plans will be made available for you to view, most probably prior to the start of the meeting and then there will be a Q & A session after our booked

speaker. So, in other words, we're going to take up a lot of the Councillors' allotted time. (Someone said "hooray") Laughter.

I am just finalizing arrangements with the Church in the hope we can open up earlier than usual and as soon as I have the OK, I will let you all know the details. At the moment, it looks as though we're going to open up at around 7.15 so you'll have a quarter of an hour to look at the plans before the meeting starts.

13) Only this morning, I have received a request from one of the **Police & Crime Commissioner Candidates** to address one of our meetings. The only problem is that the election for the PCC is on 7th May which only leaves our April meeting to fit this in. If I can arrange this, I will let members know by email. As you might recall from your programmes, I already have a speaker booked for our April meeting so the PCC candidate would have to speak to us during the Councillors Q&A section again. (Laughter) I do wish these people wouldn't leave it until the last moment to ask if they can come along!

14) Finally for the moment, BCP Council have planned for a group to litter pick as part of the **Leave Only Footprints** campaign. They are meeting on Sat. 21st March at the Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre. I've asked Brian if he'll give us a bit more information about that after his presentation.

I don't want to hold up the Police or the Speaker any longer so I'll mention anything else of importance later on.

15) POLICE PCSOs Sam Hoskins 5343 and Julia Finlayson

Sam Hoskins - As you can see, we have two new ladies with us tonight. Buy one get one free!!

Apologies that Annette can't be here this evening, so we've drawn the short straw!

My name is Sam and I've worked this area and the surrounding area for the past 13 years. I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

I don't have a lot to report or update you on.

I understand that one of the issues you've had has been with **boy racers**. You might have seen from our Facebook site that we have done a lot of patrols, both in marked and unmarked vehicles. We have spoken to a lot of them on several occasions and to the best of my knowledge, the issue has now stopped. I did swing by the area just before we came here tonight, around 7 o'clock. Sam asked Eddie Coope if there were any continuing problems.

One member from the audience stated they were still speeding but Sam asked if they were just speeding or actually racing each other. Sam mentioned that due to the layout of the road, it does lend itself to people speeding although that isn't an excuse.

If it's happening regularly as you say it is, then possibly our next port of call will be to speak to the Traffic Dept and get them involved. I'll forward that on to them for you.

Another thing I wanted to mention, a good perspective from our point of view, in the next two years we are going to have an increase of about another 200 officers so this will be very much welcomed. So hopefully soon, we'll start to see some people coming through the training and joining different areas.

That really is all I've got from our perspective. Does anyone have anything else they wish to raise?

Q - Has the dog-napping stopped

A - Nothing much else heard since it was reported before Christmas about the white van. There were checks done in relation to that van but nothing could be proven. We certainly haven't heard anything further since about people trying to intentionally steal peoples' dogs.

Sam - There have been a lot of email scams

Avril - When I know about them, I email all our members to warn them.

Sam - Scamming in general, whether it's Internet, phone based, door to door, unfortunately at the moment is absolutely rife. Please, no matter what, or how convincing somebody seems to be, don't ever give any details over to them. Don't give bank details over, don't give personal details. Banks won't ever ask for your details over the phone. So no matter how convincing somebody may be, that person does not work for your bank.

Even when people come to the door, some people think that if they say no to somebody, then they're being rude. At the end of the day, it's your property. If you don't want to listen to what that person is saying or offering something to you, you don't have to. You just have to say "no thanks" and close the door.

If that person persists, doesn't want to leave, or if you feel threatened or intimidated, give the Police a call. We'll come down. We'll deal with it. That's what we're here for. I cannot stress enough that you shouldn't give any details out. Unfortunately, a lot of people in this area have given out details and ended up losing thousands of pounds, some being left penniless. These scammers are very, very clever and it can take them only a few minutes to do it.

Cllr. Malcom Davies mentioned that there was an elderly couple in Bournemouth who have been scammed out of a Million Pounds. Malcolm also mentioned about a situation in London where someone had pretended to be a Police Officer. If someone claims to be from the Police, just ask them their name and badge number and where they are stationed. Then ring the station and ask to speak to Sgt. Jones for instance and of course, they'll tell you there's no such person there.

Sam went on to say that anyone who says they are from the Police, all Police and Police Staff have their own identification. Their Collar number is unique to that person. If anyone comes to your door and claims to be from the Police, that Collar number is what you should ask for. If they give you a number, that's fine. The way for you to check that is to phone 101, speak to the person in the control room, tell them you have someone at your door who says they are Collar number...., in my case 5343, can you confirm they work for Dorset Police.

Any genuine Police Officer or Police Staff will not mind at all if you ask for this. We'll happily stand outside in the wind and the rain whilst you check! Laughter. We don't mind. We'd much rather you do that than you think someone is a Police Officer and it turns out that they're not. So anyone who is genuine will not mind you checking. Also, every officer will carry identification with them at all times.

There are all sorts of scams, banks, internet service providers, Inland Revenue, all sorts.

Avril - I had another one the other day which I hadn't come across before, someone telling me that my TV Licence was due and asking for my bank details.

Sam - With some of them, you feel they are almost genuine. There are others that you think, really?. But people do fall for them. Sometimes, with the elderly in particular, one of the big scams for them is telling them that they've entered a competition and won a prize but they need to send off some money so that they can send the prize money.

Please be mindful. If you want to do some checks, do some checks. A lot of people don't realize just how much of their details are actually out in the public domain. Just because they know your name, or your address, or your phone number, does not mean they are genuine. You never ever need to give your details out to someone you don't know.

Someone asked about Warrant cards - Sam told us that every officer carries a warrant card which includes a photo ID, their Collar number and also specifies their job role.

Unfortunately we are the only two on duty this evening so if there is nothing else, we will have to make a move.

I'll report back to Annette and hopefully she'll be back with you next month.

Loud applause.

Avril - So now to our speaker for the evening.....

16) SPEAKER - Brian Heppenstall from Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre who is going to talk to us about A Year in the Life of a Hengistbury Head Ranger. He is joined tonight by Mollie, one of his student placements. So welcome to you both.

Brian told us a little bit about his personal situation. He was born and raised in the area. He explained that he

is the Senior Ranger for Hengistbury Head and detailed the area he looks after. There are three people managing all those areas every day of the year. He gave us a little insight into these people and went on to introduce us to Mollie, his student placement.

Mollie then gave us a little bit of information and explained that through funding, she is now actually employed as a permanent placement at the Centre.

Brian and Mollie then went on to explain their daily management duties at the Centre with the help of visual aids. They went on to tell us about the various projects they had been involved in during the previous months and their plans for the future.

Loud Applause

Thanks were given for a very interesting and informative presentation.

17) WARD COUNCILLORS

Avril – The next section is our Ward Councillors and Question & Answer Section. Just in case there is anyone here who doesn't know them, on my left here is **Cllr. Malcolm Davies** and sitting over there is **Cllr. Eddie Coope**.

Avril - One small item was reported to me a few days ago and that was about the repair or replacement of a **road sign in Wick** that points towards Hengistbury Head. Apparently, this was damaged by a fire engine about a year ago and nothing has been done about it.

I have received a question from a member who is unable to be here tonight. They would like to know, and I quote, **why there seems to be such secrecy about who is negotiating with the Council about Broadwaters**. There wasn't last time around when McCarthy & Stone were negotiating on the site.

Hopefully the Councillors can give us an update on these and then after that, the floor is open for any other questions.

Malcolm Davies - I was contacted by the resident about two months before Christmas, on the back of the site, and the lady said she would like to see it developed because at the moment it is just an unsightly mess. She mentioned she'd seen people walking round there and asked if it was a sign that there would be some activity soon. Malcolm said he went to the most senior planning officer and asked if he'd heard anything and whether there had been any application come in, or a pre-application. Malcolm said there are apparently some people talking to the Council at the moment but doesn't know who it is because it's commercial. That was 3 months ago and probably the pre-application reached a conclusion. If the pre-application was favourable, we should hopefully hear something soon.

Avril - Re the road sign in Wick, do you know anything on this?
Both Councillors said they had no knowledge of this but Eddie would look into it.

Avril - If anyone has any other questions or comments, please speak clearly so the tape can pick up what is said, including the Councillors. I have had great difficulty transcribing the Minutes for the website as I cannot hear what has been said, even when I switch my recorder to full blast.

Q - One member mentioned that some areas seem to be just a dumping ground for the **Beryl Bikes**

A - Malcolm - I know that before Christmas, the Police were involved because they were being stolen. The company still have problems although all the bikes are fitted with a GPS system.

Q - There have been **no lights on Tuckton Bridge**.

A - Eddie - It is being looked at. The problem is that one of the major cables below the bridge has gone and when the weather's better, they'll have to get a barge so they can fix them.

Eddie mentioned that the **Crossroads car park** (near the big deckchair) is up for development.

Eddie also gave an update re the **parking outside Tesco** which had gone out to public consultation (which finished on 23rd January) and we hope to get a reply on that around Easter time, where they'll put the new markings. Apparently the signage was wrong and meant they couldn't enforce it. This has to be assessed, then go to Cabinet.

Eddie also mentioned that a lot of **potholes** had been reported. Wick Lane has been marked out so that will be done. Let us know about any other areas.

A member mentioned about the **Charles Rolls statue** needing a new location.

Eddie mentioned that a new site was needed. This is now out for consultation.

Someone asked who owned the land and Eddie reported that most of it was owned by the Church. A short discussion ensued about possible alternative locations for the statue.

There were no further questions.

18) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Just a couple of final notices then,

Don't forget to send in your booking forms for our Annual Dinner in 3 weeks time, on 26th February.

Our next meeting is on Wed 4th March - check your emails for a possible alteration to the starting time.

So unless, there's anything else, be safe getting home, thank you very much for coming and I look forward to seeing you all next time

Meeting Closed at...9.05pm