

**HENGISTBURY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 6th APRIL 2022.**  
Venue: St.Nicholas Church Hall, Broadway, Southbourne, BH6 4EP, 7.30pm

Committee:

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Chairman                | Avril Ogden  |
| Vice Chair              | Vacant   |
| Treasurer               | Sarah Willett  |
| Secretary               | Avril Ogden  |
| Membership Secretary    | Avril Ogden  |
| Henra IT and Website    | External   |
| Meet & Greet            | Hilary Baker   |
| Socials - In House      | Avril Ogden  |
| Socials - External      | Avril Ogden  |
| Programme & Newsletters | Avril Ogden  |
| General Committee       | Deborah Bergson<br>Brian Miller (Outgoing Treasurer)<br>Pat Butler<br>Roger Street |

Hon President                      Tony Yates (Absent)

**Apologies received from :**

Brian Miller  
Our Website & IT Manager

Welcome to you all. I hope you can all hear me OK? Can everybody at the back hear?

So firstly, a few notices for you and a quick run-down on the format for tonight and future meetings. I'll be as quick as I can and I'll read from my notes here so I don't forget anything.

Mindful that the pandemic is still with us, and to try and make sure everyone stays safe, for the foreseeable future, even if restrictions have been removed by the Government, face coverings must be worn at all meetings. In addition, I have bought a stock of hand sanitizer and there is a bottle by the entrance.

As existing members will be aware, when I took over as Chair in Sept 2018, I introduced **Signing-In sheets** and everyone attending meetings is asked to make sure they sign in. This is especially important at present because if anyone is unfortunate enough to get Covid-19 or one of the variants, please let me know so I can email everyone who is at the meeting tonight so they are aware.

For any brand new members tonight but also a reminder for everyone, the usual format for our meetings is the general introduction by myself followed by a report from our local Police Community Support Officer, then our Speaker, then the Councillors, then Any Other Business & any final notices. There will be time for Questions & Answers after each item.

**EXTRA NOTE** - I then asked if we had any brand new members here tonight or members that hadn't attended any meetings before. Nobody admitted this but when I checked the signing in sheets the following morning, I found there was one Non-member in the meeting. This person had quite obviously tried to deceive as had put just a squiggle for their name

instead of printing it and no address was entered and a postcode was entered that didn't exist. Just to warn you all, I am now quite seriously thinking of introducing membership cards. Anyone would think our membership fee was expensive!

In the absence of a Secretary still to take minutes, I have this voice-activated recorder here and I will produce the Minutes from this and these will eventually go up on the website. Especially whilst we are all wearing face masks, please make sure you speak clearly so what is said can be heard by everyone.

**EXTRA NOTE** - When I went to transcribe the meeting notes, I found that for some reason the recorder had not worked correctly so all the notes here are done from memory.

If any of you have looked at the Minutes from the past few meetings which are now up on the website, you will notice that there are quite a few gaps regarding what was discussed, especially regarding questions put to our speakers. This is because, the audience members didn't speak loudly enough and the tape didn't pick up what was said. Also, when several people speak at the same time as has happened quite a bit, it's virtually impossible for me to decipher exactly what was said. Recording our meetings is also very useful as a record in case of any disputes about what was discussed.

For the past two meetings, we tried using our old microphone system in addition to the one I'm using here and this enabled us to hand a microphone to you when you wished to speak so if you would like to ask a question, please put your hand up and wait for Roger to hand you the microphone. I did notice last month that some of you just held the mic on your lap rather than putting it close to your mouth (*Laughter*)

A reminder also that there is a Comments/Question Box on the table here if there is anyone who doesn't like to speak out at these meetings, they can put a message on the forms, a polite one of course!

I'd like to thank the members who came early tonight to help with the setting up of the chairs & also for the members who are helping to get everyone signed in.

I apologize for the state of the hall. Unfortunately, when I arrived tonight, I found that the hall and the stage were full of playschool items which had not been put away by the previous occupants. I will be putting in a complaint as this took us quite a lot of time to move things so we could set up the chairs. Thank you, in particular, to Roger for his invaluable help.

Membership Application forms are also still available from both St.Katharine and St.Nicholas Churches, the Post Office in Broadway and Tuckton Library, as well as on our website. If you have neighbours who are not yet members, especially any new neighbours, please tell them about Henra because until we can get organized properly again with people collecting memberships like we've done in the past before the pandemic, we're reliant on word of mouth.

Since we met in March, I'm also pleased to tell you that we now have two more members joining the committee, both long-standing Henra members. **So please welcome Pat Butler and Roger Street.**

You may recall that for the past four years I've been putting out a call for a Henra member to independently examine our accounts each year and I'm glad to say that a couple of months ago, Pauline came forward.

As most of you are already aware, Brian, our Treasurer has had to resign for health reasons but he kindly agreed to finish the accounts for 2021. These are now complete and were passed to our Independent Examiner and approved and will be available to view at our AGM in May. Brian has also agreed to remain on the Committee as a General member, at least for the time being.

As you already know, I put out a call for a replacement Treasurer and thankfully this call has been answered and I am pleased and happy to announce that the one response I did receive was from Sarah Willett who has been a Henra member for several years. She has offered to take on the role of Treasurer and will handle the accounting with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022. The existing committee have all approved her appointment with immediate effect and I'm just in the process of getting all the relevant paperwork done with our Bank which hopefully will be sorted out very soon. Unfortunately Sarah isn't here tonight so I'll introduce her to you all at our AGM in May.

I do have some important notices about future meetings but I'll cover that at the end.

**POLICE PCSO Annette Long** Unfortunately Annette isn't here tonight

John Lambon, one of our members, had previously asked to speak to you all about an attempted break-in at his house a couple of weeks ago, particularly his shed and garage. Fortunately nothing was taken. He told us about the Police "Bobby Van" Personnel who came out and how helpful they were. He also suggested that it might be quite interesting to ask them to speak to the membership at a future date.

### **SPEAKER**

The Fire Service were booked to talk to us but they didn't turn up and had not given any prior warning.

### **WARD COUNCILLORS**

The next item is our Ward Councillors.

When I checked the **BCP Planning website** again yesterday, I didn't see any additional, new applications that would affect us all and there didn't appear to be any more information about the current applications that I've reported on over the past few months and the information on those is all up on the Henra website on previous meeting Minutes so you can check or you can look at the BCP Planning website.

Our Ward Councillors if you don't know, are Eddie Coope and Malcolm Davies. If you wish to ask a question, please raise your hand and wait for Roger to hand you the microphone.

**I did receive one question** from a member regarding the Noddy Train which you might like to answer first. I repeat what was sent to me - Back in the day when Roger Ferris was given permission to run the train, it was given only on condition that he ran the service 365 days a year, which he did for many a year. How come that now it is run by the Council, there is often no service at all?"

I'm sorry to say I can't remember what response the Councillors gave to this question about the Noddy train.

Some time ago, I had emailed our membership to tell them that the planning application regarding Southbourne Crossroads had been unanimously refused the go-ahead. Malcolm then confirmed this and stated that all the Council members across the BCP had voted against it.

There were no other questions from the audience

### **Any Other Business**

Firstly, thank you to everyone who has purchased tickets in the BH Coastal Lottery via the Henra page. One of our Members had a win last week and has donated her winnings to Henra, so thank you to Brenda for her kind donation.

I also want to say yet again, how disappointed I was last year when I continually asked for volunteers to oversee various things. - my requests were sent out to around 1000 emails and I only received two responses. I have sent out several more emails this year but only received one response.

I have mentioned this at all our meetings for the past few years and I have to say that if you want Henra to continue, it is now imperative that more people step forward and get involved because the future of Henra is still in doubt as I just cannot continue to do the majority myself any longer.

In particular, we do need a Secretary. This isn't as daunting as it might sound. As things are at the moment, the main duty will be to take Minutes at our general meetings but obviously as things improve, the duties might be more involved. The Secretary, will of course, be able to vote at committee meetings and have a say in how Henra proceeds in the future.

One vacancy on the committee is that of In-House Social Secretary. We only have two in-house socials each season, in June and December. There's not a great deal of work involved - just obtaining the liquid refreshment and any sundries, preparing the tables and setting up, clearing away afterwards. Usually there will be a couple of members who will help with the clearing away.

I have to tell you that if I don't get an offer for someone to come on the committee and take on this role, I am going to cancel the social side of our June meeting, including the entertainment I'd already organized. I just cannot take on any more myself. I need someone to come forward before the end of April to take this on. I may well also cancel our Christmas social for the same reasons.

As regards our meeting in May which is also our AGM, it might well be necessary for our booked speaker to cancel. Bill Hoodless whom most of you probably know, was due to talk to us on the History of Hengistbury Head but following the still increasing cases of Covid, he is understandably reluctant to come along. So keep checking the website for updates on the speaker.

As it is also our AGM in May, I will be presenting reports and will also need to get our Committee members re-elected to stand for a further year.

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, I have also received notice from one of our members about a Jubilee Afternoon of Tea, Cake & a Chat, to be held here at St.Nicholas Church, outdoors if weather permits, on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2.30 to 4.30pm. Finer details are

still being discussed as they may be looking to include some music and singing. I will let you know of any additional details nearer the time.

I am also starting the process of preparing our next brochure and arranging speakers for our next season. As regards speakers, I will try and re-book those that have had to be cancelled due to Covid but if anyone knows of good speakers, please let me know.

I also need to find some advertizers so if any of you have a business or trade you would like to promote, the prices to advertize in our brochure are very reasonable.

Does anyone have any further questions or comments before we finish for the evening? It seems it's going to be a nice early night for us all.

So thank you to those of you who are going to stay and help to put the chairs away. Please make sure that the red ones are put up on the stage here otherwise I get my knuckles rapped.

So get home safely everyone and see you in May. Don't forget to keep checking the Members' Area of our website for notices.

Meeting Closed at.....8pm

Members Present...32 (1 Non-member)