

**HENGISTBURY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2022.**  
**Venue: St.Nicholas Church Hall, Broadway, Southbourne, BH6 4EP, 7.30pm**

Committee:

Chairman	Avril Ogden
Vice Chair	Vacant
Treasurer	Sarah Willett (Absent)
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	Pat Butler Deborah Bergson Roger Street
Hon President	Tony Yates (Absent)

**Apologies received from :**

Hilary Baker – On holiday  
Cllr. Malcolm Davies – Out of country

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

Welcome to you all. I hope you can all hear me OK? Our first meeting for our new season of 2022-2023. 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 to a degree, for the foreseeable future, although not compulsory, it would be appreciated if you would wear a face covering/mask at meetings but it's entirely up to you. In addition, there a bottle of hand sanitizer in the foyer.

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. The forms are in the foyer. Please make sure you PRINT you name. A squiggle won't suffice.

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

In the absence of a Secretary to take minutes, I have a voice-activated recorder and I will produce the Minutes from this and these will eventually go up on the website. Please make sure you speak clearly so what is said can be heard by everyone. Recording our meetings is also very useful as a record in case of any disputes about what was said.

As you are aware, there is now a Membership Application Form available on our website. Several people have told me that they can't complete the form as they don't have a printer. For future reference, you do NOT need a printer. The form has been set up in such a way that you just complete it then press the submit form button. If you still prefer the old way, then application forms are available at Hengistbury Post Office, Tuckton Library and both our local Churches.

It's been somewhat difficult to get people to renew their memberships again this year simply because I've had to rely on the past couple of years' membership lists to contact everyone. Some people have still complained that nobody had been to collect their subscriptions as in previous years, obviously not taking into consideration that we have been in the midst of a pandemic! Whilst I had quite a number of people who volunteered to deliver leaflets, nobody was willing to knock on doors.

Once we can be sure the pandemic is completely over, I'll look into the possibility of contacting non-members but until then, I rely on you all to tell people about Henra, especially new residents in the area. As of today, the membership list shows that only about 65% of last years members have renewed. I have sent out numerous reminders, the most recent being last week. A number of people have responded to this last email I sent but only in the last few days so I just haven't had the time to enter them into the system.

I must also apologize that our latest brochure wasn't made available to you sooner. The delay was caused partly by pressure of work but more importantly because I was kept waiting by people who had said they would contribute an article, some of which never materialized. I also struggled to get advertizers as I've been unable to visit anyone in person due to my current walking problem. Also I'm unable to drive either which is a real pain.

Anyway, the brochure this season is actually increased in size again, from 40 pages last year to 44 pages this time. I hope you will think it was worth the wait.

Incidentally, only about 20% of the membership have called to collect their new brochures so it's been a real waste of my time giving up so many days when people could call to collect these.

I have now changed the Password for the Members' Area of the website. All unpaid memberships have now had their email addresses deleted from the mailing list. Paid members can check the Members' Area of the website for any notices.

All the Minutes from October 2018 onwards are now up onto the website along with the Annual Reports presented at the AGMs.

A reminder 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 then they can leave a message on the paper there.

### **POLICE PCSO Annette Long**

Avril – Incidentally, it's Annette's day off today so thank you for giving up your free time.

Annette gave a general introduction and mentioned that it has been a fairly busy summer. (Even using the microphone, most of what Annette said was indecipherable on the voice recorder). Annette talked about various scams that still continued, also mentioned that the boy racers seemed to have "calmed down" a bit with fewer complaints from residents. She also talked about anti-social behaviour and car crimes, reminding us not to leave things like wallets in our cars.

There were no questions from the audience.

### **SPEAKER**

Some of you might remember our next speaker who came to us back in 2019 and I'm very pleased to welcome her back again. This time her talk is called The New Forest Pony - More than meets the eye. So please welcome Suzanne.

Suzanne gave us a beautifully illustrated talk about the New Forest Ponies.

### **WARD COUNCILLORS**

Probably most of you know who our Ward Councillors are but just in case there is anyone here who doesn't know, we have two in our area. They are Malcolm Davies and Eddie Coope. Malcolm sends his apologies but he's away on holiday. So Eddie will answer any questions you may have.

Please make sure you speak clearly when asking any questions.

Eddie – First of all, welcome back. It's good to be back again after two or three months. It's been a very busy three months on our behalf, with planning applications and with the good weather we've had there have been many incidents with vehicles parked on the grass verges all round here.

I'll just run through a few of the main planning applications that are coming up. Obviously you all know that the

Southbourne Crossroads Car Park has gone in for a second application, that went in at the beginning of August and that's due before the planning committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month. There are over 600 objections to the application.

I haven't got a date yet re the Beach House Café on Mudeford Sandbank – this is going up against the Committee – again around 250 objections

There's an application in on 103 Wick Lane

Then the Cliff House Hotel in Belle Vue Road have put in an application to close it as a hotel and turn it into apartments but I don't have any more information on that one as yet.

You've probably seen that over the past two or three months, we've managed to get the white and yellow lines reinstated around Tuckton and Broadway

The outdoor centre – that's gone out to tender.

The new Bistro, or SOBO, has been up and running on the beach – that's there for the next two years. Hopefully once the planning goes in, we'll keep an eye on that one.

If you've been up to the Hungry Hiker, you'll see that the Charles Rolls Memorial was officially unveiled on 12<sup>th</sup> July

Lastly, unless there are any questions, don't forget that this Sunday it's the Marathon so a lot of the roads around here will be closed for a couple of hours so if you want to get out, park on the other side of the Broadway, otherwise you'll have to wait till around mid-day before the roads are open.

I think that's it from me – are there any questions?

Someone made a comment about the yellow & white lines – Eddie replied that you'll notice there are even yellow lines on Tuckton Bridge and double yellow lines even go around Tuckton roundabout!! Laughter.

Someone asked for an update on Broadwaters – Eddie-nothing at the moment.

The other thing I forgot to mention which has come to light in the past day or two is that there are rumours that people are pushing forward for the wind farm again in Bournemouth Bay.

Avril – They started that again about six months ago.

Eddie – we have been warned about this but let's hope it doesn't come about – that was a really big campaign.

Avril – where's Bill Hoodless when we need him? Eddie – If there's any update, we'll let you know.

One audience member was praising the replacement café on the beach and asked how long it would be kept there. Eddie thanked them for the praise and laughingly said he'd propose it would be kept for another three or four years instead of the planned two years. Apparently there are going to be a few more covers put up for over the winter, so there will be more under cover and bigger awnings.

So with no more questions, Eddie commented he “got off lightly” this meeting !

Avril – Just one thing that's come up from that, the Cliff House Hotel, as it looks as though it's going to be closed, can somebody come up with some suggestions as to where we might go for our February Annual Dinner. I had got it booked and it's the only restaurant actually within the Henra area. I did have it booked last year but I cancelled it because of Covid. We were going to be limited to numbers anyway.

Unfortunately Gilbeys is closed now and the Cliff House was really the only other place in our area. But we need to take into account that not only can we get a fixed menu at a fixed price so that we can order in advance and they know what we're going to be ordering and we all know what the price is going to be but it also needs to be somewhere where people can park easily as most people would have to travel by car, even sharing a car there needs to be a reasonable amount of space to park. So if anyone can come up with some suggestions, I'd be grateful. I have tried one or two places but they want £300 or £400 deposit before we even start. So if anyone has any suggestions, please email me and let me know.

Someone mentioned Gilbeys – I haven't spoken to Diane for a while but she was going to join us as a Henra member but I don't know whether she's actually moved yet. I haven't been in touch with her for a while.

## Any Other Business

Thank you to everyone who has purchased tickets in the BH Coastal Lottery via the Henra page. There have been quite a number of you who have won free tickets and quite a number who have won some money. A couple of people have actually donated their winnings to Henra as well which is also very nice.

It might be of interest to you to know that in the almost-4 years the lottery has been in existence, nobody, anywhere within the Bournemouth area, has yet won the weekly prize of £25,000 and I don't believe anyone has won a £2000 prize yet either. I think there have only been a couple of £250 prizes. So why shouldn't a Henra member win one of the big prizes?

Q - Someone asked if I know anyone who has won something

A - Yes definitely, there's been people within the Henra membership that have won money and there have been a lot of people who've won free tickets which obviously gives them an opportunity the following week, some of which have won money from that as well.

Also, of course, we get quite a bit of money back from it. 50% of all the ticket sales comes back to Henra that were bought through our page and we will shortly be looking at ways to distribute some money to organizations within our area that need some funding. So if you know of anyone who is looking for funding, tell them to get in touch with me and we can have a look at it.

I sent out an email to everyone some weeks ago now but I'd just like to remind you about the RNLI Concert at Christchurch Priory on 15<sup>th</sup> October. I have the details here if anyone needs them but please don't remove this as it's the only copy I have. All funds raised from the event will support our local RNLI and the Mudeford Lifeboat.

I would just like to say how **I continue to be disappointed** that nobody seems to want to help out with the running of Henra. For the 5 years that I have been overseeing this organization, I have asked for volunteers at every single meeting and also sent out various emails but to no avail.

**Back in March this year, someone actually said to me that it wouldn't be too difficult to replace me. Well, now's your opportunity.** Laughter.

**I'm quite serious - For the past five years, I have been working on behalf of Henra for around 16-18 hours every single day, seven days a week and quite frankly, I'm exhausted. And as you may have noticed, I now have a mobility issue and haven't been able to leave my home for the past 3 ½ months.**

**I will try and carry on for as long as I can but I just feel as though my good nature is now being taken advantage of.**

Despite numerous requests, I would also like to remind you, yet again, that we have our **Christmas social** coming up in December and although I've booked an entertainer for us, **this will be cancelled if nobody comes forward to help** organize the evening. I have also booked a different entertainer for our June social next year but will also cancel this if necessary. **Is it really too much to ask for someone to give up a small amount of time and effort twice a year?**

Before we close, I would just like to say a huge thank you to Ray who kindly collected me and my Henra luggage this evening so I could still hold this meeting tonight. Ray and his lovely wife Karen have been a huge help to me over the past few months whilst I've been incapacitated. So thank you both. Audience clapped them.

So, does anyone have any further questions?

**Eddie – Are there any volunteers? Silence from the audience!**

**Avril – I'm quite serious. I'm going to have to give up. I just cannot carry on any longer.**

Our next meeting is on Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> November and I've managed to persuade the Rt.Hon. Tobias Ellwood, MP for Bournemouth East to come and talk to us. If for any reason, he is unable to attend, I will put a notice in the Members Area of the Website to let you know if I have arranged an alternative speaker. I hope to see you all then.

So get home safely everyone and see you next month

Meeting Closed at...9.05pm

Members Present Only 38 signed in

Note – Just before we started the meeting, I'd counted 47 people seated!!