

Hawkesbury Parish Council



**Minutes of Hawkesbury Parish Council Annual Assembly Meeting
Held on Tuesday 25th April 2017 at 7.30pm
In the Methodist Hall, Back Street, Hawkesbury Upton**

Present:

Cllr Cox (Chair), Cllr Higgs, Cllr Wareham, Cllr Hope, Cllr Harding, Cllr Ruthven, Cllr Musty and H Jones (Parish Clerk)

Apologies

Cllr S Bleaken and Cllr Winbow

Public Participation

Mark Holden-SGC Recycling Changes, Jane Browning Emergency Planning Officer SGC, Jane Shepley Hawkesbury Stores, Alan Shewry –HVT, Sarah McCombe, Mel Thomson Afterschool Club, Graham Chamberlain Neighbourhood Watch and Parishioners

Cllr Cox Welcomed Everyone for attending this year's Annual Assembly Action

1 To Take apologies for absence

Cllr S Bleaken and Cllr Winbow

2 Approval of Annual Assembly Minutes dated 18th April 2016

Resolved by Cllr Cox signing the minutes as a true and accurate record; approved minutes to be uploaded to the Parish Council Website Parish Clerk

3 Chairman's Report – Cllr Cox

Hawkesbury Parish Councillors are very enthusiastic; following Bryan Robinson resignation before Christmas Cllr Cox was elected as Chair, he learnt a lot from Mr Robinson.

Welcome to Chris Harding who was Co-opted onto the Parish Council earlier this year.

Cllr Sally Bleaken notified the Parish Council of her resignation with immediate effect.

A “drop in” took place recently regarding future development in Hawkesbury. Good feedback received and future meetings will be taking place shortly.

The Parish Council adopted two telephone kiosks recently and we are looking for suggestions for their future use and volunteers to help restore the boxes.

A request was made to move Emergency Planning forward – all in favour

5 Emergency Planning – Jane Browning Emergency Planning Officer South Gloucestershire Council.

Their aim is to improve community resilient and encourage communities to set up an Emergency Plan (due to cut backs there are now fewer services available). SGC designed a template to use as a guide. It can be made as big or small as we wish; or we do not need to do a plan.

- Rural areas have different issues to Towns
- Severe weather - to continue functioning if we lose some resources
- Look at risks, vulnerable people in the community
- Contact list-volunteers-emergency services 20 minutes from village
- Recognise dangers-who can I call on?
- Parishioners have local knowledge

A copy of the Plan was given to the Clerk. If the Parish Council wish to produce a plan to contact SGC.

CLlr Cox thanked Jane Browning.

4 Forth coming Recycling Changes – South Gloucestershire Council representative-Mark Holder

Mark provided the audience with a service change update on the waste strategy 2015-2020. A power point presentation was provided and this will be available on the website.

- Targets to improve recycling
- Collection changes-recycling on a weekly basis. Fortnight collections will remain in place for both the green and black bins.
- Households with medical waste will continue to have extra capacity free of charge
- Large households will be assessed on a case by case basis – Annual fee £30
- Families with children in nappies no longer receive extra capacity, but qualify for: Discounted reusable nappy kit, One-use bags for nappy collection service
- New vehicles to simplify the service collections next year
- New refuse vehicles will be later this year
- Old bins will be replaced with smaller black bins

Questions;

Medical waste-refer to your local pharmacy-dealt with - controlled basis

Nappies (not babies)-treated as medical waste-clinical waste to be collected

Medical Assistance-crutches-return to hospital or recycled

Envelopes-can be recycled (plastic windows to be removed)

Yogurt pots-recycled

Lids for recycling boxes-netted lids-Inglesstone Common cows get into the boxes

Increase in Fly tipping was discussed

Cllr Cox thanked Mark Holden

6 Jane Shepley – Hawkesbury Stores Volunteer (PR)

Background information regarding the raising of funds to purchase the shop. Trading commenced on 25th June 2016 with a grand opening in July.

- Business is almost 50% ahead of projection.
- Awarded grants to help improve the facilities in the shop.
- Large increase in Christmas orders
- 87 volunteers of which 16 have regular slots.
- Volunteers also include painting, branding of logo, designing of website

Refurbishment –

- phase 1 upstairs, front office to rent out
rewiring, new windows
- phase 2 down stairs
lighting heating new freezers

Alternative location to be agreed for 1-2weeks of final improvements

Cllr Cox thanked Mrs Shepley

Blue Heart Campaign-Cllr Ruthven

- A campaign to bring back more nature-Fergus Beeley idea
- Growing for wildlife, to increase biodiversity.
- Sparrows are in decline
- Bees are declining
- Fewer birds and butterflies
- Areas of gardens, parks and road verges to be left uncut to grow wild - cut again in September
- *“Placing a blue heart in the ground to show that you care”*

Short video from Fergus Beeley was shown.

Check out the Blue heart campaign via www.Bluecampaignhub.com

Blue hearts and cards were available to take home.

Cllr Cox thanked Cllr Ruthven

Afterschool Club – Mel Thompson

Draught proof curtains have been installed thanks to the very generous grant from the Parish Council. These have been an amazing improvement to the After school club room. It means the door can be left open in all weathers and the children can decide for themselves if they play inside or outside.

Overall numbers remain very high with most days nearly to capacity. We have 3 incredible members of staff. During half term and the Easter holidays staff and parents have helped with improving the outside area. Further improvements to the outside are in the pipeline.

Cllr Cox thank Mrs Thompson

Hawkesbury Voluntary Transport Group-Alan Shewry

Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 6th June 2pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room, all welcome.

10 years on-with 20 drivers, 4 coordinators and one treasurer, all volunteers, providing a service for 80 plus parish residents who require transport to and from appointments to any medical establishment.

Most of the drivers with Alan in 2007, and most of us in those days were in our early 60s. Guess what. Time marches on and now a lot of us are in our 70s, with some reaching 80 years old. I think HVTG need some younger talent to ensure continuity.

The insurance companies are once again making things very difficult. For the Comcar, over 80 means a £500.00 excess, and any slight knock in your own car, even if it is not your fault, means a £250.00 excess. Unfortunately this means two of our stalwarts can no longer drive the Comcar.

This period, HVT lost the services of one of our originals, Barbara Harvey who moved to Chipping Sodbury and will be sadly missed, however luckily HVT has a new driver, Chris Chubb, to fill the vacant slot. The bonus is that Chris is nowhere near 70 years old yet.

Carol Blaken continues as Treasurer, but has relinquished her role as Coordinator, Dave Hives replacing her.

Sadly we lost Vicki Hopes to illness, a great loss as she was one of the originals, and a person always ready to help out. However, once again we have been lucky enough to find a replacement, and welcome Jill Bendeaux to the Coordinator A-team of John Bennett, Dave Hives and Brian Noble.

This time last year I was in negotiation with Roy Steele, the South Gloucestershire Council Integrated Transport Manager, who advised me that HVT would lose the red Belingo Comcar. We were offered the opportunity to purchase the vehicle, but, for personal reasons, Mr Shewry turned that down.

So, it was no surprise when in September Roy advised me that the vehicle was being removed from service to be sold. What was a surprise was that HVT was offered a brand new Citroen Belingo. All of our passengers and our drivers are delighted with the new white acquisition; it is a vast improvement on the old one.

HVT is available to any resident of the Hawkesbury Parish, and is not dependent on a passenger having a Diamond Travel Card. Non holders of a Diamond card will have to pay for the full return journey at 40 pence per mile, whereas Card holders are subsidized for the first 25 miles by South Glos. Council.

2016/2017 Facts and Figures

This year, HVT's tenth year of operating, the team has driven a total of **62590** miles and completed **2465** journeys. The last 12 month period, **5515** miles and **196** journeys were completed.

Once again a very successful year and many thanks to the HVT Team, and South Gloucestershire Council for their continued support.

Cllr Cox thanked Mr Shewry

Guides and Rainbows-Louise Roberts

Thank you to the Parish Council for their support and grant funding. Rainbows have 30 children. Louise is looking for someone to take over from her, after 20 years in the village it will have to close in July if no one comes forward. Rainbows start from the age of 5-7 years.

Guides goes from strength to strength, fantastic community, forthcoming events from the Big Gig 3k girls attend. The PC funding helps towards the costs to pay for the coach. Carys Wareham was chosen to go to Iceland with 12 girl guides. Fox Leaze in August, £1500 fund raising to make it affordable for everyone.

Cllr Cox thanked Louise Roberts for all her help with the young people of the village, hopefully someone will come forward to take over Rainbows.

Graham Chamberlain Neighbourhood Watch

Took over last year as a contact for the Neighbourhood watch team. Background information regarding local police contact was given; thank you to the Parish Council for their support and as a point of contact and including the offer to use the notice boards to advertise events.

Cllr Cox thanked Mr Chamberlain

7 District Councillors Report – Cllr Hope

The matters Cllr Hope raised last year have now come to pass:

- We have a **20mph** not only round the school, but through most of the village;
- Greater uptake of **Superfast Broadband**; however there are still some pockets waiting for improvements.
- The demise of the Area Forums and all they did. The area now has a **Community Engagement Forum**, which does not seem to pick up matters from our area; the forum covers Cromhall, Charfield, Wickwar and Rangeworthy parishes as well as Hawkesbury.
- **Service Cuts** – We are to lose our local mobile library; there has been interest in setting up a local community library, but this has yet to be followed through. Please contact me if you are interested.
- **Member Awarded Funding** – this is the new grants system, whereby grants are awarded by the local councillor. This last year grants have been awarded to – amongst others:
 - Hawkesbury Hospital Hall
 - Hawkesbury Theatrical Group
 - Hawkesbury Youth Club
- Devolution – creation of the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) representing the areas of South Gloucestershire; Bristol and Bath & North East Somerset, with decision making powers over housing and transportation,

Planning Policy Development – Thanks to those who responded to the Local Green Space document. The results were:

- Both the Recreation field and the Cricket & Tennis Club have been given Local Green Space Designation (LGSD) (Space has been left around the Village Hall

for a possible extension).

- Hawkesbury Upton Pound – LGSD
- The site of the Somerset Monument – LGSD
- The land opposite the Somerset Monument is highway land; the parish council has asked for a licence to manage this land.
- The Plain has not been granted LSGD; this is adopted highway land and very unlikely to be built on.
- Hawkesbury Pound (by Pound Farm, near the church) is adopted highway land and very unlikely to be built on, but not given LGSD designation.
- The amenity areas around the village; land at Sandpits Lane (the well-used play space), land opposite the Allotments and land adjacent to 15 Highfields have had the objection removed for becoming LGSD and the outcome is awaited.
- The allotment area is allocated as housing land and the objection to this being a LGS has not been removed, although this has been contested by the Parish Council. The Council say that as long as the allotments are viable they will remain as allotments
- The Council received an objection from the landowner for Hawkesbury and Inglestone Commons to have Local Green Space Designation (LGSD). Part of the area is covered by Site for Special Scientific Interest, but not all the Commons.

Results of the Joints Strategic Plan and Joint Transport Study, which identify areas of growth, will become part of the newly elected Mayor's programme (or not); work is ongoing on the Local Plan.

The Bus Service – after consultation the times and routes have changed, the service is well used, however there are still gaps in the service in the early morning and teatime service.

It has been another busy year despite the reduction of number of committees; I have been the Lib Dem lead on Health Scrutiny, which has looked at palliative care and urgent care services. I have represented the Council on the Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board and Merlin's Customer Assembly.

Changes lie ahead with the election of the Metro Mayor for the WECA on May 4th and SGC changing the constitution for a Cabinet/Executive style Council.

Councillor Cox took this opportunity to thank the Clerk for her work and also Cllr Hope for her support.

10 Hawkesbury Parish Council Financial Report

Hawkesbury Parish Council has stayed well within its budget for 2016/2017 and remains in a good financial position.

The parish Council continues to support local groups and organisations with grant funding of £1525.

Maintenance to the Allotments boundary fencing and Lych Gate will take place this

year. The PC Website is now up and running.

11 Public Open Forum-already covered

12 Date of the next Parish Council Annual General meeting will be held on Monday 8th May 2017 in the Methodist Hall, Back Street Hawkesbury Upton at 7.30pm

**Minutes Approved as a true record
Chairman**

April/May 2018

Additional Reports received

1st Hawkesbury Upton Brownies-report – Liz Howard (Snowy Owl)

We currently have 27 Brownies on roll and are fortunate to have 3 leaders and 2 adult helpers (Jan Treasure and Betty Salthouse), which makes the running and organisation of the group so much easier!

Last year we had a weekend away at Briarlands – the Bristol and South Gloucestershire Guiding site near Wick and had a great time – with a theme round the Jungle. We are planning to go again in October.

Various other activities have been a visit to Tescos in Tetbury for an autumn food trail and a fundraiser for Send a Cow when a speaker from the organisation came to talk to us about the charity. We then made cow money boxes (out of recycled plastic milk cartons) and sent them money we collected - over £100.

We always plan to work together towards a variety of badges – such as our artist badge. This term it will be the Healthy Hearts badge (so expect to see us out and about around the village!)

For Mothers Day last term we invited our mums/ grans or aunts in for a pamper session where they received a neck and hand massage plus entertainment and refreshments (they are probably still recovering!!)

And in June we are having a day away – taking a train from Yate to Bradford-on-Avon, going on a canal boat ride, and having a fun walk along the tow path.....
Makes you all want to join Brownies doesn't it!