

MINUTES OF THE WINTER GENERAL MEETING OF THE NORTH EAST HAYLING RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION HELD IN NORTH HAYLING VILLAGE HALL SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2023 AT 7.30PM

Derek Bowerman (NEHRA's Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting and particularly our guests: Julie Richardson, Councillor for Hayling West ; Leah Turner, Councillor for Hayling East ; Paul Gray, Councillor for Hayling West ; Mark Coates, Councillor for Hayling East and Brenda Linger, Councillor for Hayling West.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Alan Mak M.P. for Havant, Councillor and Mayor of Havant Rosie Raines, Tom Dyche, Ruth Dyche, Andy Berry, Debbie Berry, Sue Drake, Derek Cutler, Hannah Buchanan, Angela Tate, Paula Day, Derek Lendrum, Simon Bound, Jo Bound, Tim Rowe, Nicky Rowe, Sue Palmer and Coleen Jackson.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON FRIDAY 19TH MAY 2023

These were approved as correct. Proposed by Barry Cunningham. Seconded by John Blake.

MATTERS ARISING

None that were not going to be covered by the agenda.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Derek introduced the members of the NEHRA Committee and thanked them for their work:

Lesley Shayler Treasurer, Chris Emery Licensing and Entertainment, Jane Dodsworth Major Planning Issues, Derek Matthews Local Planning Issues, Hannah Williams Grid Lock and Publicity, Peter Marshall Gridlock, Local Maps and Specialised Drinks, Fenella May Membership Secretary and Publicity, Tom Dyche Website Secretary and Publicity, Alan Bartlett Pantomime and Press, Judy Clark Planning Consultant and Mark Glasgow Secretary. Since the AGM in May 2023 the committee have met every month apart from August.

The Pop Up Pub in October was well supported and we are anticipating another one in the Spring.

Chris and Tom have recently carried out a ' Litter Pick ' through the village.

The Village Carol Service with the St Peter's Singers is due to be held here on Thursday 14th December and the Pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk will be held here on Saturday 27th January 2024. Derek thanked Alan and Fiona Bartlett for all their hard work. Alan commented that he was available for tickets and the fact that there were difficulties getting the cow into the hall as well as problems with the bean seed germination.

NEHRA are proposing to hold a new event in the Spring with Fish and Chip Bingo. There appears to be good support for this event from the show of hands of those present.

NEHRA's AGM has been scheduled for Friday 17th May 2024. At this meeting there will be an opportunity for people to join the Committee.

Hannah and Peter have arranged a meeting in the New Year with Havant County Council, Highways and the Police with regards to the gridlock that occurs in the village when there is an accident on the main road and traffic is diverted through the village.

NEHRA have also discussed the 20 mph speed limit. The committee have agreed that this speed limit would be appropriate through the village but would not be applicable for the whole island. Discussions continue with Wilf Forrow and we understand there is due to be a meeting with Havant County Council shortly.

As a committee we are aware of letters being sent to residents of Spinnaker Grange dealing with access on to the common. Tim Barton commented that some residents in Northney Road had also received a letter. NEHRA continue to be involved with Havant Borough Council with regards to tidying up the common. Jane will be commenting on the common in her report.

With regards to local planning issues, NEHRA have commented on the applications from Meadow Farm Nursery and Copse Meadow Lodge. We have also met with Tim Pike to discuss the application for reinstatement of the sea wall and creation of an inner bund. We have answered many questions posed by members but felt this was very much a matter for English Nature, Chichester Harbour Conservancy and other statutory powers.

Due to the wet weather, the major concern in the village has been the flooding either side of the village. The flooding has been reported to Havant Borough Council but nothing has been done about jammed tidal flaps and similarly the Environment Agency has done nothing to alleviate the flooding at Gutner Lane. We have had difficulty finding the people who have the responsibility for flooding. Leah Turner had agreed to take this matter further.

As a committee we were saddened by the death of John Griffiths and we offer our condolences to his wife and family. John was well known in the village on his red tractor and for many years he maintained the telephone kiosk. We have arranged for a plaque to be placed on the kiosk in his memory with the words, ' John Griffiths Keeper of the Kiosk '

Derek finished his report by thanking all the ladies for the excellent refreshments and wished everyone present a very Happy Christmas.

FLOODING. Colin Hunt asked what measures were being taken to help the flooding in the village

Councillor, Julie Richardson commented that Havant Borough Council moved shingle on Hayling sea front from the West beach area to Eaststoke. She also said that money can come from the Environment Agency with regards to flooding to protect homes and businesses.

Councillor, Leah Turner thanked the Northney residents and the NEHRA organisation for their support over a number of years. Due to change of boundaries she will no longer be our representative from May 2024. Leah then gave a short presentation on flooding.

She said that she had been involved with the flooding issues in Northney since 29th November 2023. She had sought information from: Derek Bowerman, The Civil Engineering Landscaping Team at HBC, Coastal Partners and County Councillor Lance Quantrill. She had learnt from Lance Quantrill that Hampshire County Council had recently restructured to create a section for Universal Services which included a new team of technically qualified officers for Flood and Waste Water Management.

On the 16th November 2023 Hampshire County Council convened a Flood and Water Management Conference. This conference involved the key corporate players: The Environment Agency, Coastal

Partners, Hampshire County Council, Local District and Borough Authorities and the Southern Region Flood and Coastal Management Committee.

The outcome of this conference was that Hampshire County Council would be the Lead Local Flood Authority and the others would work together to identify issues and responsibilities. If collaborative working fails to produce results then under the Flood and Water Act 2010, Hampshire County Council have powers of enforcement and can compel those responsible to make good and maintain watercourses

It would appear that the tidal flaps to the North of Northney Road are the responsibility of Hampshire Highways and the one to the South of the hotel has riparian responsibility (that is the landowner).

The flooding along Northney Road is being addressed by Hampshire Highways under report number: 21705612.

Lance Quantrill has taken on the responsibility to work with the officers of Hampshire County Council to pursue the flooding issues and to summarise the situation at NEHRA's AGM in May.

Leah finished her presentation with information from Coastal Partners

A flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Scheme for Northney (ODU 1)including the Northney Road frontage (ODU1A) has been proposed in the Strategy's short term action plan. Subject to securing funding, this will start with a feasibility study in 2027 to look at and appraise appropriate coastal management options along the whole of this frontage.

Funding will however be a challenge and it is expected that a variety of sources of funding will be required. If no funding is found then the landowners have the ultimate responsibility for maintaining or improving their own defences but must act within the statutory planning regulations.

Under the Coast Protection Act 1949, Coastal Protection Authorities and the Environment Agency have permissive powers to carry out works to protect against coastal flooding and erosion. However this is not a legal obligation. This means Havant Borough Council has the power to carry out coastal flood and erosion protection works where this is an overriding public health and safety concern, but it is not duty bound to do so and will not be liable for the failure to exercise these powers.

In general, Local Authorities and the Environment Agency will only act where there is a wide public benefit, an affordable appropriate engineering solution that is fundable and achievable and where environmental legislation is not contravened.

To end the presentation Leah asked if any houses had been flooded in Northney. Two people said their houses had been flooded: Lesley Shayler and Barry Cunningham. Leah said that during her thirteen years as a Councillor she had not been aware of any house flooding in Northney.

Councillor Mark Coates also said he was available to help with the flooding situation.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lesley confirmed the following for the two accounts:

Community Account – £1679.86

Business Account - £6352.42

Lesley said that the money in the Business Account was set aside for a contribution to possible work being carried out on the path between the Langstone Bridge and the Langstone Quays Hotel.

There were still some outstanding expenses for the Community Account which included expenses from the Winter General Meeting with wine and cheese and the Pantomime.

PLANNING REPORT

Jane gave a review covering three areas specific to Hayling Island:

Local Plan; Coastal Management Strategy and Hayling Island Seafront Regeneration.

Local Plan This was out for consultation between October and November 2022. HBC are redrafting this plan with the responses and proposals and will be back out for consultation at the end of 2024. It will be submitted to the Secretary of State at the end of 2025

The main priorities of the consultees regarding more development on the Island were:

- a) protecting the natural environment
- b) infrastructure (roads, sewage treatment capacity, health and access to GP's, education and impact on schools)
- c) flood risk and climate change combined with the risk of more housing.

The Government have set a target that Havant Borough Council have to build 516 houses in a year. 55% of people disagreed with this target as they felt it was unrealistic due to impact on the natural environment and infrastructure.

Coastal Management Strategy The purpose of this strategy is to address coastal flood and erosion over the next 100 years. The consultation took place again between October and November 2022. The feedback reflected the same areas of concern that were raised for the main Local Plan:

- a) increasing development will increase the risk of flooding coupled with coastal erosion and sea defences
- b) important to improve access for walking, cycling and horse riding as this would ease the load on the main road the A3023
- c) flood and coastal erosion risk and infrastructure should be addressed before any new development.

The feedback will be incorporated into the next draft for consultation.

Hayling Island Seafront Regeneration There was support to improve the seafront but again concerns over the infrastructure. Many views expressed that any regeneration should also protect the characteristics and natural environment and not to commercialise or over develop the area.

Hampshire County Council stressed the importance of building in transport modelling as improvements will increase traffic onto the island as well as improvements in public transport. The Council also supported the re-instatement of the Billy Line and encourage use by foot, bike or horse rather than by car.

Again the second round of consultation will be the end of 2024 and the final document will be submitted to the Secretary of State at the end of 2025.

Jane then reviewed the situation with regards to North Common. A North Common Steering Group has been formed chaired by County Councillor Lance Quantrill. Unfortunately the Biodiversity Initiative or Land Credit Scheme has not been implemented yet. NEHRA have asked Craig Stainton from Havant Borough Council to attend one of our meetings and update us on the situation.

Wilf Forrow asked if it was possible to send concerns to HBC about the Local Plan. Jane answered by saying there would be another opportunity for personal views in late 2024.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Fenella reported that we now have 231 members. She is pleased at the number of people who are renewing their membership by standing order. She wanted to remind people that a single membership is £3 and a joint membership is £6.

WEBSITE REPORT

Tom continues to keep the website up to date with NEHRA events and use the website for local publicity.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Derek reminded people about the Tree of Light at St Peter's Church and also the Book Swap in the Village Hall on Thursdays. Wilf Forrow also had 30mph bin stickers available.

Mark finished the meeting by thanking Derek for his kindness to the new Committee Members and for the time and effort he puts in to lead the Committee as Chairman. Everyone supported this with applause.