

Autumn 2011



HDRA NEWSLETTER

AGM

Wednesday 14th September 2011

Our AGM is on 14th September 2011 in St Wilfrids Church Hall. Doors are open at 7.00 pm and the meeting will start at 7.30. A complimentary glass of wine or a soft drink will be available on your arrival.

This year our Chairman and Secretary who have both expressed a wish to stand down and replacements are being sought. However, they are both going to remain on the committee. The Association has been in being for many years and inside (Page 4) Alan Morse has written a piece recounting our achievements and what the future may hold. It is important that we do this to ensure that the Association is still relevant and reflects the members wishes for the village and its surrounding area.

As usual we will be inviting our local County, District and Parish representatives to attend and answer your questions.

SKITTLES EVENING

11th NOVEMBER 2010, 7 pm at THE VILLAGE HALL

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Social News

We have had several people in the village say to us how they have missed not having the BBQ this year. This event has grown to such an extent that we were struggling to organise it and, although Trevor was still happy for us to use his park, the bridge leading to it is in need of some repairs. Since the retirement of our main helpers, Sue, Barbara and Cherry we have been unable to come up with a suitable alternative with regard to the food. So we are open to suggestions for next year. Do we stick with the same format or try something different with perhaps people supplying their own picnic. We would provide the music, gazebo's, dance floor and maybe a bar and some games and start earlier in the afternoon. Let us know what you think and your suggestions.

Our main Autumn event is the Skittles Evening which will take place in the Village Hall as we did last year. We have set the date as 11th November. See the advert in this edition for tickets and times etc.

Looking further ahead at the Cheese and Wine event next year (date to be decided) we are now looking for a speaker for the evening. All suggestions welcome.

Association Diary 2011

Annual General Meeting @ St Wilfrids: 14th September (7 for 7.30 start)
 Skittles Evening @ The Village Hall: 11th November



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Treasurer Statement for the Year 2010 to 2011

Income		Expenditure
Sponsorship of newsletter by Alandown Motors Ltd	356.00	Newsletter 553.00
Donations	5.10	Hire of rooms 272.00
Events	747.60	Hospitality 179.39
Subscriptions	180.00	Food (skittles) 225.00
Bank Interest	3.48	Events 613.16
Transfer of petty cash	123.85	Raffle prizes 19.80
		Transfer of petty cash 123.85
Total Income	<u>1416.03</u>	Total Expenditure <u>1986.20</u>
Excess of Exp. Over Inc.	570.17	
	<u>1986.20</u>	

Balances	at 17 September 2010	at 31 July 2011
Cheque Account	1387.29	937.49
Deposit Account	6973.30	6976.78
Petty Cash	123.85	0.00
Totals	<u>8484.44</u>	<u>7914.27</u>
	Excess Exp/Inc	570.17
		<u>8484.44</u>

Designated Reserves

Minerals Fund	2140.60	2141.67
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J. Letheren (Treasurer) 1 August 2011

Checked by A. Rodgers 2 August 2011

Please bring this edition of the News Letter with you to the AGM if you have any questions on these figures.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Questions from the vice chairman

Hambrook District Residents Association has been in existence for around twenty years now. Perhaps it is time to review the Associations achievements so far and to set a direction for its future.

HDRA's activities have always been centred around projects and concerns that affect the whole community. Indeed the concerns of local residents when the Showpeople first moved on to their land off Priors Leaze Lane was the major cause for the foundation of the Association. After two public enquiries and many council meetings the Showpeople were finally granted retrospective planning permission. They have since then lived and worked there causing no problems or disturbance to local residents. The reason for HDRA's objection was nothing to do with the Showpeople themselves, but that their living and working from the site designated as agricultural land without planning permission should not be allowed. Permission was finally granted so we wish them luck and may they succeed and prosper.

This was followed West Sussex County Council preparing a new minerals plan. The plan involved large areas of Woodmancote and land to the east and west of Cheesemans Lane being designated as land that could be used for minerals extraction. Again after two public enquiries and much fund raising, the HDRA were instrumental in successfully persuading WSCC that increased area of land in the plan was not necessary. The Plan was duly amended. None of the land designated has ever yet been used for extraction. No detailed planning applications to do so have ever been submitted.

The Association put a great deal of effort into canvassing and persuading the local authorities to change the parish boundaries so that Chidham and Hambrook are in one parish as opposed to being split between Chidham and Southbourne with the boundary being in the middle of Broad Rd. Now all of Broad Rd and Cot Lane along with the rest of Chidham are in one single parish. Over an almost ten year period a great deal of work was done in raising money from various charities and local government to design and develop the Children's play area adjacent to the Marshalls factory. Apart from raising the finance a huge effort went into negotiating for the land. Marshalls agreed to allow us to use the land on a peppercorn rent, and when they finally sold their site the process is in place for the land to be donated to the Chidham and Hambrook Parish Council so it will be permanently used as a play area.

HDRA was also instrumental in persuading Southern Water to raise the construction of the overflow sewer system in Broad Rd and the Avenue up their priority list. We believe that without our continual letter writing stressing the importance to the local community, we may still be waiting for the work to be done.

On the social scene our Social Committee have done great work in organising our annual village barbecue and skittles evenings, as well as jumble sales cheese and wine evenings and other fund raising events. This year the inaugural Fun Day at the Children's play area was a great success. It is hoped to make this an annual event.

That is where we are at the moment, so where do we go for the future?

In the past the association has been most active and dynamic when there has been an issue that is a major concern for the local community, where our independent and sometimes strident voice could be effective. Currently such an issue is not apparent.

The Maybush Copse project to which HDRA made a financial donation is running smoothly and attracts large numbers of enthusiastic volunteers and supporters. The Organisations that run it seem to be doing a good job.

The Chidham and Hambrook Parish Council are to be congratulated. They are now actively seeking land that can be used for a recreation area, football and cricket maybe. It is a facility that has long been needed in the village.

The Organisations that run the village hall seem to have moved away from the idea of building a new one on the site of St Wilfrids and are currently raising money to refurbish the existing village hall. Do you think that any community money forthcoming from the Marshalls site should be spent on the old village hall, a building that can never be fit for purpose? Or should the energy and finance be used to build a new one, designed as a village hall not an oast house? It is well known that our Chairman and Secretary both wish to stand down from their positions at our next AGM. So far no replacements have been identified. For the Association to continue in its present form, it needs new younger people to become involved and hopefully to join the committee.

Your comments invited

1. Should it go into abeyance just having the occasional Committee meeting until an issue important to the local community occurs that is not being dealt with in accordance with local residents feelings?

2. Should it carry on running social events picking up on other issues as they arise?

Tell us what you think; email your opinions to: postmaster@chidhamandhambrook.info putting HDRA on the subject line. This means that all of the responses will be posted on the Chidham and Hambrook website for everyone to see. The results will be presented and debated at the HDRA Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 14th September 2011 at 7.30pm at St Wilfrids. Please come to the meeting and join in the debate. It could have a profound effect on your Residents Association.

Alan Morse (vice chairman)

Your opinions please. ED

Letters to the Editor

A new village centre and recreation field has been an ambition of the local community since the Parish Plan was formulated in 2005. However, last year a meeting for all interested parties was called and those present decided that since sufficient funds for a Village Centre would be unlikely to be forthcoming in the foreseeable future, efforts should be focused on refurbishing the existing Village Hall to a high standard.

Since then huge effort has been put into improving facilities at the Village Hall. We have secured a grant from the harbour authority, and another from the parish council, which, together with money raised by the film society, is sufficient to replace the heating system. We also have lottery funding to build a ramp for disabled access. Beyond that we are working with architects to draw up plans for refurbishment which will include an extension to house disabled toilets, a lift to the 1st floor, more storage space, sound proofing between the 2 floors and a better kitchen. The cost of these works is not yet determined but will be met in part by the s106 money from The Avenue development (already reserved for the Village Hall) and we hope there will also be money from the Marshall's Yard development.

There is increasing use of the Village Hall - look at our local website and you will see that in the last year or so it has hosted Dog training, Yoga, Ukulele and Zumba sessions as well as the WI, Parish Council and Film society monthly meetings.

We need support from the community to make our plans work. The present building is one of great character and charm and is worthy of preservation. Many long-term residents hold it in great affection.

The "green" option is to renovate an already existing building rather than build a new one. A form of recycling!

David Rodgers (Soc Sec HDRA; Trustee of Village Hall)

Last Saturday (13th August) Cherry and I spent a pleasant couple of hours at the Bosham, Chidham & District Horticultural Society exhibition at the Bosham Village Hall. We both had a nice time and caught up with a few friends we don't see very often. The nice thing about the afternoon was not only the display put on by the Society, but the pleasant surroundings. Although this hall has been there for a few years now it still looks fresh, has all the amenities a village the size of Bosham requires and fits in with the location.

My understanding is we are still looking at renovation rather than replacement. I believe our village deserves better than this. After all we did say as much in our village plan. Would it not be more in keeping with the style of the existing building if it could be adapted for a use as an office, small retail or craft market or divided in to apartments. As our village expands we surely need a more modern facility that can accommodate enough people on one floor with more flexibility and comfort.

Andy Collins (HDRA Chairman)

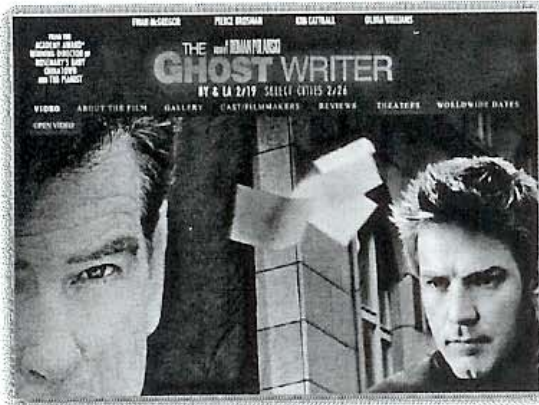
Below is a tear-off questionnaire for you to complete and return. I have asked Phil at the Post Office if he would be kind enough to collect them for us. We will publish the result in the next News Letter. This is not a scientific test but we hope give an idea of local opinion.

Question	Yes	No
Build a new village hall		
Renovate the existing village hall		
None of the above		
Comment:		

Secretary's Corner

Our secretary was going to write a piece on the proposed changes to the planning system, the big society and what the need would be for HDRA involvement. However, he is now lying in a dark room with a cold compress on his forehead. Nigel is not one for giving up on a subject but this has proved slightly above his Mensa rating. Maybe in the next News Letter.

ED



Friday Sept 30th The Ghost

This gripping, conspiracy thriller adapted from the thriller by Robert Harris, stars Ewan McGregor as a writer whose life is put in jeopardy when he ghosts the memoirs of Pierce Brosnan's Tony Blair like British ex-PM. Once hugely admired he is now disgraced, fearing extradition and prosecution and confined to virtual house arrest. Directed by Roman Polanski (cert 15)



Friday October 28th

Sausage and Mash Supper £10

The Kids are all Right

Two children conceived by artificial insemination bring their birth father into their family life with unforeseen consequences. A warm, witty, ultimately uplifting comedy which recognises the emotional ups and downs of family life. A superb cast including Julianne Moore,

All films to be shown in the Village Hall. Doors open 7.30 for refreshments and socialising. Film starts at 8pm. (Food evenings 7pm start)

Tickets: £5 members £6 non-members (contact details : 01243 574074 / 572902
email: towers321@btinternet.com

Committee Members

Andy Collins (Chairman/News Letter Editor) 572976

Alan Morse (Vice Chairman) 572671

Nigel Else (Secretary) 372622

John Letheren (Treasurer) 574189

David Rodgers (Social Secretary) 574074

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