

Anti-social problems on the Clifftop car park

Despite the fact that the CCTV cameras on the Clifftop car park have been replaced, it took a while before they were actually being monitored. We have been working with local residents for several months and have been in constant contact with the police and local authority. Reckless driving where cars are being driven on two wheels can be heard around the area and although there was footage of the reckless drivers concerned, we are still pushing for S59 notices to be served on the drivers of these cars. Motorcycles are also gathering in large groups and using the car park as a racetrack. These notices give a lot of power to the police, and they can take the vehicles away from those breaking the law.

The residents are heartily sick of the disruption and noise that they have suffered for months. It is all very well for the Chief Constable and Crime Commissioner to say that ASB is a top priority - what we need is action not words!

A new Community Park in Christchurch

If you haven't ventured over Stanpit Marsh recently then do take a walk over the recently created community park which used to be the golf course. This is an extension to the Marsh and abuts the Two Rivers Meet sports complex. It adds a delightful extra area with views over Mudeford Harbour and has been designed to attract even more wildlife to the area.

The next Quarterly meeting for HRA

Our next meeting will be held at the Old School on Wednesday 3rd November at 6.30pm for 7pm. Any government restrictions in force at that time will be followed, so please check our website and notice boards for any further information.

Photo: The opening of the newly refurbished Wingfield Pavilion. See article page 3.

Welcome from HRA Chairman Ian Hartnell



It was good to be able to hold a quarterly meeting in August and to be able to update those of you that attended with our various actions and to listen to the concerns that many of you expressed.

As we come to end of Summer, we are still unsure on how the Covid Pandemic is going to react during the winter months. Sadly, it has taken the life of another of our team with the loss of Guy Gillett, the Director responsible for health and safety in the Old School. Guy worked extremely hard to support the HRA and was a great support to me when I first took over the chairmanship by sorting out the membership database. As a former military man with a distinguished career he was always meticulous in making sure things were done correctly. We have also said goodbye to Richard and Mary Reader who are stepping back from the committee but will continue to support when possible. I am encouraged that we are taking on new people who will help us to look after the interests of Walkford in addition to those living in Highcliffe.

I hope to see you at our next Quarterly meeting on Wednesday 3rd November.

Ian Hartnell
Chairman



Highcliffe and Walkford in Bloom - a report by Susan Smith

I am delighted to announce that we have been awarded a silver gilt award in the South and Southeast region of the RHS Britain in Bloom! A big thank you to all who have supported us in preparing for the judging. A huge thank you to our waterers and the many litter pickers throughout our Parish who are mainly active in the 'quiet hours' of the day and who contribute greatly to our entry.

Judging took place in July, and our route took us from Gordon Road to Chewton Common Playgroup, where Helen continues to inspire the children in the use of plants and associated wildlife to produce a stunning display. We then visited Nea Meadows to view

and discuss the valuable meadow area with BCP countryside officer, Robin Harley. A very colourful Walkford was next including the allotments and the bus shelter area where Walkford Green Action Group (GAG) have been instrumental in improving the area.

From there it was the turn of the High Street where the judge spoke to our retiring member of our Group, Roger Lounds, who has spent almost 3 years once a fortnight helping to keep the Crossroads area clean and free of weeds. We finally walked along the clifftop and ended at the Waterford Road seating area which is being enjoyed by so many local people.

We have chosen red, white, and blue for our spring display and we will soon be planning for next Summer. The bed outside Sue Ryder's will be replanted this autumn with small shrubs and herbaceous plants to minimise the need for water in the future. We have also taken on the maintenance of the small, seated area next to the Globe car park.

As always, if you like gardening and want to see the village well cared for, do get in touch to see how you may be able to assist our Group with little practical work my email is: ssmith.campanula@gmail.com

A longer version of this article appears on the HRA website.

A note from the Directors

We are delighted that Anne Bassett has agreed to become a Director of the HRA. Anne came onto the Executive Committee as our membership officer and is also our new treasurer.



The outside of The Old School is currently looking splendid as the warm end to the Summer has encouraged the garden and flowerboxes to look their best.

Thanks to Mary and Richard Reader for their hard work! This week, as I write, Men's Shed were hard at work power washing the parking area at the rear, and again, many thanks to them for that. We can now also post HRA notices onto the new sign recently erected (thanks to Men's Shed), and we feel that at last The Old School is confirming its identity as a hub for the Highcliffe community.

Bookings at The Old School for use of The Large Hall continue to be brisk. It is now possible to take art classes, keep fit, and lose weight right in the heart of Highcliffe! For details of these classes, please check the noticeboards outside The Old School. Your Directors at Highcliffe Residents Association have the responsibility for keeping The Old School in good

working order, and to that end, we are commissioning works to renew the lighting system, and to insulate the loft area.

We have also been very busy this Summer dealing with issues affecting residents, including anti-social behaviour, and zonal parking proposals, to name but two. We work hard to provide our members with information and support, and we need help to do this. Our Board of Directors and Executive Committee are sadly depleted at the moment, and so we would ask if anyone feels they can offer just a little time to help the dedicated few, please do get in touch via the website! No special experience is needed, just an interest in local affairs.

Your HRA needs you!

News from Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council

by Councillor Andy Martin, Vice Chairman



Wingfield Pavilion. The pavilion, newly refurbished by HWPC at a cost of nearly £200k, was officially opened by guest Eddie Howe and the chairman on Saturday September 4th. The new look pavilion now provides vastly improved facilities for all the sporting groups that use Wingfield - most notably of course our Highcliffe Hawks. This has been a great investment in sport, recreation and young people. (A photo of the opening can be seen on page 1.)

The ongoing discussions with BCP over HWPC's "Revitalise the high street" initiative, with both highways and the portfolio holder for regeneration are continuing.

The transfer of the recreation ground and play

areas from BCP to the parish is taking a long time to agree as the Parish Council remains unhappy about the terms on offer.

A working party will shortly be tasked with looking at BCP's local plan proposals and coming up with a response during the public consultation process. It is vital that Highcliffe's voice is heard on this.

The Community Speed Watch has now been officially set up by Councillor Nigel Brooks our BCP Councillor. Volunteers have been trained by the police and will monitor those areas causing most concern.

The Highcliffe Action Team -

Report by Jane Dean

HAT are focusing their efforts on this year's festive light display. Fundraising to finance the installation has been a challenge, so if there are any local businesses who would like to help then feel free to get in touch with HAT's Communications Officer - Jane Dean at hello@janedeanpr.co.uk

This year, HAT intend to re-light Tesco Express's four existing trees, plus house the village's main Christmas tree, plus install 40-50 small artificial trees. Hoburne are hoping to house an 18ft tree outside their new high street development at the far end of Lymington Road.

We are also continuing talks with the BCP regarding the installation of a landmark finger post on the Clifftop. So many of our plans have been delayed due to these most challenging of times, but we are determined to continue to represent both our village and in particular, our high street businesses and traders in a positive vein.

We would like to formally thank the much-valued services of Mary and Richard Reader who have worked tirelessly for the HRA. They have just retired from their roles, and we truly hope they can now enjoy the fruits of their labours by embracing our village's wonderful ambience.

Welcoming new Shops to our village - a personal view by Mary Reader

Despite the pandemic and the closure of some of our long-standing shops, it has been great to welcome some new ones to the village. Two new home improvement shops have opened, a new beauty salon and a small gift shop and apparently a sweet shop is about to open too.

DMW windows and doors at 294a Lymington Road did a great job in installing our new bi fold doors for our sitting room and their prices were reasonable compared to others.

Another new home improvement firm is Homestyle fascias and cladding at 411 Lymington Road. The Lord Bute have used them and are full of praise for their work.

Jessica and her spotless new salon at 322 Lymington Road are well worth a visit and for those of us needing a small gift to give to friends there is a new little gift shop Swan Green Gifts next door to the Paddle, many for under £10. Jenna the owner also has a good selection of Alex Clark cards and gift wrap.

The move to larger premises by 'Flowers by Design' has worked well for Natalie the owner, and her ranges of gifts and cards are delightful. Her wedding studio is also proving a very popular addition.

Parking issues affecting coastal residents

A meeting was held in early September to discuss parking restriction proposals with BCP. Councillor Mike Greene the BCP portfolio holder for transport and two officers from BCP, Ian Hartnell and Malcolm Eastwood from HRA along with BCP Councillor Nigel Brooks and Parish Council Chairman Bob Hutchings. The meeting went well and after a brief outline of the history of the concerns previously raised with regard to seeking Summertime Parking Restrictions.

Cllr Greene acknowledged the work previously undertaken, but was unequivocal in stating that following an in-depth look by himself and Officers of the Authority it was most unlikely that Summertime Parking Restrictions would be applied as the Authority believed the situation here was no worse than in the majority of BCP area. Many of which also suffered from parking issues in the summer.

He gave an outline of the Authority's policy regarding Parking and applied restrictions which was very helpful; he also clarified the situation in respect of the Zonal Parking, which as we now know, was an exploratory initiative which had apparently not been sanctioned or approved for implementation and should not have been made publicly available....Cllr Greene insisted that the proposal would not go ahead without the support of local councillors which was not forthcoming from Nigel Brookes.

He confirmed it was a scheme the Authority was interested in considering but was not the finished proposal and required more work and consultation - and was not solely intended for East Highcliffe but across the entire coastal area of BCP from Highcliffe to Hamworthy as BCP believe it is needed to address the ongoing and growing parking issues it faces.

After explaining the thinking behind the zonal parking proposals, Cllr Greene left along with Bob Hutchings and Nigel Brookes. Ian and Malcolm then continued with reviewing the safety of the present parking arrangements south of the Lymington Road with the BCP officers who were extremely knowledgeable, helpful and professional.

Given the unequivocal stance of BCP that we would not receive further Summertime Parking Restrictions in the eastern area of Highcliffe, it was agreed that we would work with them to discuss the potential of trialling a Zonal Parking Scheme on a number of the roads here in Highcliffe. However this may not be possible because there needs to be a certain density of 'paid for parking spaces' to make it viable to employ the wardens needed to police the project.

The officers were very keen on working with the community and Ian and Malcolm will continue to monitor the situation going forward.

Cafe Scientifique Highcliffe upcoming events

All talks will be given via Zoom until the end of the year and Zoom access is via our website: www.cafescientifiquehighcliffe.org.uk Access from 6.45pm Start at 7.00pm

Thursday 21st Oct

"Nature based solutions to climate change"
Professor Rick Stafford

Rick is a Professor of Marine Biology and Conservation at Bournemouth University, and works on a variety of topics from climate change to and has just completed a big report for the British Ecological Society on nature-based solutions to climate change and biodiversity

Thursday 18th November

"3D printing and fabrication"
Stewart Partridge, Technical Director (Consumables), Enhanced Inkjet S.R.O.

Come and hear from Stewart how this technology is changing our lives.

Keep up to date with the latest news on our website www.highclifferesidents.co.uk
For membership enquiries contact membership@highclifferesidents.co.uk



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