

Meeting	HRA Committee Meeting
Date	03 June 2025
Time	19.00
Venue	The High Orchard PH
Attend.	Grant Bowden (GBo) – Chair DiBs Bucknell (DiBs)– Treasurer Ian Pickup (IP) – Hon Secretary Chris Royce (CR) – Safety and Welfare Wayne Subryan (WS) – Environment and Open Spaces - Apologies Kiran Emery (KE) – Internet/Website - Apologies Sue Steggles-Cole (SSC) – Investments & Internet - Apologies Jen Caple (JC) – Community Developments Alex Kirby (AK) – Community Champion - Apologies Gemma Bate (GBa)– Environment and Open Spaces - Apologies John Byron (JB) – potential Active Member Gareth Steer (GS) – Active Member

1	Minutes of previous meeting: 24 April 2025 Grant proposed acceptance; DiBs seconded. Approved. Kiran will publish them on the new website.
2	Declaration No one declared any conflict of interest.
3	Opening Remarks Grant welcomed everyone to the meeting. He wished to thank to following people: Gemma and Jen for help in setting up the VE day event in the Village Hall: DiBs for his tireless work on trying to get work done on the Hempsted swing bridge: Wayne and Peter Bowden in their work on creating the Tommies and BuildIt for providing the materials for these; Greg Turner in creating the Tommies cutouts;
4	Co-Option of Gareth to the committee: Proposed by DiBs, seconded by Jen, agreed by show of hands. The committee also agreed to add John Byron as an Active Member.
5	Treasurer's Report The bank balance stands at £710. £250.00 is ring fenced for moving the GLRFC defibrillator from inside the building to an outside wall. £200.00 is ring-fenced for a summer party and £25.00 set aside for prizes at a stall to be placed and the school summer fete. This leaves about £235.42 in the kitty. DiBs raised the issue of Insurance for the HRA committee. He had investigated the market and found a suitable policy for £9.31 a month brokered by Hiscox. He will ask councillors if they able to provide grant money to cover this cost which will protect committee members against public liability claims. Before we go ahead with getting this insurance DiBs was asked to investigate whether the parish had any public liability insurance which might be extended to cover our activities. Action DiBs. Should it not prove possible to be covered by the parish insurance, the Treasurer has authority to set up the insurance as per the quote obtained.
6	Project Reports 1. Highways – DiBs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It had to be accepted that no temporary measures to keep the bridge open to pedestrians are possible. Given statements by C&RT and Highways it seems likely the bridge will remain closed until mid-late August. Councillor Trimnell has secured money for a traffic survey on Hempsted Lane. It is hoped this will include the stretch near the splay for the Bellway estate where there have been 2 near missies. A request for a count of how many cars turn right off Secunda Way into Hempsted Lane is likely to be satisfied through volunteer activity Action DiBs

	<p>to investigate if such a count has already been done by Highways maybe as part of planning process for Hill Farm development.</p> <p>e. The Council have been asked for a survey of the tip road which has no footpath to serve any of the businesses along it.</p> <p>2. Environment and Open Spaces – Wayne Subryan and Gemma Bate</p> <p>a. Wayne has agreed to get together with Jag and Charles Hardiman in May to discuss next steps towards a Neighbourhood plan. Committee await the outcome of this meeting.</p> <p>b. Gemma highlighted she is planning a litter pick with the Wombles probably end of Juneish.</p> <p>c. Waiting to hear from Nikki about approval for next round of Terracycle as it involves naming the church as a public drop off point. Nobody other than those who want to recycle things will know about it, but it'll need approval from the PCC.</p> <p>3. Media and Website – Kiran Emery</p> <p>a. Kiran sent his apologies. Grant urged committee to look at the website and suggest what else could go on it. Kiran is looking into setting up or creating a forum on the website to enable discussions: https://hempstedra.co.uk/</p> <p>b. He is midway through an update of documents on the website, including fixing issues with the map and how it displays on different devices.</p> <p>c. Grant is to speak to Kiran about the capability of the website to have user content in a safe area.</p> <p>4. Planning and Legislation – Grant</p> <p>a. The Lysons Trust have applied for a change that would ensure 2 fields cannot be declared as public open spaces. HRA have challenged the application in respect of the field below the church, known locally as the sledging field. The council have responded: the Notice does not have any objection process; therefore, the change of status will be made. A request to make this a Village green space can still be submitted up to one year after the status change is announced. Action GBo to review whether the village has a desire to apply for this and to agree if the level of effort this requires is proportionate.</p> <p>5. Safety and Welfare – Chris Royce</p> <p>a. Whilst Chris had nothing to report. Grant asked if any action had been taken to deal with anti-social behaviour associated with youths congregating on the football field. Residents who see this should contact the police. John will contact our councillors to see if there is any money available to put some facilities on to those field, e.g., an outdoor gym. Action JB</p> <p>b. The parking on Hempsted Lane when a local team are playing football has been raised on the HVNB FP page. Action DiBs to investigate.</p> <p>6. Technology – Sue Steggles-Cole</p> <p>a. We need an update on the laptop refurbishment scheme.</p> <p>7. Easements – Ian Pickup:</p> <p>a. Ian gave an overview of Steve's field Permissive path access change and the application made by a villager to make this a PROW.</p> <p>8. Development – Jen Caple:</p> <p>a. Jen suggested we need more community engagement with HRA website. Could Kiran put a link to it on HVNB FB page? Suggestions for content are linked to maps showing local facilities and footpaths, fields that can be used for recreation.</p> <p>b. As a way of increasing HRA involvement with members perhaps we could have occasional open evening drop-in sessions, a bit like MP have surgeries for constituents' issues. Action JC and GS to review dates and possible scope of event for the next committee meeting.</p> <p>9. Community Champions Alex Kirby</p> <p>a. Grant is interested in hosting a summer party. Action AK to provide advice.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Gemma to inform the committee of the School Fete and the stall 'manning'. Action GBa c. Look into another fundraising event as recommended in the Treasurers report, e.g., a quiz etc. Action AK <p>10. HRA – Values – Gareth Steer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The HRA Executive team have decided that as we a committee mature, we should be able to determine what values and principle drive our decision making. b. Having worked out what these are we should publish them so members can understand why we do what we do – especially where a conflict of interests might be involved. c. Gareth as a new face to the committee will lead on formulating our values. Action GS to set out methodology for value determination for the next committee meeting.
7	<p>AOB – All</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John is keen to find some focal point for older children in the village, perhaps making better use of the green space we have around us. See project report 5a above. Action JB to identify which Project he would like to promote at the next committee meeting. 2. The footpath by the swans' nest near the canal where it goes over the footbridge is narrow and has very tight corners. There have been some near misses with bicycles and pedestrians – could we investigate improving the footpath alignment. Action IP to enquire. 3. Ian announced he is standing down as Hon Sec after about 8 years in the role. Action GBo to advertise the position with the entire committee and nominations to be made at the next committee meeting.
8	<p>Parish Magazine articles:</p> <p>10 June (July) Laptop refurb – Steve Davies (Action - DiBs will ask him). Update on summer party/picnic – also has DiBs told Steve he is meant to be writing this article – or part. To include Secretary change - GBo</p> <p>10 July (Aug) Speeding in Hempsted – DiBs</p> <p>10 Aug (Sept) HRA clinics Jen/Gareth</p>
9	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>17 July GLRFC</p> <p>Recess from 18th July to 11 Sept (exception Summer Party)</p> <p>18 September GLRFC</p>