

Minutes of HRA AGM 06/05/2016

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Hempsted Residents Association (HRA)

Held at Gordon League Rugby Football Club at 7pm on 6th May 2026

Attendees:

- 26 Members (not including committee members)
- 4 Non-Executive Committee Members
- 3 Executive Committee Members
- 2 Guests (Cllr Pam Tracey & Cllr Howard Hyman)

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Election of 2026/27 committee members
3. Summary of Accounts
4. Topic 1 – Community engagement
5. Topic 2 – Keeping us moving
6. Topic 3 – Making Hempsted better
7. Partnerships
8. Questions

Welcome

After introducing housekeeping arrangements the Chair, Grant Bowden (GBo), welcomed members and introduced the committee and executive members.

The Hon Secretary, Gareth Steer (GS), noted that the meeting was quorate.

The Chair began the meeting by giving a brief of the past year as recorded in the appendix.

Grant noted the retirement of elected committee members Sue Steggles-Cole and Alex Kirby and co-opted member John Byron and thanked them and other committee members for their contributions over the past year. This included Ian Pickup who stood down as Hon Secretary and remains a committee member.

A member asked who qualifies as members and it was confirmed that all residents of Hempsted over the age of 18 are automatically considered members. There is no fee.

Election of Committee Members for 2026/27

As of the latest committee meeting dated 12 March 2026, all [remaining] 9 committee members will remain in post and were elected unopposed.

The interim Hon Secretary, Gareth Steer, was elected as Hon Secretary. The Chair and Treasurer were elected in their roles unopposed.

There are 3 committee positions available and members were encouraged to get involved at any level of commitment.

Summary of Accounts

The Treasurer, David Bucknell (DiBs), presented the accounts and confirmed that they had been audited by Bal Bhandal FCCA

There is £214.97 in the bank.

Topic 1 – Community Engagement

GS presented a demonstration of the website including the new [Information for Residents page](#). Members were encouraged to suggest improvements and ideas for further development.

GS and committee member Jen Caple (JC), have run 2 drop-in ‘clinics’ and plan to hold these quarterly. Thanks given to PCSO Suzanne Sexton for supporting.

GS presented the values that the committee had developed, which are:

- Community Spirited
- Inclusive
- Welcoming
- Collaborative
- Ambitious
- Conserving

There was a discussion on other channels such as the Hempsted Village Notice Board (Facebook) and the Hempsted Parish Magazine.

Action: An action was taken to discuss potential improvements for member engagement including dissemination of information.

Topic 2 – Keeping us moving

DiBs spoke about HRA progress in this areas and covered:

- Engagement with Highways
- Raising awareness of Bridges on local and national media
- Speed surveys and traffic calming measures on Hempsted Lane and Secunda Way
- Engagement with running events organiser, Ebrahim Musaji, and his inclusion on a sub-committee
- Yellow lines at Lions Court

There was a discussion on Lions Court parking

Action: Contact and discuss issues with site manager.

There was a discussion on the size of the filter lane when turning right onto Hempsted Lane from Secunda Way, noting that with increased traffic from road closures exacerbating the exposed danger of queuing in the fast lane, there is barely provision for one vehicle to queue.

Additional construction and residential traffic to and from the Hawthorn Park development is expected to substantially increase the numbers braving this right turn and it was unanimously agreed by a show of hands that steps should be taken to improve this junction.

Action: Rob Mills to form working group prior to discussing with Highways

There was a discussion on Section 106 money. No action identified.

There was a discussion on permissive paths vs public rights of way. The HRA maintains its position in not to get involved in disputes between members.

There was a discussion on the Hempsted 'stink'. No action identified.

There was a discussion on the positioning of a community book shed. Malcolm Judge is to lead this supported by the HRA committee.

There was a discussion on the police camera positioned towards the entrance to Lysons Hall. No action was taken.

Topic 3 - Making Hempsted better

GBo spoke about engagement with developers on dust, noise and mud on roads.

JC spoke of the Woman's welfare group with positive input from members who will promote.

Gemma Bate (GBa) spoke about the Eco Church and recycling of bread wrappers (and other thin plastics) at the collection point next to the church.

DiBs spoke about the fund raising at the quiz providing laptops for the school to bridge the digital divide.

GBo spoke about the HRA supporting a successful heritage fund bid for the Llanthony Secunda Priory and encouraged people to visit and support this community asset.

The committee spoke about examples of influencing partners on issues such as bus routes, mail delivery, bridge closures and the local shop.

Partnerships

GBo highlighted the activities of the committee.

He thanked the departing Rev Nikki and other partners including:

- MP Alex MacIntyre and Councillors Rebecca Trimnell, Pam Tracey and Howard Hyman.
- The Parish Magazine, Terry, Don and team
- Chrome Awards for the Cup and engraving
- Build-IT for the Tommys materials
- Cotswold Computer Medic for their IT support and hosting

Questions from the floor and closure

The Wine Circle were thanked for donating £80 for new pads for the defib outside the village hall.

Written questions to be submitted to Help@HempstedRA.co.uk

GBo closed the meeting by thanking members for their ongoing support.

These minutes were ratified by all the committee members 5th June 2026.