

Nutbourne Residents Association Meeting

Held on Sunday 27th July 2025 at 7.00 pm

in The Rising Sun (kindly offered by Regan Howard)

<u>Committee Attendees</u>	
Brian White – Chairman	Bob Allison – Treasurer
Andrew Moffat – NHW Coordinator	
<u>Residents</u>	
Lynn White	Jacquie Dobson
Pam & John Wellard	Paul Clarke – Horsham DC Councillor
Len Ellis Brown – Horsham DC Councillor	Robin and Carole Martin
Betty Sherwood	Betty and Sue Burroughs
Carol and Paul Nash	Jilly Marcusson – PPC Councillor
Frank Riddle – PPC Councillor	Erica Riddle
Nad Guest	Chris & Liz Williams
Neil Migdale	Sarah Law
Peter & Margaret Gregory	Liz and John Pollock
Neil Brandon	
<u>Apologies</u>	
Gill and Rod Wilson	Sharon Curd – PPC Chair
Lee Goossens	Ian and Sarah Hare

1. Welcome and Apologies

The chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked them for such a great turnout on a Sunday evening, particularly the PPC and HDC councillors present.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and agreed by those attending. BW asked if there were any questions or queries but there were none.

3. Matters Arising

- **HDC Local Plan** – Len Ellis-Brown and Paul Clarke gave a summary of events following the Inspector's report on the plan. He concluded after a lengthy report that the plan was unsound. Among other things he found that HDC had not communicated sufficiently with Crawley Borough Council and had not given due regard to Private Water Neutrality schemes.

HDC after taking legal advice have decided to withdraw the plan !. However not having an approved plan in place exposes HDC on many levels including the potential for inappropriate development schemes across the district.

The Neighbourhood Plan for Pulborough was approved at Pulborough Parish Council which it thinks should provide some protection against inappropriate development. The plan will be subject to a Public Referendum on the 4th September asking for your vote to Accept or reject the Plan. The Plan can be seen on the PPC website: <https://pulboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk/parish-council/neighbourhood-plan/>

We were reminded that Unitary Authorities are still on the horizon and the paragraph below warrants repeating from our previous minutes.

“The plans by the Government to introduce Unitary Authorities to replace District Councils and introduce a Mayoral form of local government are being worked through. A Unitary Authority must cover a constituency of at least 550,000 people. This is leading to some ‘horse trading’ between parts of the district to meet the numbers required. It is deemed unlikely that any elections for Mayors will take place before May 2026. Introducing Unitary Authorities will also mean rewriting the Constitution. Other changes in the pipeline are the merging of HDC’s Planning Committees, so Planning South and Planning North will be merged. Whilst the Overview & Policy Committee will be split to cover ‘Finance & Capital’ and ‘Place & Communities’ separately.”

Paul Clarke then took the opportunity to update the meeting with regards to the Pulborough Transport & Infrastructure Options Report for the local district. The report is on the PPC website ; <https://pulboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk/site/news-articles/pulborough-transport-and-infrastructure-options-document/>. Paul took us through the summarised details of some local ‘hotspots’ :-

- Reinstating Pedestrian Access along Church Hill, A29
- Remediate the A29 Bank Slippage Issues
- Uncontrolled Railway Crossing concerns
- Proposals for Swan Corner Traffic issues
- Stopham Road Railway Bridge Issues
- Speed Restrictions for various parts of the A29

Points raised from the residents concerned the level of air pollution caused by the current one way flow on Church Hill, although it was claimed that there has been a decline in HGV movements. Also concern was raised that the possible changes in speed limits on the A29 could lead to ‘ribbon’ development.

Lastly on related highways issues, Frank Riddle, prior to the meeting, had asked for a resident’s survey concerning a) Making the current one way traffic light controls on Church Hill permanent or b) Reverting to the 2 way traffic flow prior to the land slippage. 28 residents responded and the result was an even split 14 votes for each option.

- **Parish Neighbourhood Wardens** – Report from Ross Phillips has been distributed previously. We now know that Ross has moved to a new post at Billingshurst. His replacement is Carol Boniface, one of our original Wardens. Additionally a second Warden has been recruited and will be out and about shortly.
- **Social Events** – A summer BBQ is planned for the 20th August, 'flyers' with details have been distributed. Jilly Marcuson on behalf of the Nutbourne Social Group confirmed that the Pumpkin Roll will be held on the 2nd November and the Xmas Carols at The Riser on 14th December.

4. Highways Matters

- BW had raised several local highways issues with WSCC but had not received an update. Residents also raised several new issues :-
 - The 'fingerpost' at Stream Lane/The Street junction is broken
 - A new 20 Mph repeater sign at the same junction is not in the right place.

Post the meeting updates were provided by Adam Bazely WSCC Highways Manager :-

- Finger posts repairs are the responsibility of PPC
- The 20 Mph sign was not installed by WSCC
- Edge Breakaway repairs on Nutbourne Road are still to be scheduled.
- The 20 Mph roundels need repainting but this was missed by Adam and I have asked for a review.
- It was proposed by a resident that we should re-look at having a SID (Speed Indicator Device) installed in the village. This is a PPC funded installation and was previously declined by PPC several years ago. However, with the current state of speeding in the village this should be reconsidered.
Action: PPC

5. Planning Matters

- The meeting discussed at some length the issues raised by the number of local Planning applications being considered for Traveller sites :-
 - Blackgate Lane, Parsons Field likely to be approved.
 - Stall House Lane, Peacocks Paddock recommended for approval by HDC Planners
 - Stall House Lane, Staalcot Fields, Appeal Dismissed, Enforcement Notice Issued.

6. AOB

- BW noted that he had received news of an 'unwanted visit' by several young men in a van at a local residence asking if there was any scrap metal. They were politely asked to leave. Unfortunately the van registration was not recorded.
- A recent episode of 'fly tipping' was recorded in Nutbourne Lane and the Neighbourhood Warden visited the site and took photographs prior to alerting HDC. However, in the meantime a local resident removed the rubbish.
- Bonfires in the summer are not a good idea especially in fine weather when washing may be out to dry. Evenings are better if using the Recycling Centre at Billingshurst is impractical

7. Next Meeting – to be held 26th October 7pm at The Rising Sun.

B.White

8th August 2025