

**CRAZIES HILL & COCKPOLE GREEN
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 14th May 2025
AT CRAZIES HILL VILLAGE HALL AT 7:00PM

| Item | |
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| 1 | <p>Attendees: Phil Davies, Richard Jones, Clare Donovan, Paul Donovan, Tom Greenham, Angela Collis, Dave Smith, Liz Tweddle, Dick & Diane Bush, Jo Shell, Anthony Broom, Nicky Dibbo, Roger Cope, Monica Wyatt, Freddie Wood, Annie Davies, Rebecca Greenham, Neill & Barbara Pitcher, John Ladd, Peter Riley, Sandra Turnbull, Brian Turnbull, Susie Wingate, Ian Sutherland, Laura Lord.</p> <p>Apologies: Steve & Jo Morris, Brian & Judy Robson, Peter & Claire Fife, Nigel Dibbo, Sue Robinson</p> |
| 2 | <p>Minutes of the last meeting – 15th May 2024 No amendments - minutes approved</p> |
| 3 | <p>Matters arising from the last AGM: Nothing arising.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Primary School Report: Jo Shell School Vision: Our vision is that our ‘fruit’ will be the children and adults who have the resilience to weather life’s ups and downs, respect for themselves, others and their environment and the ability to build and maintain good working relationships, with all in their community so that they can ‘be the best that they can be’. A tree is known by its fruit, people by their actions: Matthew 7:20. Our values of Relationships, Resilience and Respect underpin every aspect of school life. Celebrations this academic year:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wokingham FC Football Tournament – Y5/6 mixed football team – very successful autumn term round of tournament matches. Made it through to the cup knock out matches beginning of spring term. Aply led by talented dad and trained football coach (small school, small pool of players competing against some very large multiple class per year group schools). • Significant contributions to the Keys Academy Trust – highlight being:- • TKAT Annual Church Service – St Mary’s Wargrave. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theme - Partnership. - Choir and hand chime pupils led the service – 27 children in choir (over half of the juniors). - Now 12 schools in TKAT. |

- Final phase of Adventure playground are completed – wider expanse of play equipment and all-weather surface for children to enjoy.
 - Children across year groups able to play on equipment together. Attractive space keeping school looking modern and inviting for prospective parents.
- Increased number of class trips and workshops to consolidate learning and create lasting memories including:-
 - Historical workshops – Henry VIII visit and lunch with children, - Commonwealth para-athlete, Nerys Pearce visit – inspirational talk and activity session.
 - Library and music workshops.
 - Scooter and skateboarding
 - Whole school trip to Kenton Theatre Pantomime
 - Sport sessions including cycling, cricket, swimming
 - Shakespeare drama workshops
 - Biscuit and bread making
 - Whole school trip to Woburn safari park
 - Oldest children – Baylab Reading
 - Younger year groups – soon to visit Living Rainforest
 - Oldest children – Liddington PGL Residential
- Envious Enrichment Clubs offer:-
 - Sporty street dance, break dance, fencing, football
 - Wellbeing – yoga, mindfulness
 - Arts and Creativity – Choir, hand chimes, Art, sewing, Lego, Science club. For such a small school, our pupils are very lucky to be able to experience such a breadth of opportunities in addition to the daily curriculum offer.
- Teaching the children to be outward looking as courageous advocates and agents for change
 - 8 charities supported across the academic year, some of which chosen by our children
 - Fabulous pupil led pyjama party day to fund raise for the RSPCA
 - Young minds – TKAT chosen charity – one pupil carried out additional fundraising venture, creating charm bracelets to sell outside her house to raise additional money for the charity.

Challenge:

Despite the wonderful opportunities our children are given to be the very best they can be.

- The biggest challenge we continue to face as a school is falling pupil numbers due to three years of low birth rate and another challenging year ahead of us
- Although a typical picture for many other schools, greater financial impact for us as a very small school.
- So many spaces across so many schools for parents to choose from
- Marketing out school continues to be a major project
- More open mornings – which have been well attended

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| | <p>Despite having an informative website, professional promotional video and promotional flyers and greater social media presence, word-of-mouth seems to remain our most powerful tool for attracting visits from prospective parents.</p> <p>Please help us to spread the word about our gen of a school to ensure this wonderful offer is there for future generations to enjoy and benefit from. We welcome visits from prospective parents, and from anyone who feels they would like to support the sustainability of our village school in other ways.</p> <p>Thank you once again to you, our neighbours for supporting our school and thank you Dave for always communicating with us, keeping us in the loop and helping us to strengthen our links with the community. I continue to feel immensely proud of the staff and pupils and all they achieve at our wonderful village primary school.</p> |
| <p>5</p> | <p>Chairman’s Report:</p> <p>The first event after last years AGM was the annual village BBQ on Friday the 7th June. Numbers attending were really good with 79 adults and 13 children. The chefs were definitely kept busy but it was great to see so many residents getting together and enjoying themselves.</p> <p>Luckily the evening stayed dry and it was only the looming darkness that caused proceedings to be halted.</p> <p>Our October social event was an ever popular quiz. Given the upcoming Presidential election in the USA, we decided to run an American themed evening. 48 people turned up to test out their little grey cells and to socialise in between the rounds. The food offering also followed the American theme with pretzels to start and then Texan tacos with all the trimmings.</p> <p>After six rounds of questions plus a dingbats sheet the team called “They are eating the dogs” came out as clear winners. I shall refrain from naming them as they asked for no publicity.</p> <p>At the end of November with the pub still closed, the RA opened the Stagger Inn for an evening. As usual the event proved very popular with residents and confirmed that we are definitely missing our local hostelry. Let’s hope that by the time the next AGM comes around we shall once more have The Horns open, playing its pivotal role as the beating heart of the community.</p> <p>December came along and we were very pleased that Oliver Good of Warren Row agreed to come back and act as musical director after the very</p> |

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| | <p>successful 2023 carol singing. Oliver once more persuaded a small band consisting of his two children Freddie and Florence and Julie Wheals who performed magnificently.</p> <p>The previous year the surprise hit of the night was a hearty rendition of a slightly amended version of “The Fairy Tale of New York”. Last year Freddie introduced another new song in the shape of a rearranged version of "It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas". Who knows what Freddie will come up with this year.</p> <p>And thank you to everyone who contributed to the charity collection after the carols. We raised a magnificent £384 for a very worthy local charity, Thames Hospice who provide specialist palliative and end-of-life care services.</p> <p>And so into 2025. The Spring social event in March saw the return of an Irish night. Although only 41 residents turning up to socialise and enjoy the beef and Guinness stew along with the odd glass of Guinness itself, those that did attend had great evening.</p> <p>I’m pleased to say the annual Village clean up at end of March attracted over 20 residents and that there was also a reduction in the overall amount of litter found.</p> <p>Now all these events which I have just told you about could not happen without lots of hard work from your committee, I would like to personally thank them for being a great team and thank them on your behalf for the effort they put in.</p> <p>They are: Phil Davies, Sue Robinson, Richard Jones, Liz Tweddle (Secretary), Angela Collis (Treasurer), Tom Greenham, Clare Donovan, Charlie Lacey, Nicky and Nigel Dibbo.</p> <p>That’s enough from me for now but if anyone has any questions, just ask.</p> |
| <p>6</p> | <p>Treasurer’s Report: Made a small loss - £300 – aim is to break even. £2,000 donation from Hurley Parish Council. Currently £18,535 in the bank Q: Was the donation from Hurley Parish Council for a purpose? A: Yes to do the bunding around the green – see later. Green is in Hurley Parish.</p> |
| <p>7</p> | <p>Cockpole Green - Update: Work continued on the Green throughout the year. We are currently mainly looking at maintaining what we have now planted and keeping an</p> |

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| | <p>eye on the damage done by the deer. They are beautiful animals but also voracious. We are going to review the situation at the end of the summer and replant where necessary.</p> <p>We had our annual tidy up in October and we are grateful to all who turned out to help. This year we're going to do a spring clear as well.</p> <p>You will have seen the temporary fencing which we put up to deter parking along the edge of the Green to prevent any further deterioration. As a permanent solution we were looking at creating a bund along the edge, as this would have created a natural looking obstacle to parking.</p> <p>Unfortunately despite obtaining a couple of quotes from local companies they both proved to be prohibitively expensive. The RA has therefore decided to extend the post and rail fence along the edge up to the Crazies Hill sign. Work will commence on this shortly once some 'making good' to the edge has taken place. We will also take the opportunity to reduce the number of reflectors on the current posts following comments from residents.</p> <p>Whilst talking of the Green, I should mention at this point, our thanks to Cayton Park for the regular cutting of the paths during the summer period.</p> |
| <p>8</p> | <p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>Freddie Wood from the Crescent raised the issue of Thames Water. Huge issue for the residents of the Crescent, due to trucks replacing reduced water levels. Noise disruption overnight is unreasonable. The trucks are blocking the road, and Thames Water are not fixing the problem, just refilling the reservoir. RA has been looking into it. CD and TG have been talking to the engineers. Sub committee has been set up to collate all residents information and see if we can find and raise the issue with the relevant people at Thames Water.</p> <p>There is a capacity issue with the reservoir at the top of Bowsey Hill. There are 3 large estates that are draining the reservoir.</p> <p>The trucks are also causing damage to the triangle.</p> <p>Q – Can the toilet be moved next to the bus shelter? Sub committee will look into this.</p> <p>Q – Can we ask Thames Water to fill the reservoir during working hours? Sub committee</p> <p>Q – Is there another reservoir at the end of Bear Lane? Yes – that is the main reservoir that supplies Wargrave.</p> <p>Roger Cope – Upper Culham Farm has recently been sold. He has received a letter from an equestrian consultant – the new owner wants to set up a polo park. Spitfire Polo Club website suggests hotels etc.</p> |

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| | <p>Dick Bush suggested there would be significant local pushback if they applied for planning for a hotel. There are potentially 60 polo ponies, so there is likely to be more horse buildings required – again they will need planning for these. The consultant has offered to meet with those affected. RA requested to be represented at any meeting that is set up.</p> <p>Q – Can anything be done with all the cars that are parked along the road now that the pub is closed? All the cars are taxed and there are no parking restrictions or yellow lines, so it is difficult to do anything legally about this. RA is talking to the garage that is storing the cars.</p> |
| 9 | <p>Election of the Committee and Officers for 2023-24: All willing to stand – No extra nominations this year.</p> <p>Dave thanked Anj Collis, Liz Tweddle, Claire Donovan, Phil Davies, Rik Jones, Sue Robinson, Tom Greenham, Charlie Lacey, Nigel Dibbo, Nicky Dibbo for all their contributions</p> <p>Everyone agreed to re-elect the remaining committee members.</p> <p>DB thanked all of the committee for their hard work, particularly Dave Smith.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 20:00</p> |