

Howe Green Community Association

Minutes of the meeting of the Association
held on Monday 20th September 2004
at Howe Green Chapel

Chairperson	David Pearson
Vice Chairman	Ken Wedon
Minute Secretary	None
Treasurer	Wendy Spooner

Committee Members:

Judy Bynom
Martin Cross
Gabi Everett - absent
Caroline Travis - absent
David McGregor - absent
Vic Morgan
Mark Rayner
Richard Spooner

1. Apologies for Absence

Richard Spooner
Caroline Travis
Gabi Everett

2. Minutes from the last meeting held in Jan 2004

Minutes not available.

3. Parish Council update from Neville

Neville not present.

4. Environment

Cycle Path

The cycle path still has not been cleaned. It is a hazard, to such an extent that cyclists are using the main road instead. In addition, some of the grass has not been mown, due to rubbish that has not been cleared away. Vic agreed to have another go at getting something done.

East Hanningfield Traffic Calming

It was pointed out that the new roundabout is finished.

Kelly Turkeys

A number of the committee have received a letter from Kelly Turkeys regarding our objections to their planning application. Mark Rayner, who lives next door to the farm, gave a presentation refuting many of the points raised in the letter:

- **They want to formalise what they have been doing for 16 years.** The business has gradually built up over the past nine years.
- **They will not be processing turkeys 365 days a year.** Then why seek permission to do so? Once they have permission, they can do as they please.
- **Traffic is not excessive.** Traffic will build up as production increases. Traffic will include personnel (Eastern European casual workers) and supply deliveries, including turkeys delivered in huge lorries in the middle of the night. The lanes are not adequate for the traffic and traffic pose a danger as they exit the lane just below the brow of a hill.

- **No smell.** Feathers are processed to remove wax and then burnt – both smelly operations.

Kellys have informal planning permission to operate for 21 days per year but the letter admitted that they process for longer than this. The fact that they are processing for over ten weeks a year is illegal and should have been stopped by the council enforcement division. The fact that they have been operating for more than 21 days per year does not make it legal. Planning permission would not be forthcoming if it were a green-field site, starting from scratch. Public complaint is needed to encourage the enforcement division to take action.

It was alleged that some of the planning committee were in favour of the application.

Ken agreed to enquire as to progress with the planning application. It was agreed that a group from the committee would visit the farm on 8th Nov. 2004 and that the chairman would contact Kelly Turkeys to accept the invitation. It was further agreed to ask Neville to assist with contacting councillors on our behalf.

5. Social Events

Garden Party

The garden party held on 18th September 2004 was judged a success. Financially, we aimed to break even, but in fact made a profit. Two tickets were apparently not paid for – Vic agreed to collect.

The committee expressed its thanks to the various people who contributed so much to the event.

It was agreed that we present gifts to Ken and Wendy Skelton in appreciation of the use of their grounds.

The chairman agreed to put photographs taken at the party on the web site.

Future Events

Various options were discussed, including theatre visits (local preferred), bowling and dinner. It was agreed that members come up with ideas and preferences at the next meeting in November.

6. Finance

Wendy presented the accounts. We have £? in current account and £? on deposit.

The results of the garden party were:

7. Any other business

The chairman apologised for the error in calling the meeting for 7 pm instead of the usual 8 pm. Future meetings to be at the usual time of 8 pm.

The chairman explained that he had resurrected the Erection Instructions for the Gazebo, which were damaged by rain at the garden party. Pauline (visiting) agreed to laminate them.