**HENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**HENFIELD VILLAGE BITESIZE EVENT 4TH MARCH 2021**

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**MEETING NOTES**

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1. **WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN OF VILLAGE AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

Cllr Jane Jones welcomed all 31 people in attendance and introduced Cllr Ann Donoghue, Paul Crowe, Chairman of Henfield Community Partnership (HCP) and Rob Gordon, Chairman of the Friends of Henfield Museum and Museum Committee member.

1. **COMMUNITY BUILDINGS**

Cllr Jones explained the Village Amenities Committee remit and that representatives from local clubs and societies had been invited to meet with the Parish Council to discuss their future plans and funding opportunities. She highlighted the new Scout Hut, Youth Club, Leisure Centre, Tennis, Football, Bowls and Cricket Club as well as the Henfield Hall, Medical Centre, library and Museum. She also noted that Henfield Haven had received the Queens Award for Voluntary Service, and that it plans to reopen for high needs care in the summer.

1. **DIGITAL STRATEGY**

Paul Crowe reported that, partly prompted by the pandemic, HCP have spoken to local traders and conducted a review of websites and social media accounts in the village. It was felt that in order to increase footfall from local residents and encourage visitors from outside the village, that a proactive advertising campaign on Facebook could help promote the large range of businesses, services, events, heritage and leisure opportunities. Plans are being developed for a 3-4 month trial and funding will be discussed with the Parish Council and local traders. There may also be some grant funding available.

1. **HENFIELD MUSEUM**

Cllr Donoghue explained that the museum is currently closed but plans to re-open as soon as restrictions allow. In the meantime there has been lots of work behind the scenes and content on social media, and a new Museum website was launched last summer. Rob Gordon then shared his screen to demonstrate some on the content including Henfieldians Past, paintings, colourised photographs and the costume collection curated by Stephanie Richards. He then mentioned a special project, Arborea, where residents are encouraged to share their pictures and experiences with local trees, with the hope that this will build an archive of local natural history. He encouraged all to visit the website and follow the Museum on social media, and also mentioned the Henfield Club Facebook page that shares many photographs of Henfield in the past.

1. **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION**

* A resident asked if there is a list of facilities available for clubs and groups. Paul Crowe answered that there is a useful Resource Centre page on the HCP website.
* A resident asked if there are electric car charging points in the newly renovated library carpark. Cllr Morgan replied the cabling is there and points will be installed shortly. The same resident asked if a proposal to tackle parking congestion on residential roads had been submitted to WSCC, The Clerk confirmed it had not.
* A resident asked whether there could be any collaboration with the community buildings
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* A member of the public asked whether some verges could be allowed to grow longer. Cllr Perry explained this is another possibility and suggested signs might be needed to explain why some areas might look untidy.

**To view the full meeting please click on the link below:**

<https://www.facebook.com/henfieldparishcouncil/videos/333533484765647>

* A resident asked whether the Community Buildings that are planning refurbishment are collaborating on installation of solar panels. Cllr Jones answered that she hoped that this could happen.
* A resident asked whether there are any plans for improved signage for the Museum from the high street. Cllr Jones confirmed that the committee had considered it previously but felt it was adequate, however it could be looked into again and perhaps considered that the existing signage is only suited to pedestrians.

**To view the meeting in full please click on the link below:**

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