

HOLCOMBE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

www.holcombedevon.co.uk

Chairman's Report 2010/11

The Residents Association was set up to promote the welfare and represent the interests of residents of the village. In looking back over the last year, your Association has been active in meeting these aims and I'm pleased to report that the Association is in good shape. We have over 300 members and it is pleasing to report that attendance at the general meetings has increased showing that members are keen to get involved in village issues.

In order to focus the work of the Association, a questionnaire was sent to all members in September last year seeking views on what would help improve the village and village life. An Open Forum was then held this February to discuss the findings and to gather ideas on what can be done to address the issues raised. Not surprisingly, speed of traffic on the main road and in the village itself were near the top of the list, together with the difficulties of crossing the road at Hall Lane / Smuggler Lane. A number of constructive ideas were put forward and the Committee is now taking these forward.

On the social side of the Association's activities, the lunch club (run in conjunction with the church) is now an established and well attended monthly event. The annual barn dance was a great success – indeed we are getting to the point that we need a larger hall to accommodate the demand for tickets – and we have booked Red Shed again for this November. And in the summer of last year (yes we did have one), Roger Tyler's minibus tours were thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended.

The Association continues to be vigilant in relation to planning applications. It has been a relatively quiet year on this front but it was clear from the questionnaire referred to above that members really value the role we play in reviewing such applications, in particular those that might impact on the character of the village or seek to expand the village boundary.

This is my first year as Chairman of the Association and I have been really struck by the passion that people have for Holcombe and their desire to preserve village life. I am very grateful to everyone that has supported the Association this year, including our local councillors who offer advice on a wide range of issues. And finally I would like to thank all the members of the Committee who give their time so freely. Considerable work is done behind the scenes in ensuring that the Association runs so effectively and we are very fortunate to have such committed Committee members.

Andy Watson
Chairman