

# Voting form

## Election of HOTV Management Committee, June 2020

**Please read the personal statements of all eight candidates, then make your choices overleaf**

*Candidates are sorted by their HOTV index number—the order in which they first bought shares. Names in italics are proposers and seconders.*

### **John Davison**

*Nick Sloan/Diana Silk*

We've lived in Stoke St Gregory for nearly 40 years and our children all grew up and went to school here. We set up and ran a successful business in the village for over 30 years, employing many local people. I love Stoke—it has a vibrant and caring community. Having a Pub, Shop, Café and Hub is vital for this spirit to survive and flourish for current and future generations.

HOTV was set up specifically to buy the pub and shop to ensure their survival. It's been a huge success raising over £200,000 from the community which qualified us for funding and grants enabling the project to move to the next stage: buying the Royal Oak and moving in the shop.

I am committed to the project and will work hard to help make sure it becomes a success and an asset to the village for many years to come.

### **Graham Glead**

*Trevor Daniels/Brian Daniels*

Residents of Stoke St Gregory can be characterised by their sense of identity and community spirit, which rightly is a source of pride and satisfaction. This is something important, to be cherished and whenever possible developed further. The Heart of the village project is a once in a lifetime opportunity to contribute to this. It is not about buying a shop business or even a pub, but about creating a vibrant social and commercial centre at the heart of the village owned by the community, for the benefit of the community, young and old, both now and in the generations to come.

Having been associated with the project since its very early days, the finishing line is in sight. It would be my intention, if elected, to help ensure that the facilities provided meet the needs of members of both HOTV and the wider community, through listening and acting on their input.

### **Dave Evans**

*John Hembrow/Marilyn Clarke*

Having lived in Stoke for 40 years, my involvement includes building the first Village Website, 2003 Parish Plan,

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Village Hall Trustee, History Website, Stoke News Editor.

If elected to join the Management Committee, I would, as a newcomer, work to build on the achievements of the interim committee, to fulfil the purpose of the Society as stated in our rules. Coming from a Community Development background, I would place special emphasis on this stated objective, making the project: “. . . a source of community support for the whole village”. My contribution would be based on three principles:

1. Information - with increased community involvement.
2. Flexibility - with all options being explored, to ensure maximum benefit to the village.
3. Caution - in not burdening the village, or shareholders, with large debts.

For more information on specific issues, please contact me - gregorystoke@aol.com 07904 696370.

### **Nick Sloan**

*John Davison/Diana Silk*

Being one of the small group that first proposed this project, HOTV is dear to my heart, and I would like to help see it through to success. I would be willing to continue being pretty hands-on with the practical side of things, and to accept any of the appointments on the Management Committee for which I felt qualified.

I believe that HOTV only makes sense if it includes both the shop and the pub. The flexibility and potential inherent in the Oak building (and its position) are essential to achieving all of the community benefits we would like to generate. Coronavirus has put a spanner in the works, but in the long run the survival of the pub will be far more significant. In the short term we have to adapt creatively, be very canny about our timing, and prudent about the price we pay.

### **Mike Blair**

*Paul Fielding/Vicki Fielding*

I am retired, and a relative newcomer to the village. Stoke St Gregory's community spirit, thriving village shop and two pubs were instrumental in our choosing to live in the village. I have been an active member of the HOTV committee since its inception. My experience of being involved in the acquisition and implementation of the Shop in a Box has shown me how a community venture aids the well-being of a rural village. The development

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of the Royal Oak into a "more than a pub" community pub, involving local people, providing an expanded shop, pub, cafe and other facilities and activities is the next step in the HOTV project.

I think that my active participation in the project to date and my experience of working in various business sectors such as banking, local and central government, retail and hospitality will benefit the HOTV project.

**Chris Reah**

*Louise Reah/Philip Broom*

We moved to Stoke St Gregory in 2018 having found our "forever home" in the village, having been familiar with the area for a long time we have been regulars at the Stoke Stampede over the years. I'm a very practical person, in my professional life I work to design, develop and market surgical implants. My hobbies involve travel, classic cars and renovating houses. Stoke is a vibrant village with a wonderful community spirit that can be seen in all the various groups and activities that take place here. The HOTV project has the potential to enhance village life by adding further facilities beyond simply those of a pub and a shop. I hope to bring my passion for the community and experience of both business activities and building renovations to the project, the aim being to help develop those facilities for the entire community.

**Heather Venn**

*Isabel Baldwin/Linda Silcock*

Having lived and worked in Stoke St Gregory for nearly 30 years, I am beginning to feel I belong! I have been a Parish Councillor for many years and hope that my representations have been valuable.

I have been on the HOTV committee and have watched the project grow and succeed. There is still a long way to go for the project to reach completion, especially in the light of the changing times. We need a shop to be retained in the Village, and must plan carefully how to maintain the concept of sustaining a Heart to the Village.

I am able to listen, represent and communicate, in order to work towards ensuring that the project is beneficial for all.

**David Crabbe**

*Diana Silk/Tom Stobie*

After many years of corporate life, in the oil business and grocery retail, we moved here in 2012.

During my career I have assessed the financial health of businesses and project-managed company mergers. In retail, my roles ranged from running a local fish counter to developing a national fraud detection programme. Moving here made us realise the importance of a thriving

shop and pub to a rural community. Also, the involvement of volunteers in HOTV has forged new friendships and will continue to bring people closer together.

I became acting Treasurer in March and would consider it an honour to continue in this role.

I believe my experiences will be useful during the next phase of this project: acquiring and converting the Royal Oak into a long-term asset for everyone in the village. Indeed, I am looking forward to volunteering to pull a pint behind the bar.

**Please enter your name below so that we can ensure one Member one vote**

**Votes will remain confidential, seen only by the Secretary for the purposes of counting**

**Anonymous votes cannot be counted**

**Please place a cross against up to seven names in the list below**

**John Davison**

**Graham Gleed**

**Dave Evans**

**Nick Sloan**

**Mike Blair**

**Chris Reah**

**Heather Venn**

**David Crabbe**

on completing and saving form, please email: **secretary@hotvssg.org**, subject: **HOTV Vote**

Alternatively, post to

The Secretary, HOTV, 20 Church Close  
Stoke St Gregory, Taunton, TA3 6HA

or hand in at the shop in a sealed envelope

**Votes must be received by Friday 5 June**