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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 10th April 2019 at 7.30pm at the Harrold Centre

Public forum (Names always withheld for Data Protection)

A member of Dancevybz dance group attended to thank the council for the recent grant provided to assist attendance at the UDO Street Dance World Championship in Glasgow. Dancevybz were very successful at the championship and the council and other members of the public congratulated them.

Nine members of the public attended to discuss the Catesby Estate announcement for 90 dwellings on the land at Odell Road. Support from the Parish Council was sought. The Parish Council had recently produced communication related to this, which Cllr Tickle read out (See appendix). Cllr Foster outlined a real risk from speculative planning applications such as this which, if rejected at the first stage, could pass through on appeal. Members of the public requested that the council look into changing the Settlement Area Policy (part of the Neighbourhood Plan process) in that area and/or setting part of the field as Designated Open Space to restrict expansion. The council accepted the advice and will pass the information to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee who would be meeting on 16th April.

Meeting resumed:

- 1. Present:** Cllrs R Tickle (Chair), D Brough (Vice Chair), A Foster (Bedford Borough Council), J Peverell, D Mercer, R Brough (Clerk), B Muller, J Calver.
Apologies: Cllrs P Pedersen, R Barrett, S Reger, G Lloyd.
- 2. Disclosure of Interest** – members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in any items on the Agenda. No disclosures made.
- 3. Approval of Minutes** from the Parish Council meeting held 13th March 2019. Council approved the minutes unanimously and the Chairman signed them.
- 4. Matters arising from meeting held 13th March 2019:** Clerk's report on the Actions List.

- In progress: Arranging for a utility company to replace the Parish Council owned streetlights. EON are in the process of quoting. Further quotes now being sought.
- Third invoice for Scout hut refurbishment has been paid.
- VAS/speed sign has arrived and will come into use shortly.
- Defibrillator training has been arranged – 11th May 3pm-5pm at the Harrold Centre.
- Street Ranger is quoting to replace two broken posts on The Green.
- No advice yet received from BBC Highways over what could be done to assist wheelchair users/pedestrians/horse riders/cyclists when crossing the main bridge, or on the rules for extending the 20mph limit towards Lavendon.
- BBC have submitted a works order for removal of signs on The Green following the Parish Council's approval in the March meeting.
- Final works on the wall at the main bridge are due to start shortly. The railings will be removed by BBC as soon as possible afterwards.

5. Finance Report:

a. Approval for requests for monthly payments

The following monthly payments were approved:

Ref #	Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Method	Payments			Receipts Gross
					Gross	VAT	Net	
Trans236	12 March 2019	Other: Various	Sacks for Street Ranger	DPC	18.00	0.00	18.00	
Trans237	12 March 2019	Other: Various	Wooden cross grave markers	DPC	65.97	0.00	65.97	
Trans238	18 March 2019	Project: HPFA/Scouts Facilities	Scout hut - 2nd installment - P Huckie Carpentry - V	DPC	8,416.80	1,402.80	7,014.00	
Trans239	18 March 2019	Other: Various	Second VAS - speed camera	DPC	2,520.00	420.00	2,100.00	
Trans240	18 March 2019	Payroll: Red Shoes		DPC	68.40	13.68	54.72	
Trans241	18 March 2019	Membership: BATPC (Beds Assoc Town & Parish)	Annual membership	DPC	353.00	0.00	353.00	
Trans242	18 March 2019	Street Ranger	Luke Clarke	DPC	456.00	0.00	456.00	
Trans243	20 March 2019	HMRC PAYE Liability	True up	S/O	69.92	0.00	69.92	
Trans244	25 March 2019	Membership: BATPC (Beds Assoc Town & Parish)	Double payment	DPC	353.00	0.00	353.00	
Trans245	26 March 2019	Cemetery Income:		Chq				305.00
Trans246	28 March 2019	Clerk Salary: R Brough		S/O	457.37	0.00	457.37	
Trans247	28 March 2019	Grant Income: Alison Foster Ward fund - Scout Hut		DPC				1,000.00
Trans248	01 April 2019	Bottle Bank: Income		BAC				237.53
Trans249	02 April 2019	Electricity: Buttermarket EON		D/D	31.17	0.00	31.17	
Trans250	02 April 2019	Project: HPFA/Scouts Facilities	Scout hut - 3rd installment - P Huckie Carpentry - V	DPC	9,690.00	1,615.00	8,075.00	
Trans251	03 April 2019	Brook: R Sinclair	March payment	S/O	400.00	0.00	400.00	
Trans252	05 April 2019	Clerk Salary: R Brough Pension		D/D	46.13	0.00	46.13	
					22,945.76	3,451.48	19,494.28	1,542.53

b. Profit & Loss report: Variance analysis - Actual spend vs Budget

Report not produced as we are just two weeks into the new financial year.

c. Balance Sheet: Financial position

Report not produced as we are just two weeks into the new financial year.

6. Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

Crime report was not available from the police.

7. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward.

Available on the council website under "Communications".

8. Planning Applications for comment

No applications.

Council requested that a comment be formulated at the May meeting regarding the Riverbank development. A planning application was recently submitted. This land is in Odell, which is why Harrold PC has not been formally requested to comment by Borough Planning (**Action Clerk**).

9. Update from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee

• Progress & Next Steps:

The Plan Committee met on 2nd April and will meet again on 16th April. Committee has requested the council to approve the two documents for the "Issues and Options Consultation", which forms the next stage in respect of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. It

consists of a survey to be sent to the whole village consisting of an explanatory “Summary” document and a “Questionnaire” related to housing site allocation, amongst other items. Council resolved to approve the two documents subject to some minor proofreading.

- *Response to Catesby Estate’s publication of intention to build 90 dwellings on Odell Road* Committee have provided a response to the Catesby Estate development (See appendix).
- The following items of spend for the next stage of the Neighbourhood Plan were approved:
 - Village Design Statement, Dr Jonathan Duck at Building The Past, £6,317
 - Habitat Regulation Screening Assessment, Peter Carey at Bodsey Ecology Limited, £270
 - Community Consultation - Printing, Distribution and Collation Service, Bedford Rural Communities Charity, estimated cost of £3,121

10. To discuss any updates on the upcoming parish council elections

May 2019 will represent the end of the four-year term of office for the councillors. Democratic Services at Borough Council confirmed the election for Parish Councillors was uncontested. This means there will be no election for Parish Councillors on 2nd May as we had fewer applicants than positions (7 out of 13). The councillors remaining for the next four-year term of office are Robert Tickle (Chairman), David Brough (Vice Chair), David Mercer, Richard Barrett, Bob Muller, Jayne Peverell and Pat Pedersen. Sebastian Reger and John Calver are expected to be coopted back on to the council at the next meeting.

11. Christmas light removal

To approve the quote from Heritage Arboriculture to remove the broken Christmas lights from the trees on The Green and the Buttermarket. Quote is £250 (ex VAT) but requires flexibility as it’s an estimate based on an hourly rate.

Work approved unanimously. Clerk to inform Heritage Arboriculture (**Action Clerk**).

12. Approval of year end accounts prior to submission to auditor

As part of the annual accounting process.

Item will be deferred to the May meeting to give more time to produce the accounts.

13. Any other business

Cllr Tickle provided feedback from his meeting as a member of the Harrold Centre Committee: included an explanation of future building development work. No items for action as yet, but a request for financial assistance will most likely be arriving shortly.

14. Correspondence:

- a)** *Multiple parishioners emailed requesting clarification in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan and the Catesby Estate announcement for 90 dwellings on the land at Odell Road.*

The Plan Committee have created a short statement for communication, which has been emailed to those who have contacted us (See appendix) and will be made available publicly.

Meeting ended at 9:00pm.

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 8th May 2019

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Appendix:

Communication from Parish Council relating to Catesby Estate development (Public Open Forum and Agenda Items 9 and 14):

"The Parish Council has been made aware that Catesby Estates are actively promoting plans to build approximately 90 houses on a site on Odell Road.

The Parish Council has made very good progress in developing a Neighbourhood Plan for Harrold. This plan will, in line with the requirements imposed by Bedford Borough Council and the government, result in some new developments in Harrold. However, the expected scope of development is proposed to be within the prescribed range of 25 to 50 dwellings. This reflects the preferences of the village as a whole and is consistent with the strategic policies of the Development Plan for the area.

The Neighbourhood Plan is about to enter into its next phase with a further village consultation planned for early May. This consultation will give villagers an opportunity to express their views on the viable development sites and, in particular, the allocation of dwellings to the viable sites. In preparation of this consultation the Neighbourhood Plan wrote to all site owners in February requesting further information on the relevant sites and asked for confirmation that land owners would be prepared to accommodate development of up to 10 dwellings per site. Responses were requested by 31 March 2019. The site promoted by Catesby Estates is part of the land submitted for consideration by the Neighbourhood Plan and as a result this request was also sent to Catesby Estates.

The Parish Council will proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan as planned and intends to have a draft plan ready for submission by the end of 2019.

Separately, the Parish Council will carefully monitor and consider the developments in respect of the site on Odell Road promoted by Catesby Estates. The Parish Council views Catesby Estates plans at this time as an unwelcome distraction, especially given that it is clearly out of step with the proposed Neighbourhood Plan for Harrold, and the expectations of the community and Bedford Borough Council. The Parish Council is also concerned that the extent of development proposed would be out of character with the immediate built form of Odell Road, extending the built form out of the village. The location, adjacent to a busy road junction, will present significant challenges in achieving suitable highway access (as experienced with previous aspirations for this site). Moreover, the Parish Council considers that any development of this magnitude and in this location would need to be seen holistically in conjunction with the impact of the required large-scale developments expected in Sharnbrook. The Parish Council will consult with Cllr Alison Foster and consider making formal representations to Bedford Borough Council."