



## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 12th October 2016 at 7.30pm at Parish Council Office

**Present:** R. Tickle (chair), Cllrs D Brough, J Page, S Holt, A Jones, G Lloyd, S Reger, B Page, R Barrett, A Jones, R Brough (Clerk)

**Apologies –** A Foster (Bedford Borough Council), B Page, M Johnston

### Public forum

Mrs P Pedersen attended the meeting. She expressed a concern that villagers are not able to easily access information on what is happening with the Parish Council. She feels the website, physical noticeboard and the facebook noticeboard is not enough. Mrs Pedersen expressed a concern that the village was not aware the Parish Council were looking into cctv systems. She was surprised to hear some residents and people on the council were against its presence in the village. Mrs Pedersen feels the council should put the discussion on facebook so a decision can be made with more village input. Mrs Pedersen feels it is not a question of putting cctv in the village but a question of updating the current system. Some members of the council expressed their concerns about people's privacy.

1. **Disclosure of Interest** – none disclosed
2. **Approval of Minutes** from the Parish Council meeting held 14th September 2016. Minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Matters arising from meeting held 14th September 2016** – for information only
  - o Clerk reported on the months Action List

### 4. Finance Report: The following payments were approved:

Ref #	Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Payments		
				Gross	VAT	Net
Payment 73	30 September 2016	Clerk Salary: R Brough		926.70	0.00	926.70
Payment 74	19 September 2016	Clerk Salary: R Brough Tax NI		88.81	0.00	88.81
Payment 75	28 September 2016	Plants & Trees: Heritage Arboriculture	Hedge Trimming	420.00	70.00	350.00
Payment 76	28 September 2016	Other: New Parish Council Website	Bespoke Media	92.00	0.00	92.00
Payment 77	24 September 2016	Grant Out: Victorian Christmas Ice Rink	Deposit for Ice Rink	630.00	0.00	630.00
Payment 78	01 October 2016	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees: Trevor Roff	150.00	0.00	150.00
Payment 79	19 September 2016	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Launch Supplies- Viking	251.17	30.12	218.09
Payment 80	15 September 2016	Grass: In Trim		360.00	60.00	300.00
Payment 81	15 September 2016	Electricity: Buttermarket EON		62.20	2.66	59.54
Payment 82	08 September 2016	Office: Phone & Broadband BT		72.00	12.00	60.00
Payment 83	06 October 2016	Office: Laptop Repair	D Brough expense reimbursement for new hard drive. Can	140.00	0.00	140.00
Payment 84	07 October 2016	Grass: In Trim		360.00	0.00	300.00
Payment 85	01 October 2016	Electricity: Street EON		318.42	15.16	318.42
Payment 86	06 October 2016	Other: Various	British Legion Wreath	17.00	0.00	17.00
Payment 87	01 October 2016	Brook: R Sinclair		250.00	0.00	250.00
Payment 88	01 October 2016	Village Maintenance: R Sinclair		132.98	0.00	132.98
Payment 89	01 October 2016	Project: Neighbourhood plan	R Brough expense reimbursement	205.36	0.00	205.36
Payment 90	07 October 2016	Other: Various	R Brough expense reimbursement- 2nd wreath	86.20	0.00	86.20
Payment 91	01 October 2016	Office: Rent		375.00	0.00	375.00
Payment 92	19 October 2016	Clerk Salary: R Brough Tax NI		88.81	0.00	88.81
Payment 93	31 October 2016	Clerk Salary: R Brough		926.50	0.00	926.50
Payment 94	12 October 2016	Grant Out: Harrold Good Neighbours	Insurance premium	300.00	0.00	300.00
Payment 95	12 October 2016	Plants & Trees: Heritage Arboriculture	Playing Field Trees (PFA)	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00
Payment 96	12 October 2016	Grant Out: Victorian Christmas Ice Rink		370.00	0.00	370.00
				7,723.15		

## **5. Police report:** Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

### **(Provided to council prior to meeting via email)**

Council provided Cllr Tickle with comments/questions from the PC to take to the Community Safety Forum featuring the new police commissioner. Cllr Tickle will share information from this forum separately. Cllr Mercer discussed the recent incident of cars sprayed on Brook lane with gold paint. The incident was reported to 101 but Cllr Mercer was told the incident was not able to be reported as a crime since no permanent damage occurred. Council would like to ask the police commissioner if this is now policy, despite it being anti-social behaviour. With vast resources going to Luton and Bedford what is return in investment for rural communities who provide much of the funding? Council is concerned at the loss of a named PC who knew the village well. Council would like the Police Vulnerable Person's database more known to the public so they can put themselves on it if needed. We believe this gives vulnerable people faster attention from the emergency services. Council will write to the doctor's surgery and ask if they would mention the database to "vulnerable" patients so they are able to put themselves on the list if they wish. Council is also concerned with people gathering on the village green, parking motorbikes on the green, smoking drugs and getting on motorbikes and driving under influence. Another concern is the uninsured motorbikes driving on footpaths at high speeds.

## **6. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward.**

Cllr Foster was unable to attend the meeting this month. She will email her Borough councillor's report to the council.

## **7. Planning applications**

**Application no:** 16/02731/TPO Tree Preservation Order Application

**Proposal:** T1 Horse chestnut- Reduce over extended limb by 4m\_ crown clean. Works to various trees.

**Location:** Land at The Green Harrold Mk42 7DB

No objections

## **8. Harrold Neighbourhood Plan Update** – Update from steering committee.

The steering committee are working to find a venue for the Neighbourhood Plan launch on November 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Clerk will keep contacting local venues. The committee needs additional help from members of the parish council to gather information on village subject matters. The committee will need help from the PC members to facilitate the launch. **Action Clerk**

## **9. Village CCTV-** Discuss the matter of cctv around the village and look at 4 quotes for improvements.

Previously the PC discussed installing new cameras and a hotspot in the village. This time the PC is discussing replacing the current cameras. Some members of the council were concerned with the invasion of privacy with cctv and asked for time to consider their options and speak to other residents in the village before voting. Council asked Cllr Tickle to speak to the police commissioner and ask her what is the most effective means of deterring crime in our village. What other solutions could we adopt in our village and is cctv an effective tool? **Action Clerk & Cllr Tickle**

## **10. Flood Relief** – Discuss the development of a Flood Relief Group in Harrold.

Cllr Jones and clerk will meet on Oct 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss how to move forward to create the committee of resident volunteers. Council will contact the Harrold Good Neighbours group to see if they would like to work with the Parish Council on the Flood Relief Group Project. **Action Clerk**

## **11. Update on stonework quotes for village signs and wall.**

Council has received 3 quotes for works to create a stone wall to replace the metal railing on the Harrold side of the bridge. The quotes range from £7950-£14940. For the signs at each entrance to Harrold: The stone plinths with the 'Harrold' sign mounted on each are about £3000 pounds each. Cllr Jones suggests using a large stone from a local quarry with Harrold carved into it instead of stone plinths. An example of where a large stone has been used lately would be the Clapham cemetery. Cllr Jones will investigate further and come back with costings on the new option. For the riverbank area behind the proposed stone wall, Cllr Brough has spoken to Odell Parish

Council who have said they would not object to us placing the wall on their land, or landscaping the riverbank as long as it did not encourage swimmers - they also want to be sure not to incur any future maintenance costs and that we check with the Environment Agency for approval. Cllr Brough contacted the EA, who had no problems with the initiative since it was well clear of the river. Clerk to contact Andrew Prigmore (BBC Highways) about creating a contract to cover any future costs. **Action Clerk.** Council agreed to landscape the riverbank area with bushes and shrubs and not grass, so as not to encourage swimmers or attract littering, but to enable the bridge and river to be more visible.

#### **12. Discuss and decide on replacement bins for the Village Green.**

Council was unable to source a bollard to protect the refurbished memorial which matched the existing bollards on The Green. Council will move the most easterly bollard and have it placed in front of the War memorial. To replace that bollard the council will purchase a cast iron litter bin, and remove the existing plastic bin (and slab) by the chip shop. The remaining plastic bins along the High Street will be replaced with more cast iron bins (black hexagonal). Cllr Lloyd proposed purchasing 8 new cast iron bins, spending a maximum of £5000. Cllr Tickle seconded the motion. Council voted and all were in favour. **Action Cllr Lloyd**

#### **13. Discuss quote provided for repair needed to Saxon House End Fence and repair to stone edging along footpath.**

Council reviewed quote from FL Building to repair fence. Council would like the fence posts to be replaced with cement posts rather than wooden but would like the quote to remain the same. After more discussion council decided to defer this matter until we can contact Taylor Wimpey who should be maintaining the areas in need of repair. If Taylor Wimpey will not do the work then we will vote to carry it out ourselves at the next meeting, including the section of fence behind Graham Russell's house. Council moved to discuss repairing the stonework on the footpath running from the Harrold Centre to Dove Lane. Council voted to go ahead and replace the identified areas the stone along the footpath using FL Builders. **Action Clerk**

#### **14. Discuss the quote for work needed on the Buttermarket.**

PC discussed the quote received for having the Buttermarket properly cleaned and restored. Council will need to submit a Planning application for the intended works to the broken tiles on the roof. Cllr Barrett will submit the application for the works. Cllr Barrett proposes we go ahead with having the Buttermarket cleaned in the meantime, Cllr Tickle seconded the motion. All voted in favour. **Action Cllr Barrett**

#### **15. Grant Application from URC for Heritage Work needed.**

They hadn't submitted an application, so nothing to consider.

#### **16. Grant Application from The Bridge Magazine for £150 pounds.**

Grant application approved and all were in favour of giving the funds of £150 to The Bridge Magazine. **Action Clerk**

#### **17. Any other business –**

- The Parish Council computer needed repair. The work has been completed and a new hard drive installed. The new hard drive proved too fast for the older PC causing the PC to freeze. Council has decided to replace the existing PC and has set a budget of up to £500 to spend on a new laptop. **Action Clerk**
- Fawns playground company has been contacted to replace the new hinges on centre playground gate with appropriate plastic hinges. Council would like to get both the toddler gates hinges replaced to save on the cost of another installation cost. **Action Clerk**
- Cllr Jones expressed a concern with how the PC manages larger projects. Cllr Jones suggested when large projects arise there could be a sub-committee put together to look over the details, contracts etc. and one member of the PC to take primary responsibility of the project. In doing so the PC will be more efficient tapping into their specific skills. The PC will look to have the current members complete a skills matrix. The PC agreed with these suggestions and would like to move forward in this manner.

#### **18. Correspondence –**

- Ms Huth emailed and requested the council consider including Orchard Lane in the 20 mph scheme. Clerk has asked Andrew Prigmore to consider this request. **Action Clerk**
- Mr Gordan emailed regarding motorcycles using the footpath which runs parallel with Harewelle Way. He asked if the styles could be put back. Kissing gate to be placed by Odell Rd. **Action Clerk**

- Mr James rang the office to discuss the changes occurring to the War Memorial. Mr James has maintained the flowerbeds in the past for 10 consecutive years. He does believe the Memorial needed attention. He used to plant red rose bushes. He has suggested a local gardener the PC council should seek advice from for the plants which will be placed in the new flower beds. **Action Clerk**

**Date of next meeting**

**Wednesday 9th November 2016**

**7:30, 72 High Street, Harrold**