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Chairman: Rev. Robert Tickle
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Councillors are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Parish Council, which has been arranged for **Wednesday 8th September 2021**. To be held at **7.30pm in the Harrold Centre** for the transaction of the business shown on the agenda below.

David Brough – Clerk to Harrold Parish Council

AGENDA

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and introductions**
- 2. Public Open Forum (15 minutes):** This council is committed to community engagement and therefore warmly invites members of the public to contribute during this part of the meeting.
 - **During the Public Open Forum:** Members of the public should note that the council is only allowed to take decisions on topics that are publicised on the agenda; items not on the agenda can be carried forward for a response at a later date. Any questions not presented to the council far enough in advance of the meeting may be noted and responded to at a later time.
 - **After the Public Open Forum:** Members of the public are asked to respect the fact that this is a meeting to conduct council business and interruptions during the remainder of the meeting are not permitted.
- 3. Disclosure of Interest** – members are invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in any items on the agenda.
- 4. Requests to grant dispensations for disclosed interests**
- 5. Approval of Minutes** from the parish council meeting held 11th August 2021.
- 6. Clerk's report:**
 - Actions from the previous meetings:
 - Two picnic benches have been added at Harewelle Way playground
 - Items sat with Bedford BC Highways:
 - Resolving the flooding of the zebra crossing – additional gullies are planned to be installed. Fixes to the poor state of the pavement by the Fish bar. Works planned for 25th to 29th October 9am to 3.30pm (Road closure).

Other:

- Streetlights: Upgrade is in progress. Western Power are required to attend to switch over the electrical connection before some of the new lights can be switched on, and old lanterns removed.

7. Correspondence (requiring council attention):

- None.

8. Finance Report

- Approval for requests for monthly payments, noting of income and balances.

Invoice Date Payment	Details	Gross	Income
14 July 2021 Cemetary Income:			67.00
19 July 2021 Staff costs	Salaries & PAYE	2,411.09	
02 September 2021 Plants & Trees:	Cemetery grass/weeding - AD Gardens	150.00	
02 September 2021 Other: External Audit	Mazars	480.00	
		<u>3,041.09</u>	<u>67.00</u>

Accounts

Natwest Current Account	49,304
Natwest Bonus Saver	11,665
TOTAL at Bank	60,968
Funds allocated	34,103
General Reserve (estimated)	28,866
TOTAL Funds	60,968

9. Planning applications and enforcement

New

APPLICATION NO: 21/02267/FUL Full Planning Application
PROPOSAL: Erection of conservatory to side/rear
LOCATION : Orchard Cottage 18 Orchard Lane Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7BP

Previous applications where HPC commented or objected

- APPLICATION NO: 21/01610/S73A Retrospective planning permission Application
PROPOSAL: Single storey side extension with abutment roof light (Development already carried out)
LOCATION : 21 Wood Road Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7BS
HPC: Objected. Bedford BC: Awaiting decision.
- **Amended plans:** APPLICATION NO: 21/00442/FUL Full Planning Application
PROPOSAL: Erection of residential apartment building comprising 2 two-bed dwellings and 1 one-bed dwelling; and associated car parking and landscaping
LOCATION : Land To The Rear Of 72 High Street Harrold Bedfordshire
HPC: Previously objected (Material choice/overshadowing).
HPC: Removed previous objection and requested a "condition" on materials. Bedford BC: Permission Granted

10. Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

Crime report for Aug 2021 shared with the council.

11. Special Motion

Special Motion presented by Cllrs Robinson, Pedersen and Muller to reverse the below decision from 11th August 2021 council meeting.

- *To agree a council response to a resident of the Lower Green in relation to: 1) a request for a double depth, hawthorn hedge, protected temporarily by a wire fence, down to the water's edge, 2) a request to move the life saving equipment away from the resident's fence (Full email request shared with councillors).*

Resolved not to allow any hedge to be planted at the Lower Green.

Resolved not to move the life-saving equipment.

12. Lower Green maintenance

Proposal from Cllr Robinson, should the Special Motion be carried:

- **To give approval now for the planting of a wild hedge** utilising a range of native species including Hazel, Crab Apple, Dog rose, Dogwood and Hawthorn (as included in the Woodland Trust Starter Pack kit). Plants to be planted in staggered rows around 50cm (20inches) apart with 40cm (16inches) between the lines to provide a thicker hedge with a better chance of survival, in line with the Woodland Trust recommendation for planting. Plants to be protected with spirals and canes or tubes and stakes to protect from wildlife and planted this planting season (October 2021 – February 2022) to ensure the best chance of survival of the plants, accepting the kind offer of the resident to pay for such planting to be undertaken by end Feb2022.
- **To give approval now to move the life-saving equipment** forwards of its currently location approximately 2m (or other distance to be agreed, nothing confirmation already has been sought from the Fire Brigade) to allow for the hedge to establish behind it, but remain in clear sight of the river. Cllr Robinson and the Clerk have offered to break out the existing concrete and relocate at just the cost of the materials required to re-set the posts in the ground.
- Following on and separate to the hedge proposal, **to set up a new Working Group for the Lower Green** to assess the current condition of the area, with a view to working up proposals for the ongoing and future maintenance and/or improvements at the Lower Green.

13. Additional Lower Green life ring

Proposal from Cllr Littlemore:

- To install an additional life ring on the Lower Green further up the bank above the height of flood water. Glasdon life ring holder: £360 + Install £120

14. Saxon House End parking

- **To receive responses from the consultation** of residents of Saxon House End for fixing the broken railings, and any potential changes to parking in this area (Previously discussed March/June/July 2021).

Proposal from Cllrs Turner and Pedersen:

- **Remove the existing low wooden fencing** starting outside the flats and going round to the straight section by the houses/where the current hedge starts
- **Install a new bay of grasscrete for one car** to a line that means the Openreach inspection chamber remains unaffected (Residents putting forward £1200 of the £1700 cost).
- **Plant shrubbery/hedging up to the inspection cover** – choice of plant to be chosen by Working Group (Quote c.£1600)
- **Investigate feasibility of planting between the inspection cover and existing hedge** – this can then either be planted or have posts installed.

15. Lower Green Oak Tree removal

To consider three quotes for the felling of a terminally-diseased oak tree on the Lower Green. June 2021 professional assessment suggests a 5-year lifespan.

16. Speeding in Harrold

Monthly item to discuss speeding in Harrold, and to note the data from the Speed Indication Devices

17. New Speed Sign (VAS)

Proposal from Cllr Calver (Rolled from June/July/August 2021 meetings):

- To consider the purchase of an additional VAS from Morelock signs at £2,795 (solar). Separate column will be required if solar panel is chosen.

18. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward

To be distributed to councillors prior to the meeting and made available on the parish council website.

19. Neighbourhood Development Plan update

- To note progress on the plan, which has now been approved for the referendum by the Independent Examiner following a 3-month assessment.
- Next steps: Bedford BC to review the examiner's report and confirm if the plan can progress to referendum – decision within 4 weeks. Referendum date can then be set – minimum notice period of 28 days.

20. Noting of items for future agendas – no decisions can be taken

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 13th October 2021 (Harrold Centre)**