



Harrold Parish Council Clerk:
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Chairman: Rev. Robert Tickle
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MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 10th February 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

- 1. Public forum (Names always withheld for Data Protection)**
One member of the public was in attendance and spoke in relation to flooding.
- 2. Present:** Cllrs R Tickle (Chair), J Peverell, J Calver, E Thompson, B Muller, D Brough (Clerk), R Barrett, F Ross, G Turner, A Bryce, S Reger, P Pedersen, A Littlemore, H Paston, A Foster (Borough Cllr).
Apologies accepted: None
- 3. Disclosure of Interest** – Cllr Ross declared an interest in Item 13 and did not speak or vote during the item.
- 4. Requests to grant dispensations for disclosed interests** – None
- 5. Approval of Minutes** from the Parish Council meeting held 13th January 2021.
Resolved to approve the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 6. Clerk's report:**
Items sat with Bedford BC Highways:
 - Resolving the flooding of the zebra crossing – additional gulleys are planned to be installed. The poor state of the pavement by the Fish bar – works order has been raised and is expected to be carried out in the new financial year. No date yet received.
 - Change to parking signage where additional parking restrictions have been put in place around The Green – clerk has chased repeatedly.
 - Resolving bridge traffic lights issue/resurfacing bridge/relocating. New traffic light system install and surface repair: Temporary road closure 09:30 - 15:00 hours from 15th February 2021 to 19th February 2021.
 - New bollard – corner of Orchard Lane/High St. Highways can't compromise on location and will not support the option of a removable bollard.Items sat with Street Ranger:
 - Installing dog bag dispensers – to be carried out shortly.
 - Fixing broken bollards on The Green – to be carried out shortly.

7. Correspondence (requiring council attention):

- None requiring council attention.

8. Finance Report

- The following payments were approved. Income and balances were noted.

Invoice Date	Payment	Details	Gross	Income
11 January 2021	Grass: In Trim		552.00	
11 January 2021	Project: Neighbourhood plan	Neighbourhood Plan Consulting Fees- T Roff	250.00	
11 January 2021	Training: Cllrs	BATPC training	90.00	
12 January 2021	Electricity: Street EON	Qtrly payment	331.07	
13 January 2021	Electricity: Buttermarket EON		72.44	
13 January 2021	Other: Various	Stagsden Xmas tree	165.00	
13 January 2021	Plants & Trees: Lower Green	Quercus	250.00	
18 January 2021	Other: Various	Robinson & Hall - Insurance asset valuation	1,126.50	
18 January 2021	Staff costs	Salaries & HMRC	2,202.85	
20 January 2021	Brook: Skip at Town Farm	Riches Skips	268.00	
27 January 2021	Other: Various	LWS Gritting x 2	264.00	
01 February 2021	Other: Various	LWS Gritting x 1	156.00	
01 February 2021	Grant Out: The Bridge mag		500.00	
02 February 2021	Electricity: Buttermarket EON		100.35	
03 February 2021	Other: Insurance	Came & Co. Additional payment (revaluation)	411.70	
10 February 2021	Other: Various	JRB Enterprise - Dog bag box posts	117.00	
10 February 2021	Project: HPFA Pavilion	Inv6: Tim Freeman	43,395.68	
10 February 2021	Other: Various	Litterpicker stick - Street Ranger	16.96	
			1,295.51	0.00

2020/21 - Balance Sheet - At February 2021

Accounts

Natwest Current Account	13,543
Natwest Bonus Saver	35,259
TOTAL at Bank	48,802
Funds allocated	18,009
General Reserve (estimated)	30,794
TOTAL Funds	48,802

9. Planning applications

New

None

10. Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

The crime report for 30th December to 26th January showed one reported case of "Harassment" on the High St. No actions noted.

11. Flooding in Harrold

- **Flood alleviation channel improvements**

Proposal by Cllr Tickle: To support financially a proposal for improvements to the flood alleviation channel in the north of Harrold following an investigation by the clerk. Proposal sent to councillors and available upon request.

Resolved to commit up to £7k from the 2021/22 Grants budget towards improvements to the flood channel, as outlined in the proposal available from the Clerk. Clerk to gain support of Bedford BC with assistance from Borough Councillor Alison Foster who has also committed £2k from the ward fund (**Action Clerk**).

- **Flood Group**

To receive an update from the clerk on the formation of a Flood Group for Harrold.
Harrold Flood Group consists of six councillors and six parishioners. Clerk has had a meeting with Bedford BC Resilience Team to gather information on how to get started. The Flood Plan, detailing how the group will operate during a flood, has been drafted and is being reviewed by the group on 17th February. Of note was the lack of a trigger to indicate when to proceed with door knocking to warn residents of flood conditions; councillors indicated unanimously that they would support the use of £2k of budget towards a public internet flood camera down by the bridge to assist in monitoring river levels, as well as assisting residents in planning journeys. The Clerk has already held a site meeting with the Environment Agency who are seeking costs from the camera supplier for this location, and who have indicated that match funding is a possibility.

12. Borough Councillor's report for Harrold Ward

Distributed to councillors and available on the parish council website.

13. Harrold Centre funding

To consider a request for £5k financial support from the Harrold Centre Committee. Council has set aside money from the budget for 2020/21 and for 2021/22.

Resolved to make payment for £5k to provide support to the Harrold Centre Committee.

14. Overhead electricity

Proposal from Cllr Reger: To consider a response to Western Power upon confirmation that there are no plans to put the overhead electricity cables in the village underground.

Councillors would like to pursue Western Power to put the cables underground, with particularly notable issues with tall vehicles on Orchard Lane, and an incident on Brook Lane where a skip lorry knocked out the cable and cut power to most of the village.

15. Street Ranger equipment

To consider:

- The purchase of a single axle tipping trailer for Street Ranger work at £600

Resolved to support this purchase at £600.

- A storage solution for the trailer at either £250 a year (outside) or £500 (inside)

Resolved to proceed with inside storage at £500 a year.

16. Speed signs

Proposal by Cllr Muller: To review the current setup/locations of the Speed Feedback Signs (VAS) and consider if more are required. (£2800 with a solar panel for charging, £2500 without, plus column installation c.£500)

Cllr Muller explained the effectiveness and support from parishioners for the signs. Data taken with the speed sign display off compared to with the display on indicates a change in vehicle behaviour. Parishioners living near the sign have shown support when Cllr Muller has been moving the signs. However, Cllr Muller stated he would like the flood channel proposal to take priority for now, with the purchase of additional speed signs revisited afterwards. Councillors were in agreement with this approach.

17. HPFA Pavilion

To receive a progress update on the pavilion refurbishment being undertaken by the HPFA (Harrold Playing Field Association) with financial support from the parish council.

With the approval of the latest payment from this meeting, the council will have paid £65k out of the total proposed £68k. This covers roof materials and labour, scaffolding, electrical work, the accessible toilet, and internal redecoration. Separately, the wheelchair access ramp is almost complete and more internal refurbishment is ongoing.

18. Noting of items for future agenda – no decisions can be taken

No items noted for future agendas.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10th March 2021 via Zoom