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**Minutes of the Harrold Parish Council meeting  
held 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Harrold Centre**

**Present:** Cllrs Robert Tickle (Chairman), John Calver, Bob Muller, Geoff Turner, Heather Paston, Richard Barrett, Jonathan Robinson, Pat Pedersen, Dina Malick, Jayne Peverell.

**In attendance:** David Brough (Clerk), Borough Councillor Alison Foster.

**Public Open Forum:** Three members of the public were present. One spoke to support Item 14 (Village website). Two members of the Tennis Club spoke to request a reversal of the previous council decision to object to planning application 22/02417/FUL "Lighting system for two existing tennis courts". At least three councillors declared support for this and confirmed they would request a Special Motion in writing for the March meeting.

1. **Apologies accepted:** Cllrs Sebastian Reger (Work), Gaby Green (Unwell).
2. **Cllr Eddie Thompson**  
Councillors marked the sad passing of Parish Councillor Eddie Thompson with a one-minute silence.
3. **Disclosure of Interest:** Cllr Robinson declared a pecuniary interest in Item 10, which is his own planning application.
4. **Requests to grant dispensations for disclosed interests:** None declared at this point in the meeting.
5. **Approval of Minutes** from the parish council meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023.  
**Resolved** to approve the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.
6. **Clerk's report on actions:**
  - Tree planting: Planting at Hall Close, Meadway, Mowhills is **complete**. Memorial plaques being installed on 13<sup>th</sup> February.
  - Bench maintenance booked to start in the Spring.
  - New Lower Green bin has been installed and the original bin moved near the life-saving equipment. **Complete**.
  - HPFA Pavilion defibrillator cabinet has been ordered. Awaiting delivery date.
  - New Road streetlights LED upgrade is due in early February.

## 7. Correspondence (new items requiring council attention):

- Email from Tennis Club in relation to planning application 22/02417/FUL “Lighting system for two existing tennis courts”, for which the parish council objected in the December 2022 meeting. Shared with councillors.
- Resident contacted the clerk in relation to parked cars causing visual obstructions to those exiting New Road onto the High Street. Borough Councillor Alison Foster will be writing to nearby residents asking for more careful parking in this area.

## 8. Finance Report

- The following payments were approved and income noted. Balances noted as below:

Invoice Date	Payment	Payee	Details	Gross	Income
05 January 2023	Harrold Centre Room Hire	HCC	3 months	108.00	
11 January 2023	Grass: In Trim	In Trim		648.00	
13 January 2023	Cemetery Income:	NEVILLE FUNERAL			390.00
16 January 2023	Electricity: Street EON	NPOWER	Qtrly payment	53.86	
16 January 2023	Other: Various	ACORN NURSERIES	Saxon House hedge	1,098.24	
18 January 2023	Staff costs	Multiple		2,766.34	
18 January 2023	Other: Various	ODD JOBS HANDYMAN	Meadway bench repair	165.00	
18 January 2023	Cemetery Income:	MOLYNEUX JONES			168.00
24 January 2023	Electricity: Buttermarket EON	EON		99.51	
26 January 2023	Other: Various	DMA Signs	2 x Lower Green signs	978.49	
31 January 2023	Office: Supplies	Natwest	Bank charges	5.25	
	Not yet paid Other: Various	ODD JOBS HANDYMAN	Lower Green bins install, bases, fittings	350.00	
	Not yet paid Other: Various	D Brough	Churchyard bin sticker	2.25	
	Not yet paid Other: Various	Interflora		57.00	
				<b>6,331.94</b>	<b>558.00</b>

### Balance Sheet - At Feb 2023

<u>Accounts</u>	£
Natwest Current Account	4,169
Unity Trust	70,000
<b>TOTAL at Bank</b>	<b>74,169</b>
Remainder of budget	6,143
Playground reserve	30,000
Flood channel reserve	7,455
VAT Refund due	-5,585
General Reserve (estimated)	36,157
<b>TOTAL Funds</b>	<b>74,169</b>

## 9. Crime statistics and information and intelligence exchange

Recorded Date	Offence	Street	Area
30/01/2023	MALICIOUS COMMUNICATIONS	High Street	Harrold
28/01/2023	SEXUAL		Harrold
24/01/2023	STALKING		Harrold

Noted with no actions recorded.

## 10. Planning applications and enforcement

- *Planning applications received since the last meeting – includes any received after the agenda is issued up to the date of the meeting:*

Cllr Robinson was requested by councillors to apply for a dispensation to allow questions to be asked about his application below. It was **resolved** to grant this dispensation to allow for

discussion but not voting, for this meeting only, as it is considered to be in the interests of the parish to allow a more-informed decision to be made by councillors on this application. Cllr Robinson then spoke to answer just those questions put to him by councillors: including the height of the building and reason for the material choice.

*APPLICATION NO: 23/00236/FUL Full Planning Application*

*PROPOSAL: 1.5 storey side and rear extensions, raising roof height of existing bungalow to form 1.5 storey dwelling and external alterations.*

*LOCATION : 21 Meadway Harrold Bedford Bedfordshire MK43 7DR*

**Resolved** not to object to this planning application, but to submit a comment: Requests a condition be added for a more sustainable material for the cladding, such as timber, rather than concrete; and that consideration is given to the Village Design Statement as part of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

#### **11. Annual Risk Assessment**

*Approval of the annual parish council Risk Assessment.*

**Resolved** to adopt the 2023 Risk Assessment – available on request.

#### **12. Standing orders and Financial Regulations**

*To readopt the Standing Orders and Financial regulations.*

**Resolved** to adopt the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. To be added to council website.

#### **13. King's Coronation**

*Proposal from Cllr Paston: To consider whether to mark the King's Coronation, which is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023.*

Cllr Paston presented a number of ideas for the weekend, including an event on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May – this would allow residents to watch the coronation at home on the Saturday. The possibility of making a request to the school to allow an event on the playground to raise money for the PTA was considered. A working group was formed consisting of Cllrs Paston, Robinson and Malick.

**Action:** Working group to return to a future meeting with a proposal for approval. Cllr Paston to approach the school to explore the idea of an event on the grounds.

#### **14. Village website**

*Proposal from Cllr Tickle: To agree in principle whether to fund updates and ongoing maintenance of the Harrold Online village website, subject to costs and full proposal.*

Following a lengthy discussion of the requirement for a website for sharing information, including whether an app would be a better alternative, it was **resolved** to support this request subject to a fully-costed proposal being received and voted on.

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

Report distributed to councillors and available on request. In addition, Borough Councillor Foster had been requesting that the clearing of the High Street gullies be expedited by the borough council.

#### **16. Noting of any further items for future agendas – no decisions can be taken**

None beyond those already considered in the minutes.

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th March 2023 (Harrold Centre)**